

Resource Number: 5BL 11298
Temporary Resource Number: 157508426009

OAH1403
Rev. 9/98

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official eligibility determination (OAH1403 use only)

Date _____ Initials _____
____ Determined Eligible- NR
____ Determined Not Eligible- NR
____ Determined Eligible- SR
____ Determined Not Eligible- SR
____ Need Data
____ Contributes to eligible NR District
____ Noncontributing to eligible NR District

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: 5BL 11298
2. Temporary resource number: 157508426009
3. County: Boulder
4. City: Louisville
5. Historic building name: Schmelzer House
6. Current building name: Buratovich House
7. Building address: 724 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, CO 80027. Alternate address: 215 and 227 Jefferson. Louisville addresses were changed in the 1930s.
8. Owner name and address: Jacquelin Buratovich, PO Box 221 Louisville, CO 80027-0221



II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. 6 Township 1S Range 69W
NW ¼ of SE ¼ of NW ¼ of SE ¼ of section 8
10. UTM reference NAD 83
Zone 13 ; 488539 mE 4425247 mN
11. USGS quad name: Louisville, Colorado
Year: 1965 revised 1994 Map scale: 7.5' X 15' Attach photo copy of appropriate map section.
12. Lot(s): 17, 18 Block: 6
Addition: Jefferson Place Year of Addition: 1880
13. Boundary Description and Justification: The surveyed area is bounded by Jefferson Avenue on the west, an alley on the east, and property lines on the north and south.

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): Rectangular plan
15. Dimensions in feet: Length 36 x Width 34
16. Number of stories: One
17. Primary external wall material(s): Wood shingle
18. Roof configuration: Cross gable
19. Primary external roof material: Asphalt

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20. Special features: Porch, garage, glass block
21. General architectural description: 724 Jefferson is a one-story, wood framed residence, generally rectangular in plan, facing west to Jefferson Avenue. The exterior is clad with wood shingles painted tan. The roof is cross gabled and covered with brown asphalt shingles. The front façade has an enclosed hipped-roof addition that was a previous porch. The current porch is an open concrete stoop, 2 steps up from the sidewalk, with a non-historic black wrought iron railing and stairs leading both to the west and to the south. The porch has an aluminum awning on black aluminum posts. The front door is a white wood door with one small square light and a black metal security door. Adjacent to the front door is a glass block window. The windows on the rest of the house are double hung replacement windows in modified openings.
22. Architectural style/building type: Other Style: Wood frame cross gable
23. Landscaping or special setting features: Jefferson Place Subdivision is a historic residential neighborhood adjacent to downtown Louisville. The subdivision is laid out on a standard urban grid of narrow, deep lots with rear alleys. Houses are built to a fairly consistent setback line along the streets with small front lawns, deep rear yards and mature landscaping. Small, carefully maintained single-family residences predominate. Most of the houses are wood framed, one or one and one-half stories in height, featuring white or light-colored horizontal wood or steel siding, gabled or hipped asphalt shingled roofs and front porches. While many of the houses have been modified over the years, most of the historic character-defining features have been preserved. 724 Jefferson Avenue blends well with the scale and character of the neighborhood, but differs in some ways. The house was moved east on the lot in 1956, creating a deep front yard that is unusual in Jefferson Place. The front yard is open to the street and lushly landscaped with flowers and a raised planter bed with vegetables. A concrete walk leads to the front door. To the south of the front door is an uncovered concrete patio. The back yard is enclosed with tall wood privacy fencing. There is a paved patio adjacent to the main house. A secondary residence near the alley has a concrete slab on the east side and a graveled yard with a raised planter bed
24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: There is a secondary residence east of the main house, adjacent to the alley. It appears to be a converted garage with light tan horizontal vinyl siding, white trim, a gable roof with asphalt shingles and white vinyl clad slider windows. The entrance faces south. The south face of the gable roof has solar collectors. There is also a small shed with a service door to the alley. It has a gable roof and light tan vertically scored composition siding.

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: ca. 1893 Actual: _____
Source of information: Boulder County property records
26. Architect: Unknown
Source of information: NA
27. Builder/Contractor: Unknown
Source of information: NA
28. Original owner: Edward Schmelzer Sr.
Source of information: Boulder County property records.
29. Construction history (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):
Between 1948 and 1956, exterior horizontal wood siding was replaced with wood shingle siding, the front porch was enclosed, and windows replaced. The house was moved to the east and possibly south on the property in 1956. Awnings were added after 1956. The garage was built in 1994 and converted to a secondary residence in 2007. Solar collectors were added to the secondary residence in 2008.
30. Original location ____ Moved X Date of move(s): 1956. Moved east and possibly south on same property.

