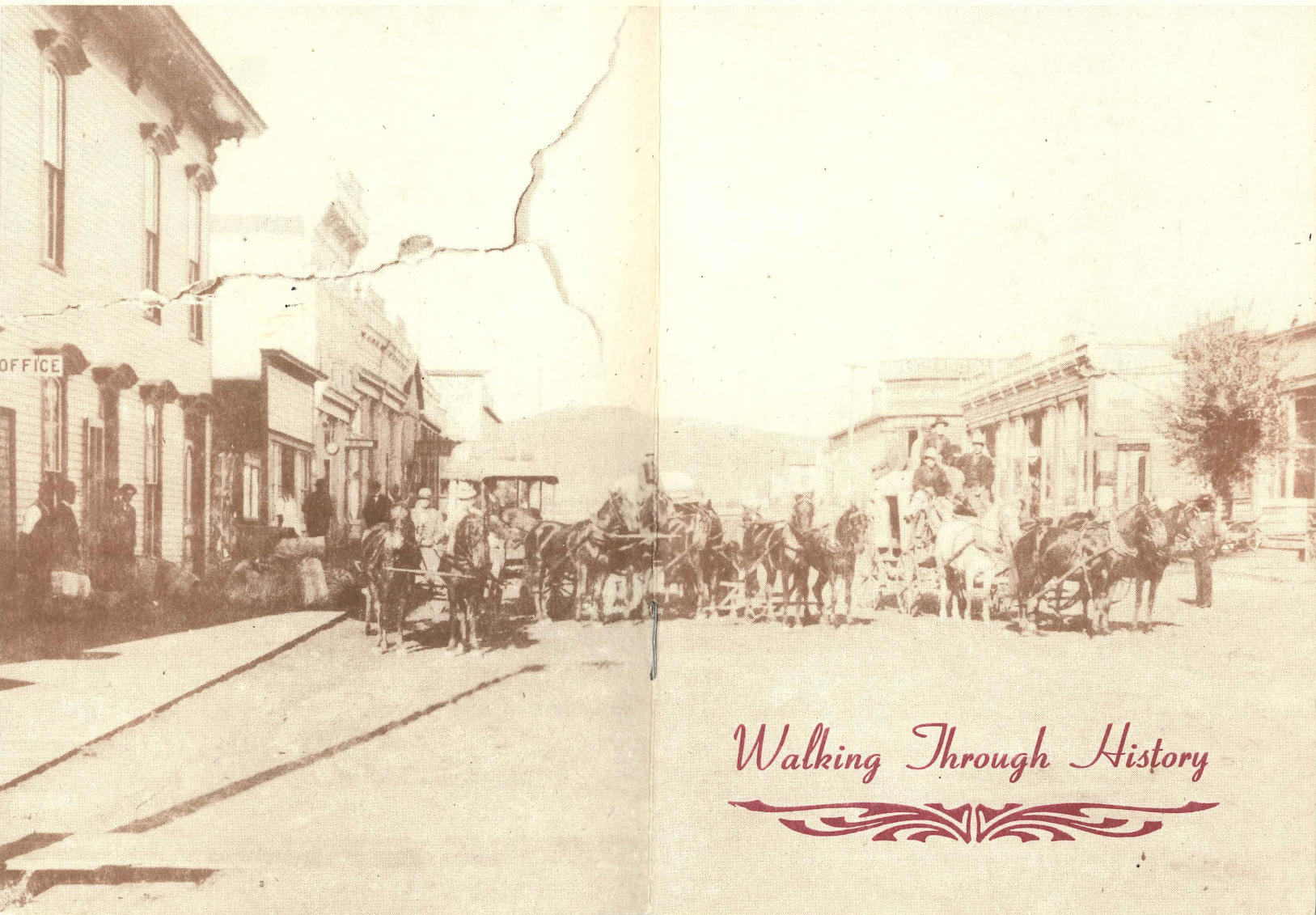


*Historic Downtown
Rawlins
Walking Tour*



Walking Through History



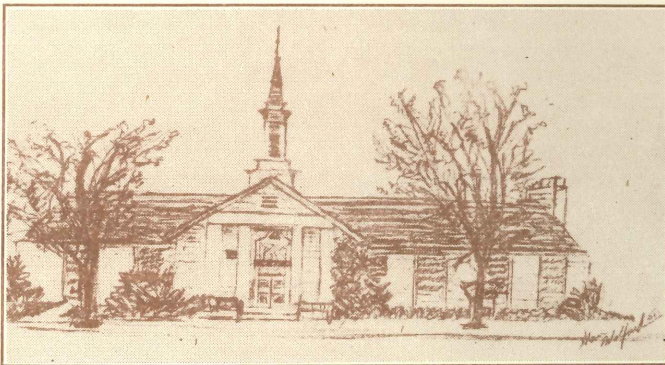
WELCOME

The people of Rawlins extend to you a hearty welcome and invite you to share in the community's history. The walking tour will, in 60-90 minutes, take you through Rawlins' nationally designated downtown historic district and other historically significant places of interest. For information on other attractions in Rawlins and Carbon County visit the Chamber of Commerce office at 519 West Cedar or phone 307-324-4111.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Indeed, we gratefully acknowledge the tireless efforts of Rans Baker and Dan Kinnaman, who provided, unselfishly, hours of dedicated and painstaking research, and whose love and belief in accurately preserving Rawlins history are reflected in this guide. The multi-talents of Mary Belle Lambertsen, Mary K. Maxson, Kathi Gray, Linda Smith, Gail Dahl and Paul Wawrziniack are likewise appreciated and were paramount in revision of this guide.

*The Rawlins Landmark Committee
July 1994*



Sketch of Carbon County Museum

Photographs are courtesy of Carbon County Museum Rawlins, WY (307-324-9611) unless otherwise noted. Photos reproduced by Mary K. Maxson of the Viewfinder.



