

MANHATTAN'S HISTORIC LANDMARKS & DISTRICTS

Henry & Elenora Strong House

Built by Henry Strong in approximately 1868, the Strong House is an example of the Center-Hall-Plan, Side-Gabled Stone House type as described in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for *Late Nineteenth Century Vernacular Stone Houses in Manhattan, Kansas*.

Henry and Elenora Strong moved to Manhattan, KS in approximately 1858, shortly after getting married in their hometown of Manchester, Connecticut. As Manhattan residents, Henry and Elenora were very active in the community through their efforts in establishing a local school, as well as Henry's success in creating a local quarry business. The Strong House was owned by members of the Strong family into the mid-1900s. Mabel

Hoerner, popularly known as Grandma Hoerner, was Henry and Elenora's



Strong House, 1916 Beck Street

granddaughter and owned the Strong House at one time. Grandma Hoerner is well-known for her recipes that are still distributed out of a facility near Manhattan.

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This house can be classified as both a Side-Gabled and a Front-Gabled vernacular house because records show that both the south and the west elevations indicate historic entrances. The earliest known image of the property is a birds-eye rendering printed in the 1881 plat book of Manhattan. The rendering illustrates that the house contained a flat-roof porch extending from the south and a driveway passing in front of the west entrance. The driveway indicates that the west entrance was most likely the formal entrance, therefore the house is classified as a Side-Gabled House.

The vernacular Side-Gabled house type was adapted from a traditional British form. This type of home was common in pre-railroad America, particularly in New England. This particular property reflects local materials and practices that were available for Henry Strong, such as the use of native limestone and

building practices that were more common in Kansas during the time of construction.

*Source: Kansas State Historical Society
National Register of Historic Places - Nomination Form*