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V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): Domestic, Single Dwelling
32. Intermediate use(s): N/A
33. Current use(s): Domestic, Single Dwelling
34. Site type(s): Urban residence
35. Historical background:

This building is part of Jefferson Place, the first residential subdivision in Louisville.

This property at 724 Jefferson was owned for about 90 years by members of the Schmelzer (also known as the "Smelzer") family. The family consisted of the parents and their four children who grew to adulthood, never married, and lived in this house. The last child of the family died in 1997 at the age of 96.

This parcel consists of two lots in Block 6: Lot 17 and Lot 18. Property records indicate that Charles Welch, the developer of Jefferson Place, sold Lot 17 to Edward Schmelzer no later than 1893 and sold Lot 18 to him no later than 1895. The 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville shows that the house at that time was in its entirety located on Lot 17.

Edward Schmelzer Sr. was born in 1863 and Susanna Schmelzer was born in 1866, both in the Tyrol region of Austria. Edward came to the US in 1886 or 1887, according to information on census records. Susanna came to the US in 1892 or 1893. There is some indication that they married after Susanna's arrival in the US. They were both in Louisville by 1893-4. Edward worked as a coal miner in Louisville. He died in 1944 and Susanna died in 1945.

The County gives 1900 as an estimated date of construction for this house, but it was likely constructed earlier. Boulder County has sometimes been found to be in error with respect to historic buildings in Louisville. In this case, there is some indication that the house was constructed prior to 1900, as Edward Schmelzer owned the lot that would have the house built on it by 1893 and owned both lots by 1895; he had a wife and children who lived with him in Louisville starting in 1893-94; and he did not own any other property in Louisville.

The property in question is outside of the boundaries of the Sanborn Maps that were done for Louisville in 1893, 1900, and 1908 (they focused on the downtown business district and La Farge Avenue only).

The house at 724 Jefferson does appear on the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville and on the Methodist Church Map of Louisville that was made in circa 1923-25.

Assessor cards completed by the County in 1948 and 1956 indicate that at some point during the period between those years, the house was moved back on the property and remodeled. A comparison of the layout of the house from before and after this move and remodeling indicates that the layout of the house was mostly unchanged. However, something that has changed is that the original house was located on Lot 17 (as indicated on the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map), and now the house appears to be situated on both lots. It is not known whether this occurred as a result of expansion of the house southward towards Lot 18, or as a result of the house being moved on the property.

The children of Susanna and Edward Schmelzer Sr. were Gertrude (1893-1922); Theresia (1894-1981); Louis (1897-1957); and Edward Jr. (1901-1997). Gertrude died of tuberculosis at the age of only 26. Louis and Edward Jr. worked as coal miners. In addition, Louis was the manager of "Johnnie's Place," a billiards hall on Main Street, in the 1930s and in 1940. Edward did construction work in the 1950s. Family members were active in the St. Louis Catholic Church. Son Edward "Peggy" Schmelzer is remembered for giving memorable nicknames to his friends and acquaintances; many of them stuck.

Census records for 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930 all place the family in this location at 724 Jefferson.

From 1945 to 1957, this was the home of Louis, Theresia, and Edward Jr.; from 1957 to 1981, it was the home of just Theresia and Edward Jr.; and from 1981 until the mid 1980s, it is believed to have been the home of just Edward Jr. None of the four children married, and the entire family of six is buried together in Boulder's Green Mountain Cemetery.

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In 1985, Edward Schmelzer Jr. sold 724 Jefferson to Brian Samuel Butler, who transferred it to Barry and Henrietta Butler; they sold it to Elizabeth Bowen in 1998. Bowen sold it to the current owner, Jacquelin Buratovich, in 2001.

Other addresses found for 724 Jefferson, under Louisville's old address system, were 227 Jefferson in the directories for 1918 to 1926, and 215 Jefferson from 1928 until 1943, when the house became known as 724 Jefferson.

36. Sources of information:

Boulder County "Real Estate Appraisal Card – Urban Master," on file at the Carnegie Branch Library for Local History in Boulder, Colorado.