Ferris Mansion

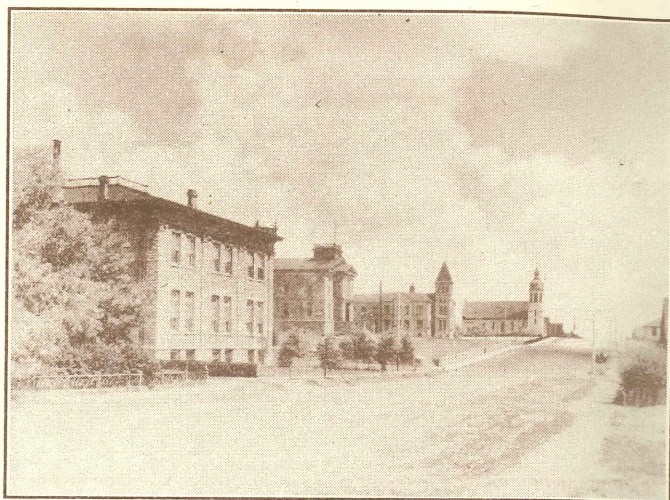
1. 607 WEST MAPLE - FERRIS MANSION

Julia Child Ferris built this classic Queen Ann style Victorian mansion beginning in 1903. Julia was the widow of George Ferris who died three years previously. Ferris first came west in 1865 as a lieutenant in the army and was stationed at Ft. Halleck. He was a hunter for Wells Fargo Stage Co. and then for track gangs during the construction of the railroad. He engaged in the raising of cattle and sheep, and copper mining.

Purchased by Janice and David Lubbers in 1979, the mansion has undergone restoration and is a Bed and Breakfast. Tours are available. Call 324-3961 for more information. The mansion to the west was built by Frank Ferris, George and Julia's oldest son.

2. 5TH & PINE STREET - SHRINE TEMPLE

This building was completed in 1909 of native stone and was one of the four imposing buildings on Pine Street shown in the photograph. The Charter for the Rawlins Masonic Lodge was granted in 1877 and the Korein Shrine Temple was chartered in 1895. The Masonic Lodge was previously located at site #28 from 1880 to 1901 and the second story of site #14 (the Hugus-Ferguson Building) from 1901-1909.



Courthouse Row

3. 400 BLOCK OF PINE STREET - CARBON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Construction was completed in 1940 on this WPA project. The county jail occupies the top floor. The previous courthouse, built of native stone, was on the same site. Construction was begun in 1882. In 1885, a well was drilled and a wind wheel was used to pump water until it finally blew down. The county offices were formerly in the Masonic Hall (site #28) and approximate vicinity of site #12. On these grounds during territorial times and until 1903, three legal hangings occurred. For each hanging, gallows were built and then torn down. Note the medallions which depict the county's sheep and cattle industry.

4. 300 BLOCK OF PINE STREET - JEFFREY CENTER

This meeting and convention center built in 1963 for local and out-of-town organizations is the previous location of Central School built of native stone in 1886. An industrial arts addition (Rawlins Polytechnic) was built in 1915-16. (See photograph of view east along Pine Street.) The school was razed in 1962 to permit construction of the present structure donated by Rawlins philanthropist Dr. C.W. Jeffrey. The 1886 school's cornerstone is on the southeast corner of the parking lot.

5. NORTHEAST CORNER OF 3RD & PINE STREET - ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Joseph's Church was completed in 1916. The architectural design was submitted by Frank Blake. The first Catholic Church, St. James, was organized in 1871 and by 1873 had built on the southeast corner of Cedar and 3rd Street (Note #40). In 1891, the parish changed its name to St. Joseph. The parish school was on site #20, the northwest corner of Cedar and 3rd Street until 1900 when a new two-story school was built on the next lot west.

6. 322 5TH - F.F. "KRAFT HALL"

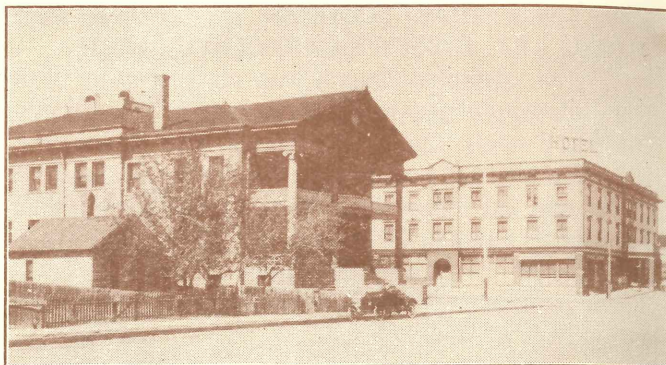
This classic Rawlins native stone building, for years known as the "Rosier House", was built by 1903. Rosiers, principally Grace Rosier, owned the property for 50 years or more.

The Episcopal Church bought the property in 1985, partially remodeled the interior and renamed the building for Reverend Frank Fenton Kraft, who served here longer than any other Episcopal priest. Reverend Kraft died in the 1950's.

Buffalo between 4th & 5th Street - SOROPTIMIST POCKET PARK - A fire in the 1950's destroyed the old Ballard Meat Locker, leaving a "substandard" vacant lot for many years where no future building project was deemed feasible. In 1985, the Rawlins Soroptimist Club built the pocket park, thanks largely to donation of the land from the Rawlins National Bank and much assistance from RNB board members, including L.M. Olson and H.T. Neuman. The land has been deeded to the City of Rawlins, which maintains the park, but Soroptimist improvement projects in the park are on-going.

7. NORTHWEST CORNER OF 4TH & BUFFALO STREET - THE ELKS LODGE

The cornerstone of this building was laid in 1908. The building of native stone was dedicated Thanksgiving Day 1909. Concerts were played from the open second floor balcony in the 1930's and '40's. The building's exterior was remodeled in the early 1960's, enclosing the balcony. The site was previously the two-story blacksmith and wagon shop of Henry Blickfeldt from 1901 - 1909. The wagon shop was on the second floor and a large elevator was used to haul the wagons to the second floor. The former Elks Lodge was site #28, the former Masonic Hall which the Elks purchased in 1901.



Elks Lodge & Ferris Hotel on Buffalo Street

8. NORTHEAST CORNER OF BUFFALO & 4TH STREET - FERRIS HOTEL

Dubbed "Rawlins Finest Hotel", the Ferris Hotel construction began in January 1901. The grand opening was April 7, 1902. The structure, a three-story building with 68 guest rooms, cost \$75,000. A portico was located at the south entrance of the hotel, but was dismantled in the early 1900's because automobiles frequently bumped into the portico pillars. Rawlins Electric Light and Fuel was one of the Hotel's first renters. The lever that operated the town's lighting system was at one time located on the corner.

9. 310 WEST PINE - PRIVATE RESIDENCE

The home was built prior to 1903 of native quarried stone. At one time, from the 1920's to the 1940's, this home was the meeting place for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon.) A few home industries, such as dressmaking, occurred here.

10. NORTHEAST CORNER OF 3RD & BUFFALO STREET - CARBON BUILDING

Constructed in 1925 as a high school, it was used for this purpose until 1960 when it became a Junior High School until 1979. The building was remodeled in 1981 by the county and now houses the county library, county and school offices. The 1925 excavation work was done with teams of horses and mules, pulling "old Fresno" scrapers.

11. NORTHEAST CORNER OF CEDAR & 6TH STREET - CITY HALL

Built as Rawlins' first federal building in 1909-1910, this building housed primarily the U.S. Post Office. Rawlins outgrew it and when the new, larger post office was built on the northwest corner of 5th and Front Street (Site #23) in 1985, the City of Rawlins purchased the old one and in 1993 converted it to a municipal office building. Note the native quarry stone foundation.

12. NORTHWEST CORNER OF CEDAR & 5TH STREET - THE MILLER DALEY BUILDING

The native stone Miller building was finished in July 1910 after three years of construction. D.C. Kinnaman was the architect. The Daley building was built later in 1923. Both were constructed by the Osborne Realty Co. owned by Dr. John E. Osborne. The corner was originally the site of the Junquist Hardware store and Foster's stationery and tobacco store built in 1879. Both stores burned to the ground in 1884 and were rebuilt the same year along with an opera house. All three businesses were burned in 1906 and were not rebuilt. Considered the oldest business corner north of the railroad tracks, 5th Street served as the major artery for north and south traffic in and out of Rawlins until 3rd Street was graded and opened in the fall of 1898.



Corner 5th & Cedar



Junquist Hardware, Foster's Store and Opera House

13. SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BUFFALO & 5TH STREET - THE RAWLINS POLICE DEPARTMENT

The current building was completed in 1940 as a WPA City Hall Project. It also housed the fire department until 1971. The City began building on the 5th Street side of the corner near the alley in the 1880's, when a municipal hose house was built for the volunteer fire company. In the 1890's, a city marshall's office was added.



Looking north on 5th Street. Far right is the City Hall, then Fire Department and to the far left is the County Courthouse.

When the city offices moved to the "Old Post Office" in 1993, the building was converted to the Rawlins Police Department.

The corner was the site of the James Candlish blacksmith shop from 1881 to 1885. Canadian-born Candlish invented the sheepwagon here. A hay and wagon warehouse was built on the lot in 1898 and razed in 1913. The second lot above the alley was the site of the city offices and fire department prior to the construction of the new city hall. An 18 x 32 stone city jail was built in the back of the fire station in June of 1900.

14. NORTHEAST CORNER OF 5TH & CEDAR STREET - HUGUS/FERGUSON BUILDING

The first story was constructed in 1895 of quarry-faced ashlar native sandstone by J.E. Hugus & Co. for their general merchandise store. The stone came from the H. Larsen quarries north of town. The second floor of red brick was built in 1901 and was the Masonic Lodge from 1901 to 1909. The building was purchased by the Ferguson Mercantile in 1912 and operated until the late 1960's. The First National Bank occupied the southeast corner in 1895. The Carbon County Jail was originally on the site, having been built in 1875. It was from this jail that "Big Nose" George Parrot was taken and dragged to the corner of North Front and Third Street (site #38) and lynched on March 22, 1881. The jail was abandoned when the new courthouse was completed in 1883 (Note #3).

The Hugus store was previously at site #24, the northeast corner of 5th and Front Street.

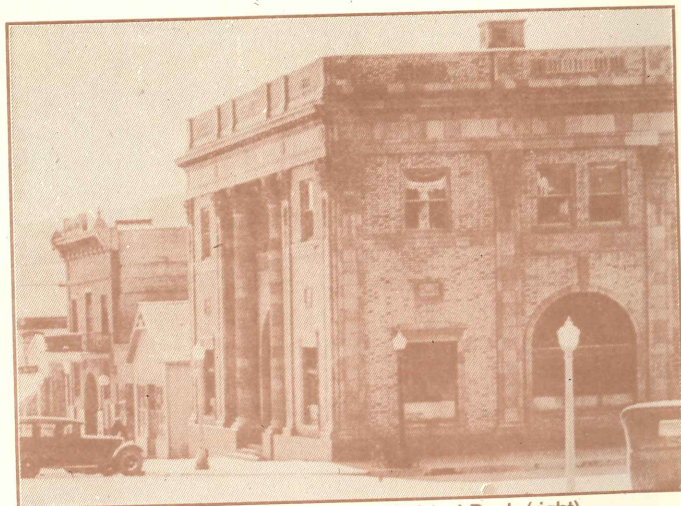


"Old Hugus/Ferguson Building"

5th & Cedar - The west side of this building is now the site of a mural painted for the City of Rawlins by Wyoming artist Jerry Antolik. The mural was commissioned by the Central Rawlins Association in 1987, with funding help through a grant by the Wyoming Council on Fine Arts. The large mural designed by Antolik, and painted by him and Rawlins residents under his direction, depicts some of the influences of man on the region as well as the wildlife indigenous to the area. Full-color reproductions of the mural are available at a number of locations in Rawlins.

15. SOUTHWEST CORNER OF BUFFALO & 4TH STREET - FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

This large Neo-Classical Revival-style brick building was constructed in 1923. The First National Bank could trace its roots to the J.W. Hugus & Co. bank first located on Front Street (site #24) and the Hugus Building (site #14). The bank was located in the front portion of the building and the western portion once housed gift shops, the Old Rocky Mountain Gas Co. and the "Republican Bulletin". The bank has now expanded to include the entire first floor, and the once distinctive arch windows covered. The top floor was rented to numerous professional businesses over the years. An ice house was previously on the site that was built by Foote and Harer in 1881.



Keller Building (left) - First National Bank (right)

16. 214 4TH - THE LEO KELLER BUILDING

This was the site of Rawlins second civic Opera House, which also showed silent motion pictures. (The first opera house burned on site #12 in 1906.) The site was purchased by Charles Anderson and associates for \$2,000 in 1910. In 1912, Anderson became sole owner. P.L. Johnson and J.E. Bangs, who built the motion picture theatre, "The Strand" in 1920, bought it in 1919. (See Note #41.)

Through the years this building has seen many uses before becoming a stationery store. It was Johnson & Bangs picture house "The Rex" in 1925 which opened and closed that year. Following World War II, it opened again for a time as "The Elk Theatre." The building was converted to a furniture store by Leo Keller in 1952. W.W. Morrow machine shop was built on the site in 1885 and was distinctive in that he installed a wind machine to power his machinery.

