

Architect: Willard, A.C.
Birth/Death Dates: unknown
Practice Dates: c.1880-c.1891
Firms: A.C. Willard & Co. Architects

Biographical Information

A.C. Willard was a Missouri native who was active in Colorado Springs by April 1880. He established a practice as A.C. Willard & Co. Architects, which included a partnership with Frank A. Weston. Display advertisements for the firm promised, "Commissions as low as good work and thorough supervision will allow." A list of projects underway in April included six residences with a combined value of \$46,000 and a \$5,000 store building for the Bennett Brothers on Tejon Street. By June 1880, the firm was working on plans for the Colorado Springs Opera House, the most notable building produced by Willard in the city. The partnership with Weston was dissolved in early August 1880, and subsequent display advertisements listed only "A.C. Willard, Architect." Later Willard projects reported in the *Colorado Springs Gazette* included a \$30,000 stone residence for Charles Elwell (1880) and the parsonage for the Episcopal Church (1880) in Colorado Springs, a \$250,000 hotel (1881) to be built by a stock company in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and St. Andrew's Chapel (1881) and a engine house and town hall (1881) in Manitou Springs. Willard and his wife Nellie still resided in Colorado Springs in February 1883, but, by 1890, the architect was designing buildings in Riverside, California. Riverside buildings attributed to Willard include the Loring Building (1890), the stone Universalist-Unitarian Church (1891), and the James M. Wood House (1891, in collaboration with the house's owner, a theater architect).

Source: R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons. "Edgeplain," National Register of Historic Places registration form, May 26, 2006.

Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date*	Status
Colorado Springs Opera House	Colorado Springs		1880	Demolished
Edgeplain	1106 N. Nevada Colorado Springs	5EP.5097	1881	National Register pending

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

Information Sources

Simmons, R. Laurie and Thomas H. Simmons. "Edgeplain," National Register of Historic Places registration form, May 26, 2006.
Site Files Database, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver.