

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

(Page 1 of 5)

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5BL8037**
- 2. Temporary number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Boulder**
- 4. City: **Louisville**
- 5. Historic building name: **Huber's Drugstore**
- 6. Current building name: **Blue Parrot Cafe**
- 7. Building address: **636/640 Main Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Blue Parrot Inc. c/o Joe Colacci**
Owner address: **640 Main Street**
Louisville, CO 80027

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

- 9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**
SW of **SW** of **NE** of **SE** of section **8**
- 10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **488790**
Northing: **4424980**
- 11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
- 12. Lot(s): **11, 12** Block: **4**
Addition: **Original Town of Louisville** Year of Addition **1878**
- 13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

22. Architectural style / building type:

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements / Commercial Style



Official Eligibility Determination

(OAHP use only)

- Date _____ Initials _____
- Determined Eligible - National Register
 - Determined Not Eligible - National Register
 - Determined Eligible - State Register
 - Determined Not Eligible - State Register
 - Needs Data
 - Contributes to eligible National Register District
 - Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

- 14. Building plan (footprint, shape):
Rectangular Plan
- 15. Dimensions in feet: **6464 square feet**
- 16. Number of stories: **one**
- 17. Primary external wall material
Stucco
Concrete / Concrete Block
- 18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Flat Roof
- 19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof
- 20. Special features (enter all that apply):
False Front
Decorative Cornice

Survey completed April 2009

21. General Architectural Description

The Blue Parrot Restaurant is a tall one-story commercial building located at the southeast corner of Main and Pine Streets, in downtown Louisville. The building is supported by a concrete foundation, faced with brick, on parts of the south and east elevations. The building's exterior walls are painted pale blue stucco, over wood frame (or possibly brick) construction. The south end of the building, which is a 1950s addition, appears to be of concrete block construction. A painted dark blue projecting wood beltcourse, extends completely around the building at approximately ten feet above grade, creating a strong horizontal emphasis. The building is covered by a gambrel roof, with parapet walls, with decorative cornices, which extend well above the roof lines on the west, north, and east elevations. A recessed corner entry, located at the building's northwest corner, features a stained natural brown glass-in-wood-frame door, with a flanking sidelight. Two large single-light fixed-pane windows, each flanked by two single-light casement windows, are located to the east of the corner entry, on the north elevation. Three large single-light fixed-pane windows, each flanked by two single-light casement windows, and five additional single-light fixed-pane windows, are located along the west elevation, to the south of the corner entry. A metal canopy projects out over the sidewalk along much of the original west elevation, and wraps around to cover the west end of the north elevation, as well. A distinctive neon sign, advertising the **BLUE PARROT**, and **Joe Collaci's ITALIAN FOOD**, is located above the canopy, over the corner entry. Two service doors, and a steel roll-away garage door, are located on the building's east (rear) elevation.

29. Construction History (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions:

Boulder County Assessor records indicate this building was constructed in 1905. Sanborn insurance maps corroborate that it was built sometime between 1900 and 1908. A large concrete block addition was built onto the original south elevation in the mid-1950s. The building's exterior walls were renovated circa 1988.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

The Blue Parrot Restaurant is located at the southeast corner of Main and Pine Streets, in downtown Louisville.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects n/a

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction:

Estimate

Actual **1905**

Source of information:

**Boulder County Assessor records;
Sanborn maps, 1900 and 1908.**

26. Architect:

n/a

Source of information:

n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:

unknown

Source of information:

n/a

28. Original owner:

Joseph A. Huber

Source of information:

**Previous cultural resource survey,
conducted by Steve Whissen, ca. 1982**

30. Original location: **yes**

Moved **no**

Date of move(s) **n/a**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Specialty Store**