17. 401 EAST CEDAR - NORTHWEST CORNER OF CEDAR & 4TH STREET

This corner was the site originally of the Peter Gormley (aka Gormley) building, Rawlins' first fire-proof business structure, built in 1887 of native stone and metal. Through the years the building was remodeled to house such businesses as clothing stores, meat markets, restaurants, a bakery, the Wyoming Drug, a bus depot, and a cafe and bar. It was gutted by fire and torn down in the 1970's.



NE Corner of Cedar and 4th Street - facing west - Gormley Building on far right; Ferguson building on far left. Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902.

Immediately west of "The Gormley" stood a small frame dwelling that was used as offices and a dwelling by Dr. A.F. Thode, Dentist, and Dr. T.G. Maghee, physician and surgeon. Here in 1881, Drs. Maghee and Osborne assisted by a 16 year old student, Lillian Heath, conducted medical experiments on the corpse of lynched murderer "Big Nose" George. When they finished, they buried George's bones in a whiskey barrel in the back yard, where such remained, forgotten, until unearthed during the excavation of the former Hested's store in 1950.

More information of "Big Nose" George can be found at the Carbon County Museum.

18. NORTHEAST CORNER OF CEDAR & 4TH STREET - MERCANTILE CO. BUILDING

In 1901, the H. Hansen Mercantile Co. constructed this building with locally produced Rawlins pressed brick. At the same time, Rawlins Packing Company bought and developed the east 1/3 of the new Hansen Merchandise building which had 3 stores built into it. In 1904, Hansen reclaimed and took over all their building. This company sold out in 1906 and the next year Jim Hansen and Jim Ferguson started a general merchandise store. In 1912, the Ferguson Mercantile moved to site #14 and the Cullen Commercial Co. operated a general merchandise store here until the early 1950's.

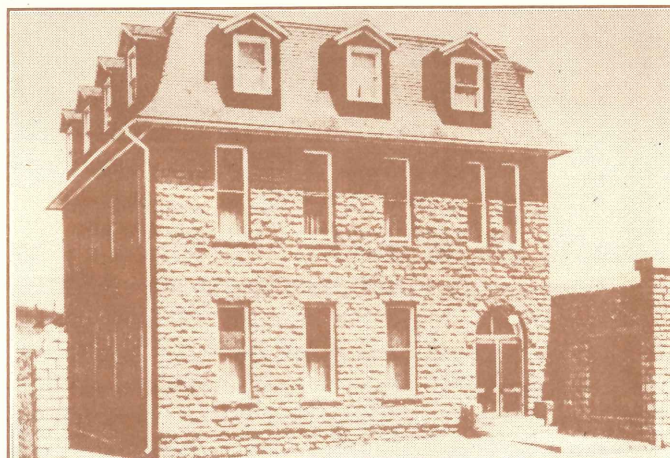


NE corner of Cedar and 4th Street - facing east - Hansen building on left; Old Stone Catholic school building above.

19. 311 WEST CEDAR - ODD FELLOWS BUILDING

This commercial and lodge hall was built in 1936 and the Odd Fellows Lodge is on the second floor. The lower floor and basement have been used as a grocery store, bowling alley and furniture store before becoming a restaurant in 1966. The next door east is another building of local native stone and was a local soda fountain in the 1930's and 1940's. It was originally built in 1918 as an auto parts store.

Note: Directly behind this building, across the alley in the southeast corner of Key Bank parking lot stands yet another example of Rawlins native stone masonry - a turn of the century garage which is still used for the purpose for which it was constructed. Although the ground about it has settled and cracked its walls, it remains a functional structure.



#20 when it was a hotel

20. NORTHWEST CORNER OF CEDAR & 3RD STREET - LINCOLN HIGHWAY GARAGE

The present building was built in 1917 and was a Ford dealership until 1923 when it became Ernest Sundin's dealership of Chevrolet, Hudson and Essex cars. The site was previously the location of the public school from 1874 to 1886 when Central School was completed. The property to the west was purchased by the Catholic Church for a parochial school in 1897. A 39' x 48' two-story Catholic school was built in 1900 and by 1903 a convent was in place at the rear and west of the school. By 1907 the school was in financial trouble.

In 1910 the building was used as a motion picture theatre, and in 1912 served as Rawlins General Hospital and Medical Institute until 1918 when a fire occurred. The building was rebuilt and opened as the Central Hotel in 1918. This structure burned in the 1930's.



West on Cedar, Hansen Building is to the left. Building under construction is described in site #19 built in March 1918. The two-story building was the original parochial school and to the far right is the Ford dealership of site #20.

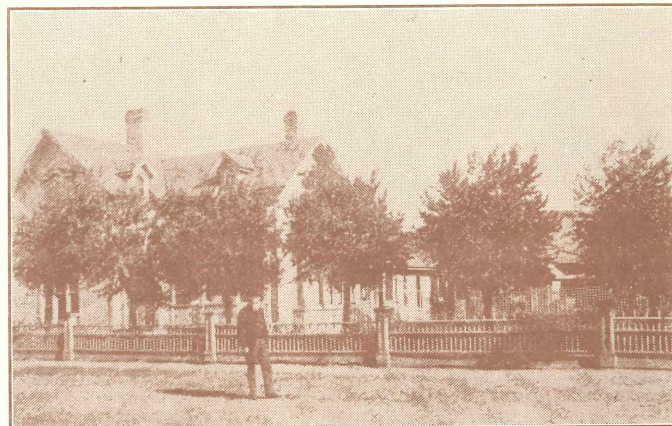


Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902
Blake House

21. 3RD & CEDAR STREET - THE BLAKE HOUSE

In 1881, this home was built by Frank Blake, a local car foreman for the Union Pacific Railroad. The Victorian Italianate wood frame house utilized the same

type of stoves and mantels used in Pullman Palace Railroad cars of the period. Blake later went into the sheep business. The house remained in the family until 1983. The house retains much of its original integrity. In 1985 it became a family restaurant and was added onto. The house was built on the site of the first cemetery in Rawlins, which was abandoned in 1877.



Osborne Building

22. SOUTHWEST CORNER OF 5TH & CEDAR STREET - OSBORNE BUILDING

This building was built by Dr. John E. Osborne in 1901. It is constructed of Rawlins pressed brick and ornamented with special red sandstone quarried northeast of town. The foundation is of hard stone from the north quarries. Two buildings were originally on the site. Rawlins Drug was built on this site in 1879 (company was founded 1876). The drug store was bought by Dr. John E. Osborne in April of 1884. The Rankin Brothers Livery and Stables were on the lots south from 1878 to 1899. (Joe Rankin made the famous ride to Rawlins in 1879 to bring the news of the Thornburgh Fight with the Utes on Milk River, present day Meeker, Colorado. Jim Rankin was a U.S. Marshall.) The Rawlins Drug Building was moved to the northeast corner of Buffalo and 5th Street, now the Rawlins National Bank parking lot. Rawlins Consolidated Drug was one of the first renters in the newly built Osborne Block in 1901. Osborne declined to build the Osborne Building until the city provided sewer service to the downtown area.



