

Architect: Varian, Ernest Phillip

Birth/Death Dates: 1854-1927

Practice Dates: 1881-1927?

Firms:

Varian and Sterner (1885-1901)

Varian and Varian (1910-1927)

Biographical Information

Ernest Phillip Varian was born in Plainfield, New Jersey and came to Denver in 1880 after having worked as a contractor in New York.

By the spring of 1881, Varian submitted plans in competition with W.J. Edbrooke to the Zion Baptist Church for construction of their new church. The congregation awarded Varian the contract and work began on the Calvery Baptist Church in 1882.

By 1885, Varian established a partnership with former F.E. Edbrooke & Co. employee, Frederick J. Sterner. The firm of Varian and Sterner went on to become one Denver's most prominent architectural designers with many listings in the Denver Building Permit files. Perhaps the firm's most notable building is the Denver Athletic Club at 1325 Glenarm, with its Romanesque arches dominating the street front.

Around 1901, the firm of Varian and Sterner dissolved. Varian then went to work briefly with W. Harry Edwards. By 1910, Varian and his son, Lester Ernest Varian, opened the firm of Varian and Varian. The father and son team designed the Byers Branch Library, the George Elbert Burr House, as well as numerous residences around Denver.

Ernest Varian suffered a stroke of apoplexy and died January 5, 1927.

Credited Buildings

| Building Name | Location | Site No. | Date | Assessment |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|--------------------------|
| Calvery Baptist Church | 27th & Stout St., Denver | | 1882 | |
| Brinton Terrace | 23-37 E. 18th Ave., & 1803-07 Lincoln St., Denver | | 1882 | Demolished |
| Platt Rogers Mansion | E. Colfax & Washington St., Denver | | 1884 | Demolished |
| Varian and Sterner (1885-1901) | | | | |
| Bosworth House | 1400 Josephine St., Denver | | 1889 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Unnamed House | 1430 Josephine St., Denver | | 1889 | |
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| Denver Club | 17th & Glenarm, Denver | | 1889 | Demolished |

**COLORADO ARCHITECTS
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

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|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Denver Athletic Club | 1325 Glenarm, Denver | 5DV149 | 1889 | National Register |
| Holzman House | 1772 Grant St., Denver | | 1890 | Demolished |
| McNeil House | 930 Logan St., Denver | | 1890 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Charlene Place | 1421-41 Pennsylvania St., Denver | 5DV2727 | 1890 | Pennsylvania St. Local HD |
| James R. Hicks House | 1638 Ogden St., Denver | 5DV2740 | 1890 | Swallow Hill HD |
| Unnamed House | 435 Delaware St., Denver | | c.1891 | Baker Local HD |
| Campbell House | 950 Logan St., Denver | | 1891 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Unnamed House | 740 Washington St., Denver | | 1891 | Seventh Ave. Local HD |
| Campbell House (Clark House) | 940 Logan St., Denver | | 1891 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Soloman B. Hardy House | 1630 Ogden St., Denver | 5DV2738 | 1892 | Swallow Hill HD |
| Unnamed House | 1359 Gaylord St., Denver | 5DV2716 | 1892 | Wyman Local HD |
| University Club | 1673 Sherman St., Denver | 5DV1873 | 1895 | |
| Ralph J. Preston House/Phillip B. Stewart House | 1228 Wood Ave., Colorado Springs | 5EP1540 | 1896-1897 | North End HD |
| Sykes-Nicholson-Moore House | 1410 High St., Denver | 5DV752 | 1897 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Temporary Building 1 | University of Colorado at Boulder | | 1898 | |
| Unnamed House | 1410 Josephine St., Denver | | 1899 | Demolished |
| Pearce-McAllister Cottage | 1880 Gaylord St., Denver | | c.1900 | National Register |
| Frank Mansfield Taylor House | 945 Pennsylvania St., Denver | 5DV5403 | 1901 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Cuthbert-Dines House | 1350 Logan St., Denver | 5DV743 | 1901 | Denver Local Landmark |
| First Church of Christ Scientist | 1401-15 Logan St., Denver | 5DV914 | 1901 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Adam Memorial Home (Oaks Home) | 2875 W. 33 rd Ave., Denver | 5DV85.22 | 1902 | Potter-Highlands HD |
| Unnamed House (speculation on Varian involvement) | 2749 W. 33 rd Ave., Denver | 5DV85.20 | 1902 | Potter-Highlands HD |

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| Unnamed House (speculation on Varian involvement) | 2759 W. 33 rd Ave., Denver | 5DV85.19 | 1902 | Potter- Highlands HD |
| Varian and Varian (1910-1927) | | | | |
| George Elbert Burr Studio-Denver Woman's Press Club | 1325 Logan St., Denver | 5DV742 | 1910 | State Register |
| Unnamed House | 815 Gaylord St., Denver | | 1912 | Morgan's Subdivision Local HD |
| William Porter House | 869 Vine St., Denver | | 1916 | Morgan's Subdivision Local HD |
| Hawking House | 1416 Niagara St., Denver | | 1917 | |
| Byers Branch Library | 675 Santa Fe Dr., Denver | 5DV1660 | 1918 | Denver Local Landmark |
| John Porter House | 777 Pearl St., Denver | | 1923 | Denver Local Landmark |
| Nursery Building - State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children | 888 E. Iliff Ave., Denver | | 1923 | Denver Local Landmark |
| University Park Elementary School | 2300 S. St. Paul St., Denver | 5DV2093 | 1924 | |
| Unnamed House | 919 Vine St., Denver | | 1926 | Morgan's Subdivision Local HD |
| Undated Buildings | | | | |
| Unnamed House (Varian & Sterner) | 2449 E. 14th St., Denver | | | Demolished |
| Cora Costello House (Varian & Varian) | 2001 E. 1st., Denver | | | Country Club Local HD |
| Leonard Freeman House (Varian & Varian) | 2611 E. 7th, Denver | | | Seventh Ave. Local HD |
| Thomas Keely House (Varian & Varian) | 160 Race St., Denver | | | Country Club Local HD |
| Mason Lewis House (Varian & Varian) | 845 Gaylord St., Denver | | | Morgan's Subdivision Local HD |
| John McPhee House (Varian & Varian) | 850 Gaylord St., Denver | | | Morgan's Subdivision Local HD |
| Lester Varian House (Varian & Varian) | 528 Race St., Denver | | | Country Club Local HD |
| Samuel Shamberger House (Varian & Varian) | 464 Williams, Denver | | | |

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| East Denver Lumber Company Building (Varian & Varian) | Denver | | | |
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Information Sources

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