Boulder County Clerk & Recorder's Office and Assessor's Office public records, accessed through <http://recorder.bouldercounty.org>.

Directories of Louisville residents and businesses on file at the Louisville Historical Museum.

Census records and other records accessed through www.ancestry.com

Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville, Colorado, 1909.

Methodist Church Parish Map of Louisville, Colorado, circa 1923-25.

Sanborn Insurance Maps for Louisville, Colorado, 1893, 1900, and 1908.

Green Mountain Cemetery Index to Interment Books, 1904-1925, Boulder Genealogical Society, 2006.

Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No Date of designation: NA

Designating authority: NA

37A. Applicable Local Landmark Criteria for Historic Landmarks:

A. Architectural.

- (1) Exemplifies specific elements of an architectural style or period.
- (2) Example of the work of an architect or builder who is recognized for expertise nationally, statewide, regionally, or locally.
- (3) Demonstrates superior craftsmanship or high artistic value.
- (4) Represents an innovation in construction, materials or design
- (5) Style particularly associated with the Louisville area.
- (6) Represents a built environment of a group of people in an era of history that is culturally significant to Louisville.
- (7) Pattern or grouping of elements representing at least one of the above criteria.
- (8) Significant historic remodel.

B. Social.

- (1) Site of historic event that had an effect upon society.
- (2) Exemplifies cultural, political, economic or social heritage of the community.
- (3) Association with a notable person or the work of a notable person.

C. Geographic/environmental

- (1) Enhances sense of identity of the community.

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- (2) An established and familiar natural setting or visual feature that is culturally significant to the history of Louisville.

Does not meet any of the above local criteria.

Local Field Eligibility Assessment: The property is worthy of nomination as a local landmark due to its long (90-year) association with the Schmelzer family, an Austrian immigrant coal mining family.

37B. Applicable State Register of Historic Properties Criteria:

A. The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history.

B. The property is connected with persons significant in history.

C. The property has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan.

D. The property has geographic importance.

E. The property contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history.

Does not meet any of the above State Register criteria.

State Register Field Eligibility Assessment: Not eligible

38. Applicable National Register Criteria:

A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern 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; or

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

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual)

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria

39. Area(s) of significance (National Register): NA

40. Period of significance: NA

41. Level of significance: NA National State Local

42. Statement of significance: This house is associated with the historic development of Louisville as one of the early homes in Louisville's first residential subdivision, Jefferson Place. Although Jefferson Place was platted in 1880, few houses were actually built here before 1900. The property's long 90-year association with the Austrian immigrant coal mining family, the Schmelzers, make it worthy of nomination as a local landmark.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance: The house lacks integrity of setting due to the large garage/secondary residence built on the property in 1993. Integrity of location is compromised since the house was moved on the same property in 1956. However this occurred while the Schmelzer family owned and occupied the house and happened more than 50 years ago, so it does not represent a loss of integrity of location. Integrity of materials is compromised by the change from horizontal wood siding to wood shingle siding, but again, this occurred in 1956 so this does not represent a loss of integrity of location. Similarly, integrity of design is compromised but not lost due to the modified windows, modified window sizes, and enclosure of the original front porch. The house retains integrity of workmanship and feeling.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible ___ Not Eligible X Need Data ___

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes X No _____

Historic District Potential: Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register and local historic district. There is potential for a National Register historic district. The main house would be a contributing structure to a State Register and local historic district, and to a potential National Register historic district. The garage/secondary residence would be non-contributing.

Discuss: This building is being recorded as part of a 2010-2011 intensive-level historical and architectural survey of Jefferson Place, Louisville's first residential subdivision, platted in 1880. The purpose of the survey is to determine if there is potential for National Register, State Register or local historic districts. Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European, for its association with European immigrants who first lived here and whose descendants continued to live here for over fifty years. The period of significance for the State Register historic district is 1881 – 1980. Jefferson Place is potentially eligible as a National Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European. However it needs data to determine dates of some modifications, and to more definitely establish the significant impacts of various European ethnic groups on the local culture of Louisville. The period of significance of a National Register district is 1881 – 1963. Jefferson Place is eligible as a local Louisville historic district under local Criterion B, Social, as it exemplifies the cultural and social heritage of the community.

European immigrant families flocked to Colorado coal mining communities, including Louisville, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in search of economic opportunities they could not find in their own countries. Louisville's Welch Coal Mine, along with other mines in the area, recruited skilled workers from western Europe. In the early years before 1900, most of the miners who lived in Jefferson Place came from English-speaking countries.

Immigrants from England brought a strong tradition and expertise in coal mining. The English are widely credited with developing the techniques of coal mining that were used locally, and they taught these techniques to other miners. The British mining culture was instilled in the early Colorado coal mines. English immigrants also brought expertise in other necessary skills such as blacksmithing and chain forging.

Later Jefferson Place residents arrived from Italy, France, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, and Slovenia, among other places. The Italians eventually became the largest single ethnic group in Jefferson Place and in Louisville as a whole. About one-third of the houses in Jefferson Place were owned and occupied by Italian immigrants. Italian immigrants left their mark on Louisville in the food and beverage industries. To the present day, downtown Louisville is known throughout the Front Range for its tradition of Italian restaurants. The impacts of the heritage and customs of the other European ethnic groups could be significant, but are not well documented and need further investigation.

If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing X Noncontributing _____
The main house would be a contributing structure. The garage/secondary residence is noncontributing.

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing ___ Noncontributing _____
The property is not within an existing National Register district.

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers: 5BL11298_724Jefferson_01 through 5BL11298_724Jefferson_06.

Digital images filed at: City of Louisville, Planning Department

48. Report title: Historical and Architectural Survey of Jefferson Place Subdivision, Louisville, Colorado

49. Date(s): 2013

50. Recorder(s): Kathy and Leonard Lingo, Avenue L Architects, and Bridget Bacon, City of Louisville

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51. Organization: Avenue L Architects

52. Address: 3457 Ringsby Court Suite 317, Denver, CO 80216

53. Phone number(s): (303) 290-9930

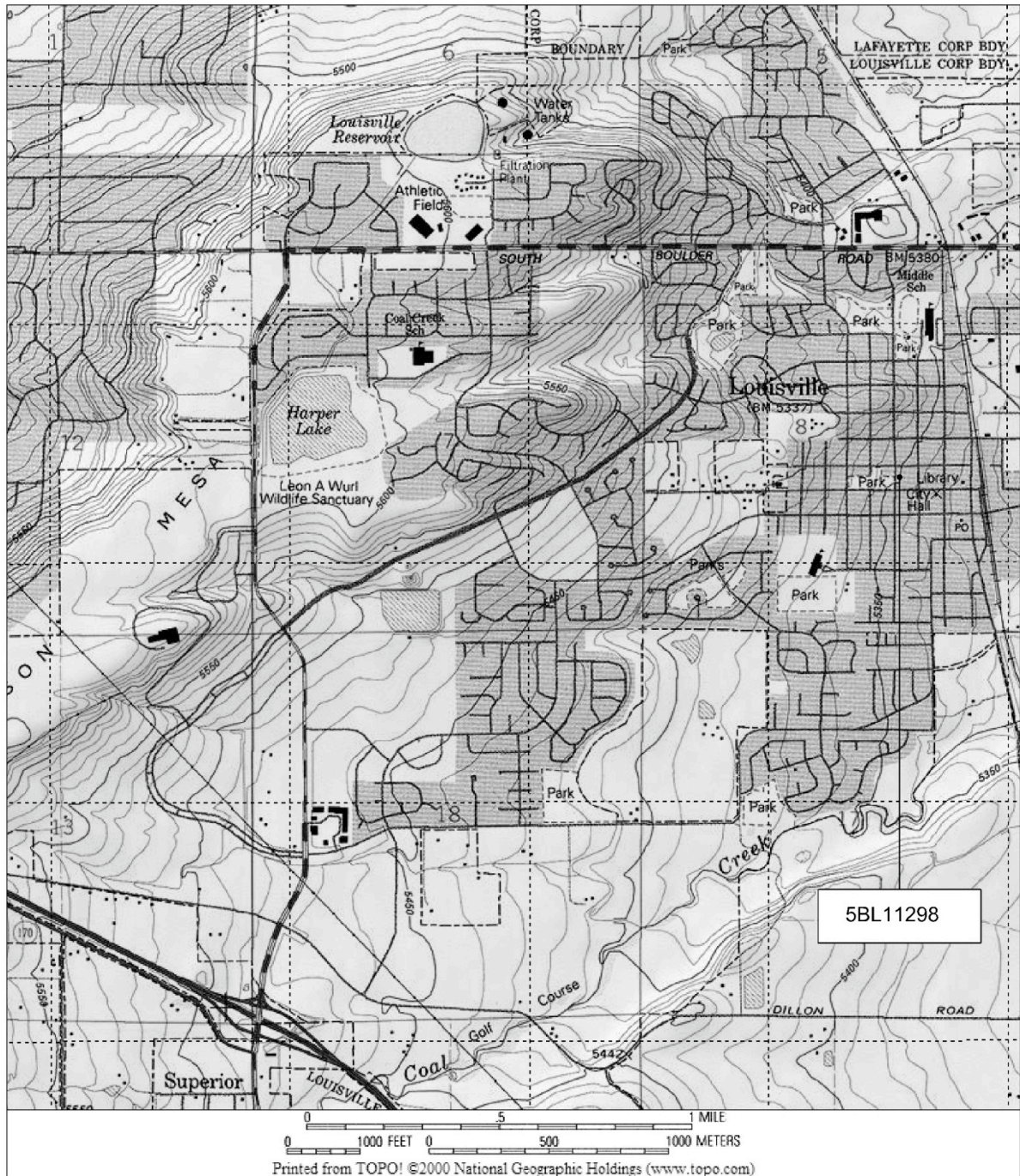
NOTE: Please include a sketch map, a photocopy of the USGS quad map indicating resource location, and photographs.

Colorado Historical Society - Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 (303) 866-3395

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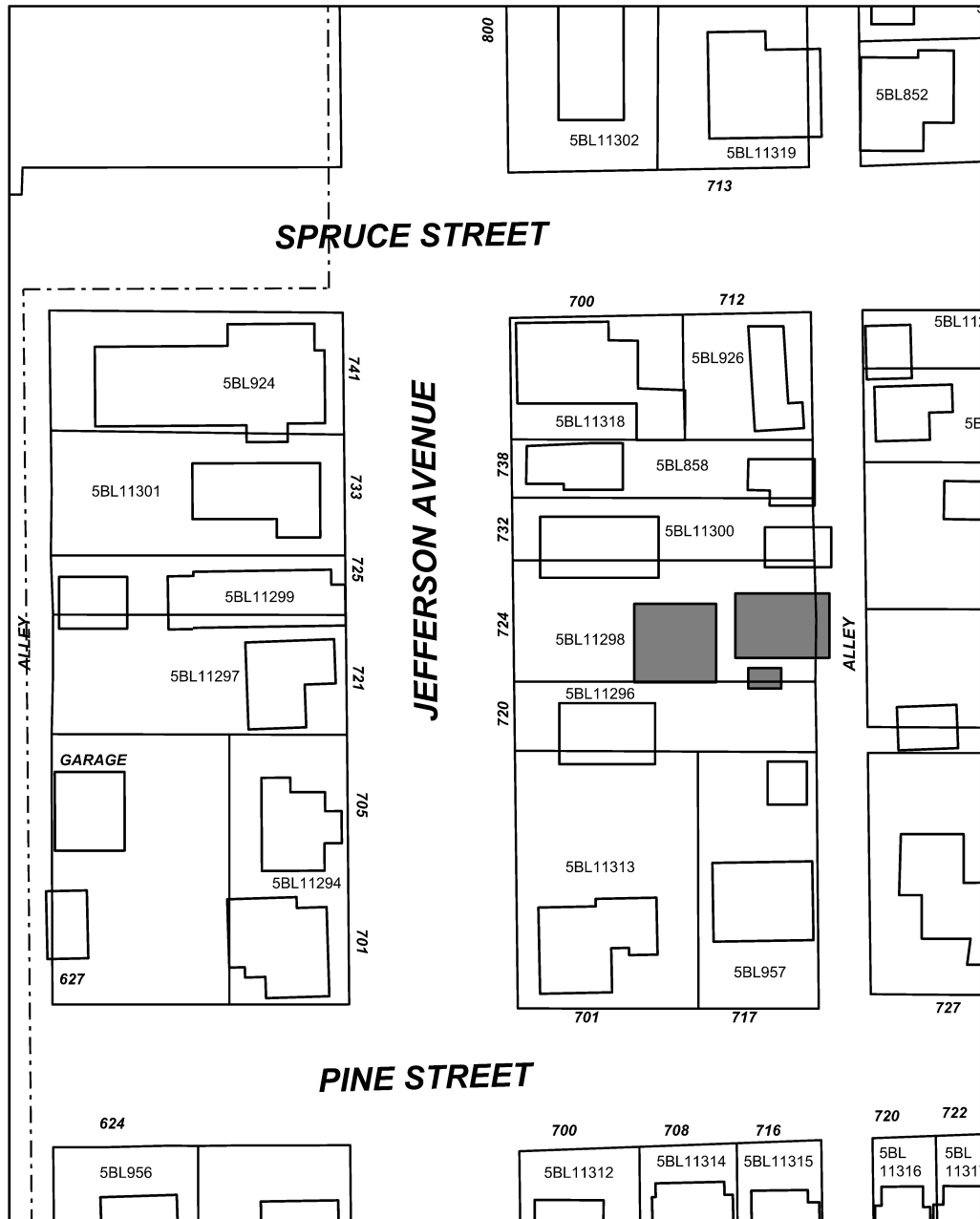
Architectural Inventory Form
USGS Location Map