Rawlins Drug Store on right and Rankin Livery & Stables far left.
Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902

23. NORTHWEST CORNER OF FRONT & 5TH STREET - PRESENT DAY U.S. POST OFFICE

This location is a historic business corner. The current post office parking lot is originally where the Smith & Ash Meat Market was moved in 1879. Next door west was the Rawlins House Hotel built in 1874. The hotel remained in the Hayes family from 1874 to 1900. The hotel was torn down in 1958. A third building, The Alhambra Saloon, was built in this area in 1879. Front Street was the main commercial street and the 5th Street crossing proper was in front of the Rawlins House. In 1915, the crossing was moved to 6th Street.



Rawlins House Circa 1875

24. NORTHEAST CORNER OF FRONT & 5TH STREET

This was the location of the first business north of the railroad tracks which was the general merchandise store of H.C. Hall & Co. in 1869. In 1871, Hall's partner, James France, bought the business and erected a building of native stone in 1873, added to and expanded the building and opened a bank. A second story was added in 1884. The grocery store and R. M. Galbreath's Drygood businesses were bought by J.W. Hugus & Co. in 1884. The Hugus Co. Bank was chartered as Rawlins First National Bank. Later the building housed the Rawlins State Bank (now Rawlins National Bank which opened Tuesday, January 3, 1899), the Rawlins Republican newspaper, a saloon and, as it degenerated, brothels.



Original James France Building and
J.W. Hugus & Co. building after 1884.

25. 415 WEST FRONT - PRESENT DAY WYOMING BAR

The first business on this site was built by E.W. Smock in 1883. Books and jewelry were sold here in 1887. The current native stone building, the Wyoming Bar, is now the last saloon on North Front Street which at times had six to eight saloons. The original shell remains and the 1890's stonework can be seen at the sides and in the back. It has been a saloon for over 100 years. It has been the "Wyoming" Saloon since Robert Freedman opened it on June 23, 1900. It was a saloon-barber shop in 1890. The lot one door east

was for many years the bakery of Wm. Smith. Smith's bakery business was moved from the south side to this lot in 1883, where the business continued until October 1915, over 40 years. The Smith Bakery building and the Club Saloon building on the west were destroyed by fire in December 1915.



Smith Bakery

26. 416 WEST CEDAR

Constructed in 1907 by James Clause, this building housed a jewelry store and drug store, 1920-1931. It also housed doctors' offices and living quarters upstairs. It was made of native stone that was typical of many of the Rawlins commercial structures. A wooden frame flour and grain barn, owned by James France, was on the site in 1882. The barn became a second-hand store in 1892 and had several owners until it was moved in 1907 to make way for the current structure.

27. 410 WEST CEDAR

Note the Art Deco style of this building constructed in 1935, with black carrara glass tiles with white geometric forms above and flanking the shop windows and entry. Originally built as a clothing store, the proprietor's name L. Kremish, is still faintly visible on the black glass. Mr. Kremish lived on the premises for many years.

28. SOUTHWEST CORNER OF CEDAR & 4TH STREET

The present building was constructed in 1936 to replace the original Masonic Lodge that burned in December 1935. The Masonic Building was constructed in 1880 and was used for public purposes and private businesses over the years. "Big Nose" George's trial was held in this building in 1880. The building contained the post office from 1885 to 1907 and was purchased by the Elks Lodge in 1901 and used for their meetings until their new lodge was built on site #7 in 1908. The Old Fellows bought the building in April 1912. The lower floor was also leased out for grocery, clothing and jewelry stores. It was also used as an opera and/or civic hall from 1880 to 1885. In 1923, the Odd Fellows added a two-story brick building to the rear. Its upper floors were the lodge kitchen and dining hall, the lower floor was a business rental. The brick annex was incorporated into the new structure in 1936.



#28: Two-story Masonic Hall facing south on 4th Street;



Looking east on Cedar Street

29. 120 4TH Rifleman

Originally the site of H. Hansen's second jewelry store built in 1885, this site has seen many businesses from milliners to general dry goods stores. In 1905 the old Hansen structure was moved north on its lot and an addition made to the building's south side. This was known as the Palace Candy Kitchen (1923-1935), which caught fire in December of 1935. This Art Deco design building was constructed in 1936 to replace the original building. Many businesses were in the building. The Palace Candy Company boasted of a 22' soda fountain of genuine marble with silver and nickel trim. Montgomery Ward occupied this building mid-century.

30. 118 4TH RTEC

This building, constructed in 1918 by Jake Waeckerlin for his Sweetland business, featured a soda fountain and candy, and seating for 56 in the back. He also had furnished rooms upstairs with steam heat and hot and cold water. The first building was Judge Edgeton's Law Office in 1883, a bar in 1884-1885 and was a millinery business when Waeckerlin bought the property for his Cash Bakery and Ice Cream Parlors in 1897. He continued in this building until 1918 when he tore it down and erected the present building. At the time of the 1935 fire, the business occupying the site was the Mint Pool Hall and Saloon.

31. 116 4TH RTEC

This much-altered native stone building was built in 1899 as an annex to The Brunswick Hotel which stood immediately south of it at 112 4th Street.

The rental store space on the ground floor was first occupied by J.P. Ryan's Home Ranch Saloon. Ryan, originally a Baggs, Snake River saloon-keeper, had often been host to elements of the "Wild Bunch", such as Butch Cassidy, Eliza Lay, and others with whom he was reportedly good friends.

This building gradually degenerated through the years. It became another bar with cheap rooms and brothel upstairs. Note: The address was 114 4th before the 1935 fire and subsequent building.

