



Architect: Buell, Temple Hoyne
Birth/Death Dates: 1895 - 1990
Practice Dates: 1919 - 1989
Firms: Temple H. Buell, Architect
T. H. Buell and Company, Architects
T. H. Buell and Company, Inc.

Biographical Information

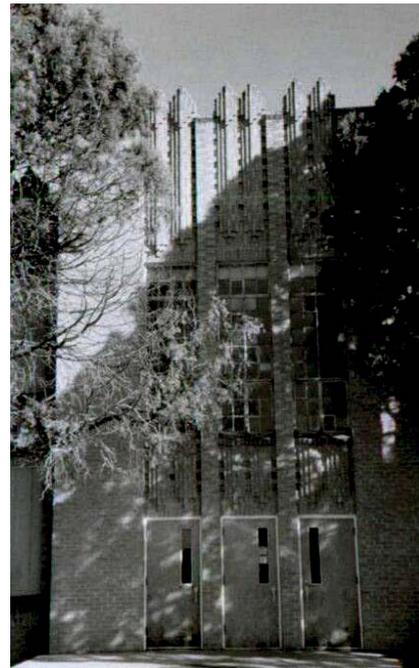
Temple Buell achieved public prominence with his development of the Cherry Creek Shopping Center. Completed in 1950 as Denver's first modern shopping mall with a central pedestrian plaza, he built the retail complex on a former city dump he purchased in 1925.

Born in Chicago on September 9, 1895, Temple Hoyne Buell grew up in Chicago and attended Lake Forest Academy. He graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in Architecture and received his M.S. in Architecture from Columbia University. In 1917, Buell won the Prize of Rome in architecture, but World War I intervened before he could take advantage of the award.

He enlisted in the army and attended officer's training camp at Plattsburgh Barracks in New York. Upon being commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, the army assigned him to duty in France. After attending additional army schools overseas, he was assigned to the 101st Trench Mortar Battery, in the 26th Division of the American Expeditionary Force. After the Battle of Chateau-Thierry, in which he was severely affected by poison gas, Buell returned to the U.S. to become adjutant to the Trench Artillery School in Fort Barrancas, Florida. He resigned from the army and returned to Chicago in 1919.

Buell worked for the Chicago firm Marshall and Fox and later with Rapp and Rapp designing hotels and theaters. Weakened lungs due to the gassing led to his relocation to Denver in 1921 to convalesce and spend a year in a sanatorium to recover from tuberculosis. He eventually returned to work part-time and shortly afterwards launched his firm under the name of Temple H. Buell, Architect. In 1923, he incorporated the office as T. H. Buell and Company, Architects. The practice specialized in the design and construction of commercial, public and residential buildings.

During 1921, before relocating to Denver, Buell married Marjorie Callae McIntosh. The couple had four children, Callae Mackey, Temple Hoyne, Jr., Beverly Milne, and Marjorie Daphne. Their marriage lasted 37 years. In 1963, Buell married Virginia Bennett Crocker, a union that lasted eight years. At the age of 80 in 1975, he wed Sherry Montague.



*Ovid High School entry.
Source: Colorado Historical
Society*



Among the many commissions completed by Buell and his firm are the Denver Paramount Theater (with Rapp and Rapp); the Lincoln Park and Stapleton Homes public housing projects; the Denver Medical Depot; and numerous school buildings across the state, including those in Hotchkiss, Ovid, Manzanola, Montrose, and several in Denver. In the 1930s, Buell purchased 192 vacant acres south of downtown Denver and embarked on a residential development project that became Cherry Hills Village.

In 1949, Temple Buell began construction of the Cherry Creek Shopping Center at East First Avenue and South University Boulevard in Denver. Buell previously purchased the property in 1925, but it took him 24 years of zoning disputes and political infighting to begin building what, at the time, was considered a major departure in retail architecture. Instead of positioning stores along the street edge or setting them back in a row behind off-street parking, Buell grouped stores together in the middle of the site fronting onto a common landscaped open-air courtyard. Parking lots surrounded the retail complex. Cherry Creek Shopping Center is considered one of the first pedestrian shopping malls in the country. It is this achievement for which Buell is most remembered.

Buell held architecture licenses in Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Utah. In addition to the architecture firm, he was a partner in the Real Estate Equities Company with Paul Lanius. Buell was a member of the American Institute of Architects, Colorado Society of Engineers, American Society of Engineers, Rotary Club of America and the Denver Chamber of Commerce. In 1988, the Colorado Chapter of the American Institute of Architects presented him with the Architect of the Year award, its highest honor.