724 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

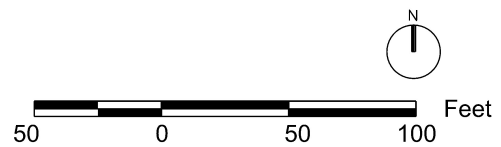
SOURCE: Extract of Louisville, Colorado
USGS map, 1994.





724 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: City of Louisville, Colorado
GIS Files.



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7BL11298_724Jefferson_01 west



7BL11298_724Jefferson_02 northwest

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7BL11298_724Jefferson_03 north



7BL11298_724Jefferson_04 secondary residence south

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7BL11298_724Jefferson_05 east and small shed

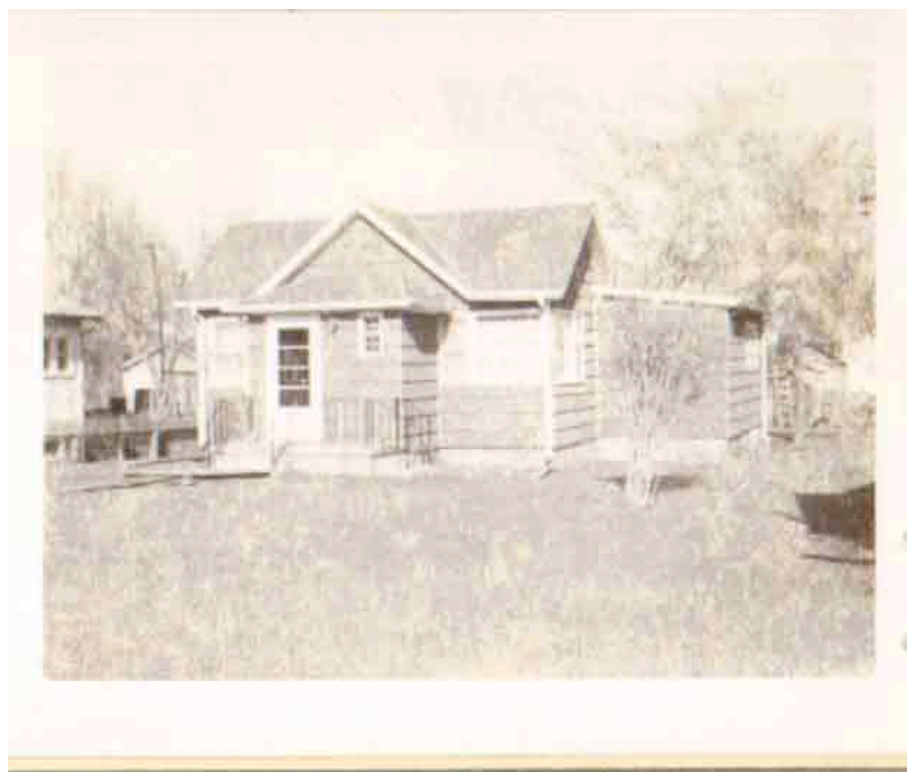


7BL11298_724Jefferson_06 secondary residence south

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724 Jefferson. Boulder County Real Estate Appraisal card, 1948.



724 Jefferson. Boulder County Real Estate Appraisal card, 1956.