32. Intermediate use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Restaurant**

33. Current use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Restaurant**

34. Site type(s): **Commercial Building**

35. Historical Background

This building was constructed in 1905, or perhaps year or two earlier, and was originally the site of Huber's Drugstore. This business was owned and operated by Joseph A. Huber, who had come to Louisville in the 1890s. Joseph, and his wife Nora, resided in a house at Pine and Front Streets, east of the drugstore. In 1920, the Hubers sold the building to Michael and Mary (Maria) Colacci, who opened the Blue Parrot Cafe here. The Colacci family, which had come to Louisville in the early 1910s, made an indelible mark on downtown Louisville, by operating as many as four Italian restaurants in a two block area, throughout the twentieth century. The Blue Parrot, in operation continuously at this location since the early 1920s, is the oldest of the Colacci family's restaurants. The others included: Colacci's Restaurant, which opened at 816 Main Street in the 1950s; Luigi's, located at 808 Main Street from the mid-1960s to the mid-1980s; and Pasquale's, which was in business at 809 Main Street from the mid-1960s until 1997. Due primarily to the Colacci family, Louisville gained a reputation throughout the Denver metropolitan area as the place to go for Italian food. The Colacci's were involved in other retail businesses as well. In the 1940s and 1950s, Joseph Colacci (Michael and Mary's son) ran Tony and Jim's Service Station (later known as the Louisville Oil Company), at the northwest corner of Main and Pine, located diagonally across the street from the Blue Parrot. Joe Colacci later took over operation of the Blue Parrot, while his brother, Anthony, ran Colacci's Restaurant at 816 Main Street. In earlier years, during the Great Depression, the Blue Parrot was primarily run by Mary Colacci, while her husband, Michael, helped make ends meet by working in area coal mines.

36. Sources of Information

(Boulder County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card - Urban Master", on file at the Boulder Carnegie Library.

Conarroe, Carolyn. *The Louisville Story*, Louisville: Louisville Times Inc., 1978.

Polk's Boulder County Directory [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers.

Polk's Longmont City Directory, [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company, Publishers, 1966 - 1997.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated August 1893, November 1900, and August 1908.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**

Date of Designation: n/a

38. Applicable National Register Criteria

A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory;

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

xx Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Commerce; Ethnic Heritage / European

40. Period of Significance: **1905 - 1950**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **xx**

42. Statement of Significance

This building is historically significant, relative to National Register Criterion A, for its association with the Colacci family, and with commercial development in Louisville during the first half of the twentieth century. The building is particularly important in this regard for its representation of Louisville's rich heritage of Italian restaurants.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Modern changes to the building's primary elevations - including stuccoing the exterior walls, and altering the window openings - are so severe, that this building must be considered ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. A comparison of the current building, with an appraisal card photo from the period of significance, reveals an almost complete loss of integrity. The building, thus, is no longer able to convey a sense of its historic significance.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **Historic buildings along Main Street in downtown Louisville, which have retained a sufficient degree of historical integrity, could comprise a National Register historic district.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building:

Contributing:

Noncontributing: **xx**

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district, is it:

Contributing: **n/a**

n/a

Noncontributing: **CM-12**

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **17-21**

Frame(s): **April 11, 2000**

Negatives filed at: **City of Louisville, Administration
749 Main Street
Louisville, Colorado 80027**

