Henry Chase Stone was born in 1900 in Staten Island, New York. Enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1917. After WW I, he went back to school, studying mechanical engineering at Cornell but tuberculosis forced him to quit school. In 1924, Stone moved to Colorado Springs as a tuberculosis patient and stayed at the Cragmoor Sanatorium for the next ten years. Although ill, Stone became the director of the Pikes Peak Flying School. In 1935, Stone worked as a cashier at the First National Bank in Colorado Springs; within 5 years he became Assistant Vice President and then Vice President of the bank. Much later, in 1951, Stone became president of the bank.

In 1940, Stone married Arvilla May Gardner, a fellow patient at Cragmoor.
In 1941, Stone traveled to Washington, D.C., to lobby for a new Colorado army installation. In Dec. 1941, Camp Carson, a $30 million camp, was awarded to Colorado Springs (which became Fort Carson in 1954.) In 1943, he re-enlisted in the military because of WW II.
In 1946, Stone came back to the bank and became the leading champion of Colorado Springs’ economic development. Many businesses came to Colorado Springs because of his efforts. For 25 years, Stone worked hard to bring industry to the region, including the Air Force Academy and other military bases. With other investors, Stone began a Colorado Springs downtown redevelopment plan and the Antlers Plaza Hotel and Holly Sugar Building were built. This new downtown plaza, razed in 1988, was named the Chase Stone Center.

He died October 9, 1966.

Great Resources on H. Chase Stone

- Pikes Peak NewsFinder: search newspapers for articles. Type in: Stone, Chase http://library.ppld.org/SpecialCollections/index/article_search.asp

Photo courtesy Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum