

Why are the sidewalks so high?



The Warren house faces the “Big Ditch”, formerly Main Street

Elizabeth Warren

Elizabeth Warren arrived in Silver City with her husband and three children in 1882. Shortly after building a large brick home on Main Street in 1885, Mr. Warren died, and Elizabeth took over his insurance business.

Elizabeth’s house was on Main Street, which was prone to flooding. During the 1902 flood, she commandeered a work crew to sandbag the front of her house. The house still stands.

In 1907, the town passed an ordinance requiring concrete sidewalks. An astute businesswoman, Elizabeth then partnered with her friend Matilda Koehler to create a concrete business. The first sidewalks poured in Silver City fronted her insurance office on Bullard Street, and can still be seen today.

After the deaths of her two sons, Elizabeth continued in business, but not to her former degree. She maintained her allegiance to the Ladies Hospital, and its successor the Hillcrest Hospital. She died there at the age of 90 in 1945.

Did you know that the Warren house is the only house that is still standing in its original place on the former Main Street? Do you know where it is located?