48. Report title: **"Old Town" Louisville Historical Building Survey**

49. Date:

50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number: **970/493-5270**

Pine Street

Main Street

Alley



640

Sidewalk

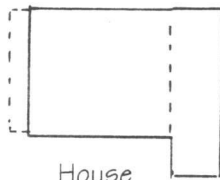
Blue Parrot
Restaurant

Approximate
Scale

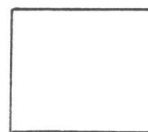


40 Feet

600



House



Garage

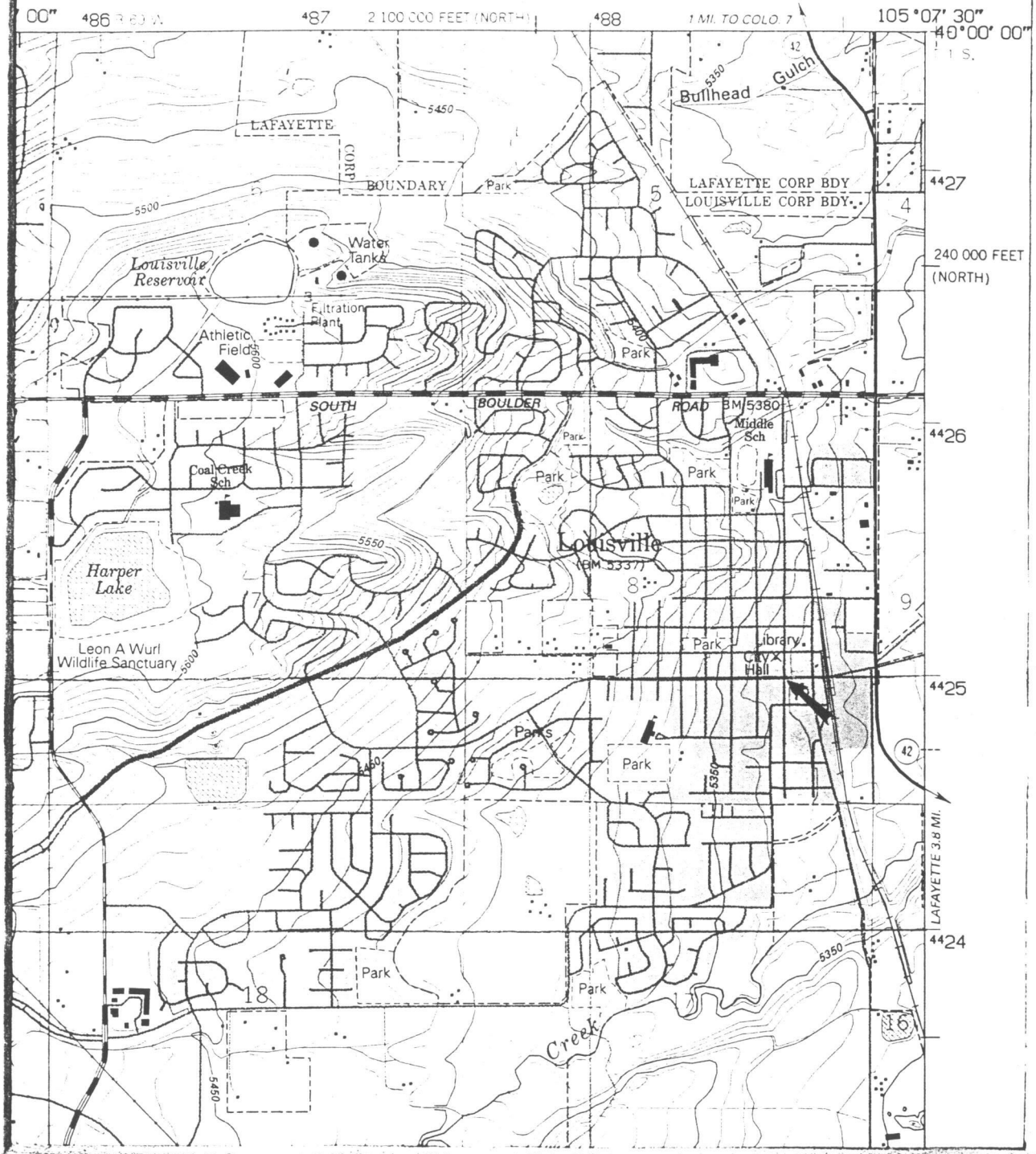
Elm Street

• • • SKETCH MAP • • •

640 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado

LOUISVILLE QUADRANGLE
COLORADO
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

49° 11' SE
(ERIE)



• • • LOCATION MAP • • •

640 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado



