



CLARK STONE
Educator - Administrator - Historian

Clark Stone was born in Nebraska on October 28, 1897. He moved to Denver with his family in 1904 and the family soon moved to Prospect Valley in Wheat Ridge, where they farmed a tract west of Kipling Street on West 26th Avenue.

Stone attended Prospect Valley School and then Wheat Ridge High School graduating in 1915. He earned a degree in education and business at Denver University class of 1919 and by August of 1920 had saved enough money to buy a little furniture and marry his sweetheart, Irene Smith. Offered a job as teacher and coach at Wheat Ridge High School he taught for five years, serving as principal the last three.

In 1926, he joined the Denver Public Schools. At West High School he was a teacher from 1926 to 1931 and assistant principal from 1931 to 1939. During this period he also attended graduate school at Denver University and received his masters degree in 1934. He transferred to Grant Jr. High in 1939, and was principal for 23 years, one of the longest tenures on record.

Stone was always interested in history and became a charter member of the Wheat Ridge Historical Society. His interests were in oral history and older homes. Stone has conducted about 20 oral history interviews with early residents of the community. These priceless tapes are now part of the Society's collection. As a member of the Wheat Ridge Centennial-Bicentennial map committee he helped draw up the 1900 farm map which is reproduced in the booklet "Biographical Sketches, Early Settlers of Wheat Ridge."

As a Bicentennial project Stone photographed and researched many of the older homes in Wheat Ridge, preparing a slide presentation shown to many civic groups and clubs. A drive-by tour was outlined which passed many of the local landmarks. Stone's research has preserved many of the everyday facets of life around the turn of the century. The routines of housework, farmwork and schoolwork are emphasized with a sense of humor that is appealing to all generations.

In September of 1984, the Wheat Ridge Senior Center selected Stone "Super Senior." In April of 1985, in recognition of his outstanding service to the community, Stone was awarded the "Grange Community Citizens Award" by the members of Wheat Ridge Grange #155. Clark and Irene were married for 68 years. They have 3 children, Edward, Virginia and Ruth, 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.