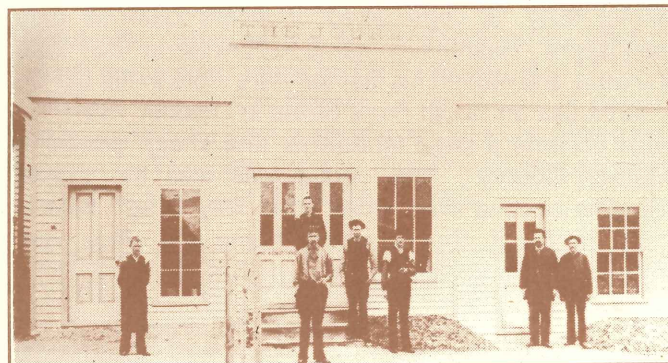
32. 114 4TH - BRUNSWICK HOTEL Parking Lot

The oldest business building left in Rawlins, the H.C. Hall and Co. general merchandise store was built about 1869. James France bought this business and

about 1873 made it his home when he moved his business into a newly constructed store building. France moved the building and converted it into a hotel, and sold the business (not building) to E.J. Genter. Snake River Valley Hotelman E.J. Genter opened it as "The Brunswick" and although Genter did not operate the facility long, it remained a hotel until the 1920's. Since Rawlins for a large period of time did not have a hospital, surgical operations and recuperation were done in hotels and The Brunswick Hotel saw its share.

33. 121 4TH - THE CARBON COUNTY JOURNAL

The Carbon County Journal was printed on this site from 1879 to September 1917. The long-time publisher was John C. Friend who operated the newspaper from 1879 to 1891 as a Democratic newspaper. His associate was C.E. Blydenburgh. Friend had been a soldier in the army in Wyoming in 1864 during the Civil War and lived in Rawlins from 1870 until his death in 1922. Many years worth of the original papers can be found bound and preserved at the Carbon County Museum and later years are available at the County Library.



The Carbon County Journal on east side of 4th Street north of alley

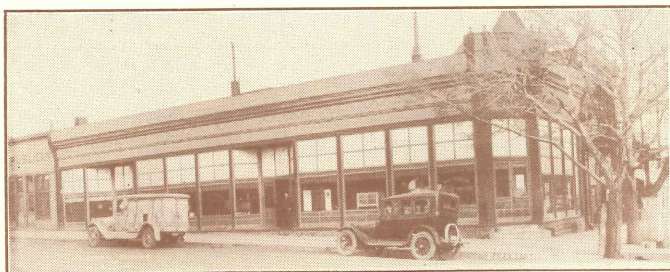
RAWLINS METALLIC PAINT COMPANY - During the late 1860's and 1870's, an abundance of iron hematite ore in the Rawlins area was discovered. Much of the ore was mined and sent to Utah for use as a flux for working silver ores. The unique red paint produced by the iron ore was much in demand in the east, and the color "Rawlins Red" was used for many buildings and barns and is still in existence as a color of paint. In 1874, J.C. Friend sold a car load of paint to Sidney Dillon, president of UPRR. It was the first paint used on the Brooklyn Bridge. (More information at Museum.)

34. 123 4TH - THE CHARLES ANDERSON BUILDING

This brick building was constructed by Anderson in 1904 for a saloon and rooming house. A city ordinance was passed while Anderson was constructing this building which prohibited liquor licenses north of the alley on 4th Street. So Anderson rented furnished rooms upstairs and the store space became a second-hand store for a few months. The store space in later years was a pharmacy, jewelry store and Western Union Telegraph office. Postal Telegraph Co., Western's rival, was the first telegraph company occupying the premises.

35. 316 WEST CEDAR - RASMUSSEN BUILDING

Henry Rasmusson built the present structure in 1907. Recent restoration of this significant building pointed out that it was a near perfect "signature" building with no major alterations needed to bring it back to its original state. It was a mortuary and furniture store combined, as was common in those days, and remained in the Rasmusson (Quealy) family until 1971. A wing of the structure, which extends from the east end of the building on Cedar Street to the 4th Street alley, is constructed of locally quarried gray sandstone. Rasmusson came to Rawlins in 1881 from Laramie and started his first furniture store in the old log courthouse on South Front Street in October 1881. He also became a large landowner and sheep grower in Carbon County. This corner was also the site of Rawlins second drug store, "The City Drug", built in 1881 by Dr. E. Stuver, whose home and office were also located here.



Rasmusson Building

36. 304-308 CEDAR

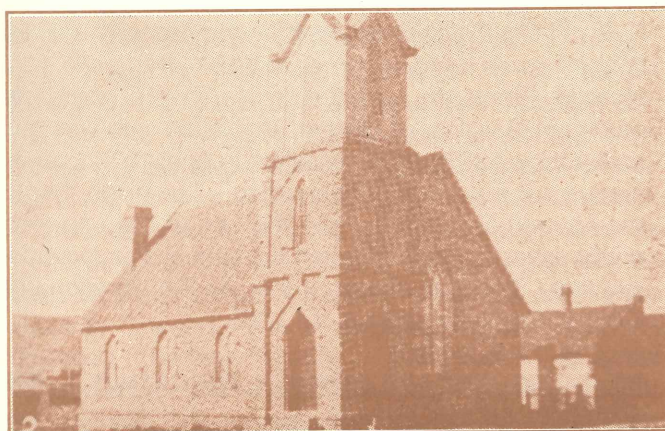
Two garage buildings were built by L.C. "Pat" Graves with H. Larsen contracting. The garage on the

west side was built first in 1925 as the Chevrolet Garage. The garage on the east side was designed at the same time by noted Cheyenne architect William Dubois, but it was not built until 1926. In 1926, contractor Larsen again did the work for Graves, who already had it leased upon completion to the Engstrom Motor Co., an auto parts and repair business.

The facade of this building, known as the old Sundin Garage, is pink and black glass-glazed terra cotta, with ornate design in pilasters, window surrounds, frieze and cornice. Note the original frosted glass in the transom spaces above the large windows. The poured concrete foundation bears the inscription "H. Larsen", who built many of Rawlins' structures. Clifford Sundin managed the Chevrolet-Cadillac dealership on this site for many years. (A note on the Sundin family - each year Rawlins High School graduates are encouraged to attend the University of Wyoming via the Sundin Scholarship Program, and hundreds of students have benefitted from this generous program.)

37. 3RD & CEDAR STREET - FRANCE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sheldon Jackson, a missionary, came to Rawlins in 1869 and held services in the Union Pacific Hotel. He organized the Morris Presbyterian Church, which was a small frame building completed in 1870. In 1882, a new Gothic Revival Church, built of quarry-faced sandstone from north of town, was completed and named for Elizabeth France. The church was acquired by the Victory Baptist Church in 1993.