The firm, T. H. Buell and Company, Inc. employed approximately 50 architects; site and master planners; structural, mechanical and electrical engineers; draftsmen; construction supervisors; and support personnel. He operated the company in Denver from 1923 until 1989.

In addition to many business organizations, Buell was an active member of many community and social organizations, including the University Club of Chicago, Denver Country Club, Colorado Alumni Association of Chi Phi Fraternity, Columbia Alumni Association and the Camp Fire Club of America. In 1923, he received the Columbia Alumni Medal. He also helped found and served as president of the Cherry Hills Country Club.

Temple Buell died in 1990 at the age of 94.

Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date*	Status
Manzanola Junior-Senior High School	301 Catalpa Manzanola	5OT.891	1925	School
Fels House	355 High St. Denver	5DV.167.97	1925	Country Club Historic District, National Register



Hotchkiss High School (Hotchkiss Middle School)	835 N. Fourth St. Hotchkiss	5DT.1381	1925	School
Fruitdale Elementary School	10801 44 th Ave. Wheat Ridge	5JF.2084	1927	
Ovid High School (Revere Junior-Senior High School)	300 Morgan St. Ovid	5SW.78	1928	High School; State Register
Elbert Elementary School	410 23 rd St. Denver	5DV.2083	Ca.1929	School
Asbury Elementary School	1320 Asbury St. Denver	5DV.2095	Ca.1929	School
Paramount Theater (with Rapp and Rapp)	1621 Glenarm St. Denver	5DV.190	1930	National Register
Katherine Mullen Memorial Nurses Home	1895 Franklin St. Denver	5DV.2266	1934	
US Custom House expansion (with G. Meredith Musick)	721 19 th St. Denver	5DV.153	1935	National Register
Morgan School	234 Cascade Ave. Montrose	5MN.4744	1936	Major library addition
Fruita Junior High School	Poplar Ave. and N. Maple St., Fruita	5ME.2278	1936	School
Berthoud Hall, Colorado School of Mines	16 th and Illinois Golden		1937	Education
Denargo Market	201 Denargo Market, Denver	5DV.4490	1939	Demolished
Leslie J. Savage Library, Western State College	Gunnison	5GN.2366	1939	Library; State Register
Horace Mann Middle School	4130 Navajo St. Denver	5DV.2077	Ca.1939	School
Lincoln Park	1300-1400 Mariposa St. Denver	5DV.2955	1940	Demolished
Denver Medical Depot (U.S. Air Force Finance and Accounting Center; Inner-city Business Park	3800 York St. Denver	5DV.5142	1942	Business complex; National Register
Stapleton Homes	Broadway and 51 st Ave., Denver	5DV.3765	1952	
Quigg Newton Homes	4501-11 Mariposa Wy. Denver	5DV.4900-03	1952	
Whiteman Elementary School	451 Newport St. Denver	5DV.8067	1955	Elementary School
Kunsmiller Junior High School	2250 Quitman St. Denver	5DV.8061	1957	Middle School
Pueblo Shopping Center (Midtown Shopping Center)	1000 6 th Street Pl. Pueblo	5PE.4248	1957	Shopping center



Denver Terminal Annex Post Office	1501 Wynkoop St. Denver	5DV.47.184	1959	Demolished in 2005
Abraham Lincoln High School	2285 Federal Blvd. Denver	5DV.8044	1960	High School
State Services Building	1525 Sherman St. Denver	5DV.1870	1960	Office building
Buildings F1, F2 and F3, Fort Logan Mental Health Center	Denver		1962	Medical buildings
Building A-E Fort Logan Mental Health Center	Denver		1963	Medical building
Admissions Building Fort Logan Mental Health Center	Denver		1964	Medical building
Central Boiler Plant, Fort Logan Mental Health Center	Denver		1964	Mechanical
John F. Kennedy Junior-Senior High School	2855 Lamar St. Denver	5DV.8056	1966	High School
Broadway Baptist Church-addition	255 Lincoln St. Denver	5DV.5302		

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

Information Sources

Buell, Temple, collection, Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library.

Noel, Thomas J. *Buildings of Colorado*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Noel, Thomas J. and Barbara S. Norgren. *Denver: the City Beautiful and its Architects, 1893-1941*. Denver: Historic Denver, Inc., 1987.

Schuber and Darden Architects, "Fort Logan Survey," draft, April 2005, State Historical Fund, Colorado Historical Society.

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

Revised: November 22, 2007