



Architect: George F. Harvey Jr.
Birth/Death Dates: 1866-1931
Practice Dates: 1893-1929
Firms: William Cowe, 1902-1904

Biographical Information

Denver Architect George F. Harvey Jr. was born August 31, 1866, in Salem or Lawrence, Massachusetts, according to the *Denver Post* and *Rocky Mountain News* obituaries dated January 5 and January 6, 1931. His father, George F. Harvey, was noted in the two obituaries as a Denver “pioneer contractor” who “built some of the first residences in East and South Denver.”

George Jr. apparently received his architectural education within an unknown Denver firm in the early 1890s. Considering the 1893 Silver Crash halted construction in Denver, employment must have been tenuous; but it put him in a good position to work as an architect in the recovery beginning in 1897. Subsequently, he received his architectural registration, as his stamp on the 1911 construction documents for 1728/1732 Gilpin Street indicates he was State of Colorado Licensed Architect No. 53. At this time he maintained his office in the Commonwealth Building, located at 15th and Stout streets.

George F. Harvey Jr. continued to live at 308 South Alta with his wife, Mary A., and four children: George, James, Elizabeth, and one other daughter. He remained at the same address through the 1910 and 1920 census takings, where he was noted as an architect. The 1930 census indicated he was retired and a widower living at 308 South Alta with his daughter Elizabeth and her husband, Earl Muse.

Newspaper obituaries stated he was a “noted architect” and “widely known architect” who “drew plans for a large number of business buildings” in Denver. Unfortunately, none were identified and few have been identified since. However, in 1904 George F. Harvey Jr. was in partnership with William Cowe (1863-1930). According to *Denver, A City Beautiful*, together they designed primarily Foursquare style residences in Capitol Hill and Park Hill. With Cowe, George F. Harvey Jr. seems to have honed his skills in designing so-called “Denver Squares” typified by the construction of the 1728/1730 Gilpin Street duplex in 1911-12. Cowe and Harvey also designed the Mission Revival-style Hamilton apartment building at 1475 Humboldt Street in 1902 and the Colonial Revival-style Highland Christian Church at 2601 West 34th Avenue in 1903. Other buildings outside of Denver credited to George F. Harvey Jr. include the Arts and Crafts style Warshauer Mansion in Antonito and the Monte Vista Cemetery Chapel, both completed in 1912.

George F. Harvey’s obituaries indicated that during World War I, he donated his services for \$1.00 to the U.S. Government to help design several large projects, including multiple hospitals. The *Denver Post* also stated he helped with planning the



“Muscle Shoals project.” Following the war, George F. Harvey “held an important position” with the federal government in Washington, D.C., until ill health forced his retirement and return to Denver in 1929. The nature of the projects with which he was involved suggests he worked for the Veterans Administration.

George F. Harvey Jr. died at home on Ogden Street on January 5, 1931, “after a long illness.” Services were held at home and he was interred in Crown Hill Cemetery.

From Rodd Wheaton “Manuella C. Walters Duplex” National Register of Historic Places nomination form, August 2009.

Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date*	Status
Hamilton Apartments (with William Cowe)	1475 Humboldt Street, Denver	5DV.2658	1902 or 1908	
Highland Christian Church (with William Cowe)	2601 W. 34 th Avenue, Denver	5DV.85.25	1903	Within National Register Historic District
Manuella C. Walters Duplex	1728 & 1730 Gilpin Street, Denver	5DV.2253	1912	National Register pending
Warshauer Mansion	515 River Street, Antonito	5CN.69	1912	National Register
Monte Vista Cemetery Chapel	4927 County Road 27, Monte Vista	5RN.646	1912	State Register

*Completion date is stated if known. Plan, building permit, or assessor date is shown if completion date is unknown.

Information Sources

Goble, Jennifer. *Sterling Public Library* National Register nomination form, 5LO.469. May 2, 2001.

Hurley, Martha. *Monte Vista Cemetery Chapel* State Register nomination form, 5RN.646. May 19, 1999.

Palmer, Joan and Ilene Bergsman, “Architects of Colorado: Database of State Business Directory Listings, 1875-1950.” Denver: Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 2006.

Robins, Barbara. *Warshauer Mansion* National Register nomination form, 5CN.69. November 8, 1973.



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

Wheaton, Rodd. *Walters, Manuella C., Duplex* National Register nomination form, 5DV.2253. March 4, 2009.

Revised: September 2009