France Memorial Presbyterian Church
Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902

38. NORTHWEST CORNER OF NORTH FRONT & 3RD STREET

This lot was the site of the original Odd Fellows Hall chartered on May 2, 1871. The building was built in 1876 and lodge meetings were held upstairs for over 20 years. Lodge meetings were first held in the U.P. paint shop, over the machine shops, and in the old red school house. The store portion was at times a jewelry store, an undertaking establishment, J.W. Hugus & Co. general merchandise and clothing store, among others. On the south side of the street, "Big Nose" George was hung from a pole on this corner on March 22, 1881.



Two-story Odd Fellows building with lodge rooms above and J.W. Hugus in lower story.

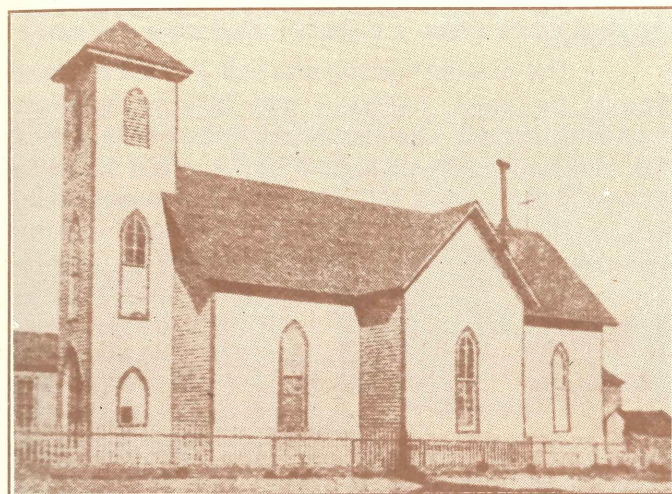
39. NORTHEAST CORNER OF FRONT & 3RD STREET

This property has belonged to the Union Pacific Railroad Co. Frank Blake lived on the property until the house he was living in burned in 1880. (Note site #21.) His son, Frank, Jr., was the first to have a successful garden in Rawlins. A railroad employee club was built on the lot in 1917 and demolished in April 1976 to make room for the present club building. The north third of the lot next to the alley was the site of the one-room public school until 1874 when the school was moved to site #20. The school was at the site #20 location until Central School opened in fall 1886.

40. SOUTHEAST CORNER OF CEDAR & 3RD STREET - MOOSE HALL

The 1916 building on the site is the Moose Hall, formerly the North Star Lodge. This was originally the

site of the Catholic Church in Rawlins (called St. James until 1891) a small frame building built in 1871-72 for \$500. This Catholic Church was the first structure wired for electricity prior to the electricity being turned on in December 1891. The church building was torn down in October 1916 after the present St. Joseph's church was built (see site #5.) The first electrically lighted building, powered through a steam power plant, was M.W. Dillon's Bank Exchange Saloon on Front Street (near Site #25). This building has been altered but the 1916 building outline remains.



St. James Catholic Church

Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902

41. 216 CEDAR - STRAND THEATRE

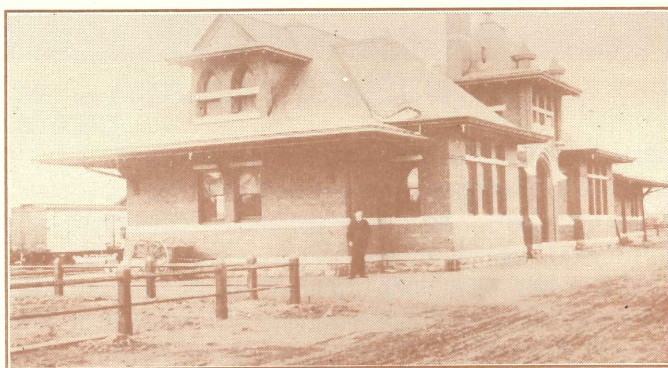
Built in 1920 by contractor H. Larsen for \$100,000, the grand opening was held February 26, 1921. The front was constructed of special solid pressed bricks and originally had 400 lights built in to illuminate the front. The building owners were Johnson and Bangs and the building would seat approximately 1,000 people. The old Strand Theatre signs can be seen on the upper story bricks on the west side of the building. The interior was remodeled in 1938 and was renamed "The Fox Theatre". The interior was again remodeled in 1986 when it closed. (The parsonage for the Catholic Church was built on the site facing the railroad in the early days. In 1891 the parsonage building was turned around to face Cedar Street.)

42. 214 WEST CEDAR

In 1923 a garage was built for the Ford dealership. The garage had a capacity (then) for 65 to 75 cars plus a repair shop and a storage battery station. Although this structure is another Ashlar sandstone structure, the facade of this building originally was brick constructed by Dutton & Kendall of Denver. It was covered at an unknown date with tile blocks and terra cotta medallions. A massive-looking tile door features transom window and flanking ornate light fixtures. Longtime residents remember this site as the location of Babe Roger's Buick dealership.

43. 208 WEST CEDAR - H. LARSEN INC. BUILDING

The present building was built in 1923 by Hans Larsen for paint, hardware and building supplies. Larsen's business was first established in 1889 across the alley fronting on North front Street, which would be the east part of the U.P. Railroad Employees Club. Larsen did contracting work and managed several quarries and a local coal mine from his lumber yard on Front Street. The business remains to the present in the Larsen family and a large and unique point (arrowhead) collection collected by J.W. Larsen may be seen inside.



"Union Pacific Depot"

44. 400 WEST FRONT - U.P.R.R. DEPOT

In 1901, the Union Pacific Railroad replaced the depot on the south side of the tracks with the present building at a cost of \$15,000. U.P. bought the brick from the Golden Pressed Brick Yard and the white sandstone from Ft. Collins, Colorado. An eating room addition was built on the east end of the depot in July

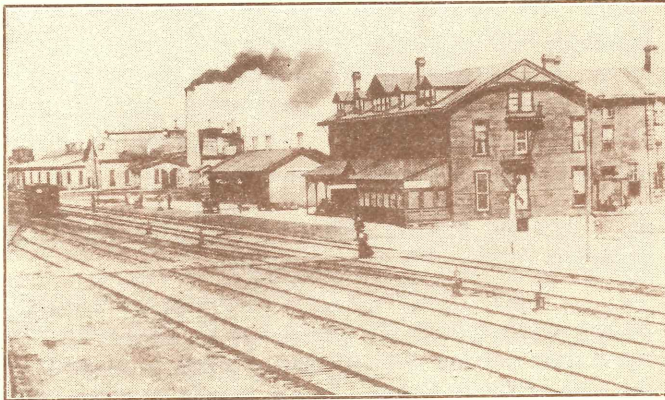
1903. The building also housed the telegraph office, baggage room, depot and railway express at various times. Rail service from the depot was discontinued in 1983 when the Amtrak passenger service was interrupted. When the U.P. Communications Center closed in 1991, the depot was abandoned.

45. SOUTH FRONT STREET (SOUTH SIDE OF TRACKS OPPOSITE 6TH STREET)

The first dwellings and businesses were located on the south side of the tracks and in 1868 were little more than canvas over wooden frames or dugouts in the side of Sugar Creek. As the people become more certain that the town had a future, more permanent structures were built, including a native stone building.



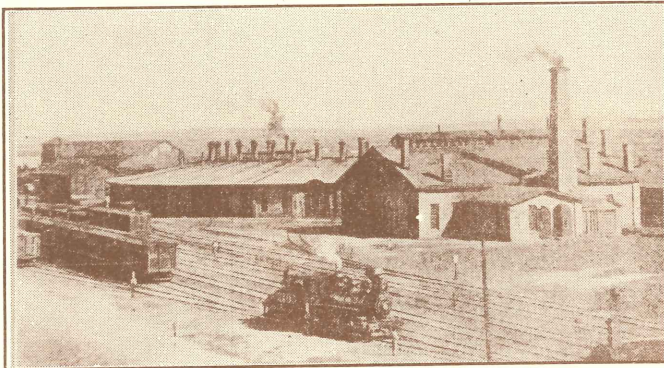
South Front Street buildings. The Alamo, #1, was the first public building in Carbon County. The courthouse, jail and school were in the building. The Alamo Chili Parlor and Cozy Saloon burned in December 1919. The native stone building pictured in #2 was built by William Granger as a general merchandise store in 1874.



U.P.R.R. Buildings, 1870's

46. SOUTH SIDE OF RAILROAD TRACKS OPPOSITE 5TH STREET

The first buildings in Rawlins were built on the south side of the tracks in 1868. The photographs show the roundhouse, depot and hotel-eating house after 1873 when it had been rebuilt after being destroyed by fire in 1871. The depot was replaced by the "new" depot built on the north side in 1901. (Note #44.) The hotel-eating house was converted into a railroad employees clubhouse in the 1910's and destroyed in the 1930's. The roundhouse was torn down in the 1950's.



U.P.R.R. Buildings, 1870's
Photo reproduced from Rawlins Republican, Jan. 1902

47. LOCATED ON WALNUT STREET BETWEEN 3RD & 7TH STREET - WYOMING'S FRONTIER PRISON

In 1888, two years before Wyoming became a state, the Territorial Legislature began making

provisions for coming statehood by assigning principal towns of each of the original five Wyoming Counties one state institution each. Rawlins received the Penitentiary.

Originally, well to the north of Rawlins, it was laid out among the sagebrush on 65.31 acres of land purchased from the Union Pacific Railroad.

Although architectural proposals were accepted on December 14, 1881, it was not until the winter of 1892-93 that the legislature appropriated funds to begin construction. By May 1893, contractor George East of Cheyenne was awarded the contract and May of 1894 saw 999 "Face-Feet" of stone masonry in place.

Plan changes and financial shortages delayed completion until early 1901. The Legislature and Building Commission in 1901 approved a formal resolution instructing the transfer of all convicts to Rawlins and ordered that Wyoming Courts sentence all state convicts to the State Penitentiary at Rawlins.

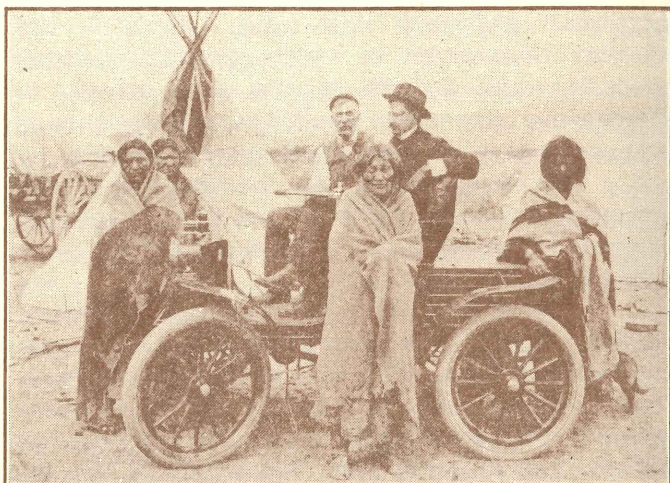
On December 17, 1901, the first group of forty prisoners arrived by rail in a "Jail Car", a specially converted baggage car. Forty more made the same cold trip the next day.

Almost immediately the new Prison was found to be too small. Some prisoners were sent back to the old Territorial Prison in Laramie for the next few years. Then began a series of additions and modifications which continued for eighty years, until this Prison at Rawlins was closed in 1981. From 1901 to 1911 the Prison was run on a contract basis. From 1911 to June 1, 1981, this would be Wyoming's official state-run penitentiary. Used as a location for filming "The Prison" in 1987, the facility may be toured by the public. Tour schedules and fee information are available by calling 307-324-4422 or writing Old Pen Joint Powers Board, Box 2264, Rawlins, Wyoming 82301.



Original Wyoming State Penitentiary

RAWLINS SPRINGS - In the summer of 1867, General John A. Rawlins, the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, joined General Grenville M. Dodge and a party of surveyors. As they rode west and approached the hills that stand guard over the present city, General Rawlins expressed the wish for a drink of good, cold water. Scouts discovered the spring near the base of the hills, and General Rawlins declared it was the most refreshing drink he had ever tasted. "If anything is ever named after me, I hope it will be a spring of water" he exclaimed. Immediately, General Dodge named the spring, "Rawlins Spring," and marked it so on his map. (For more information on the history of Rawlins, visit the Chamber of Commerce and the Carbon County Museum.)



The first automobile in Rawlins owned by Dr. John E. Osborne.

INDIANS - Rawlins, like many other frontier towns, was troubled by Indian uprisings from time to time. However, at no time after 1873 were Indians on the warpath in the vicinity of Rawlins. Prior to 1879, the Utes came and camped at Rawlins Springs. Sioux Indian tribes often passed through Rawlins on their way to visit western tribes. During the building of the railroad, Chief Washakie of the Shoshoni tribe furnished meat to trading outfits working on the railroad. The town of Wamsutter was originally called Washakie.

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- Rawlins Landmark Committee/City of Rawlins
- * Carbon County Museum
- Rawlins Carbon County Chamber of Commerce
- Interested citizens

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