

Resource Number: 5BL920  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
OAH P1405  
**Cultural Resource Re-evaluation Form**

Rev. 9/98

1. Resource Number: 5BL920 2. Temp. Resource Number: 157508436002  
2A. Address: 628 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville CO 80027  
LaFarge is sometimes spelled La Farge.

3. Attachments  
(check as many as apply)  
 Photographs  
 Site sketch map  
 U.S.G.S. map photocopy  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Official determination  
(OAH P USE ONLY)  
 Determined Eligible  
 Determined Not Eligible  
 Need Data  
 Nominated  
 Listed  
 Contributing to N.R. District  
 Not Contributing to N.R. Dist

5. Resource Name: Historic Name: Colorado & Southern Railroad Depot  
Intermediate Names: Louisville Lions Club (1962 –1982 ); Louisville American Legion Post #111 (1982 – 1993); Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post, 1989; Dance School and Preschool, 1993.  
Current Name: The Louisville Preschool

6. Purpose of this current site visit (check as many as apply)

Site is within a current project area  
 Resurvey  
 Update of previous site form(s)  
 Surface collection  
 Testing to determine eligibility  
 Excavation  
 Other

Describe This property is within the Jefferson Place Subdivision in Louisville, which is being evaluated for historic district potential in 2010 – 2011. This resurvey is part of the historic district evaluation process.



7. Previous Recordings: Architectural Inventory Form 2000, as part of "Old Town" Louisville Historical Building Survey by Carl McWilliams of Cultural Resource Historians; Historic Building Inventory Record 1985 by S. Mehls and C. Mehls of Western Historical Studies.

8. Changes or Additions to Previous Descriptions:

**Construction History:** This building originally served as a depot used jointly by the Colorado & Southern Railroad and the Denver Interurban Company. At the time, it was located along the tracks near the intersection of Pine Street and Front. The depot facilitated the transportation of coal until the local coal markets declined in the 1950s, and the depot was closed on July 20, 1962. In 1962, the building was purchased and moved to its current location by the Louisville Lions Club, who used it as their social/civic hall until 1982. Members of the club maintained ownership of the property, but rented it to other local fraternal organizations including the

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. In 1993 the property was sold and its use was changed to a Dance School and Preschool. It was sold again in 2000, with its tenant being the Louisville Preschool, which occupies the facility today.

The building's exterior has been modified over the years but its basic structural form remains intact. Two original brick chimneys visible in historic photographs no longer exist. Many window and door openings are no longer in their historic locations, but they were in their historic locations as recently as 1981. The handicap ramp and door were added in 1999. In 2000, the current masonite siding was installed over wood lap siding, which may not have been original. Also in 2000, the porch was added to the south side, and 8 windows and jambs were replaced. The siding is currently painted light gray-green, with simple wood trim painted dark green. The roof, originally shake shingles, has been replaced at least twice and is currently covered with light gray asphalt shingles. Historic soffits of painted wood bead board still exist. The west elevation now contains three single leaf, glass-in-wood frame doors. The north side of the building has no openings. The east elevation now has a glass-in-wood frame door to a wooden accessibility ramp at the north end, and one glass-in-wood door and two single-hung windows at the south end.

The interior of the building does not retain its historic integrity. Presumably there were interior modifications to accommodate the fraternal and educational organizations, but there is little documentation of when each occurred. The City of Louisville Building Permit files contain a 1981 permit for repair to damage following a fire, accompanied a hand sketch of a floor plan from Fischer Construction Inc. Exterior openings shown on the 1981 existing floor plan seem to correspond with historic photographs of the depot building when it was in its historic location.

**Landscape or special setting description:** 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, many character-defining features have been preserved.

628 LaFarge differs from other development in the subdivision due to its commercial use, its long street frontage, parking lot and outside play areas. The entire area around the school is fenced with a combination of 36" tall wood fencing and chain link fencing with wooden posts. The east half of the property contains an asphalt parking lot. A large play area with playground equipment and shade structures is located along the east side of the building. A gambrel-roofed storage shed is set southeast of the playground. There is a small outdoor play area within the fenced area along LaFarge. Outside the fence along the LaFarge Avenue frontage, there are numerous round concrete pavers inset with brightly colored marble insets and marked with children's handprints. These are signed and dated 2006 and were made by children at the preschool. More of these pavers were seen in front of other houses on this block.

9. Changes in Condition: None.

10. Changes to Location or Size Information: None.

11. Changes in Ownership: Same ownership as 2000 inventory form (628 La Farge Avenue LLC), but owner address is now 2390 Vassar Drive, Boulder, CO 80305.

12. Other Changes, Additions, or Observations:

Further research has yielded new information about the history of 628 La Farge.

#### **Ownership and Use: Site**

The Commercial Hotel (no longer extant) was located immediately east of the subject property, on land now used as a parking lot. Commercial Hotel proprietor Ada Humphrey owned both the subject property and the hotel property. In 1909 she sold the subject property to the Pythian Castle Hall Association. In 1946, members of the Knights of Pythias fraternal organization poured the foundation that currently supports the existing relocated building. It appears that nothing further was done with the foundation until the 1960s, when the Knights of Pythias sold the property to the Louisville Lions Club and they moved the existing building onto the site.

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

### **Ownership and Use: Building**

This building originally served as a depot used jointly by the Colorado & Southern Railroad and the Denver Interurban Company. At the time, it was located in Louisville along the railroad tracks near the intersection of Pine Street and Front. The depot facilitated the transportation of coal until the local coal markets declined in the 1950s, and the depot was closed on July 20, 1962. In 1962, the Louisville Lions Club purchased the building and moved it to its current location at 628 LaFarge. The Lions used it as their social/civic hall until 1982. At that time, members of the Lions maintained ownership but rented it to the Louisville American Legion Post #111, who used the building as their social hall. By 1989, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) also became a tenant of the Lions Club and held their social/civic gatherings here. In 1993, David and Karen Bishop purchased the property and changed its use to a Dance School and Preschool. In 2000, they sold it to 628 LaFarge Avenue LLC. The same LLC (Limited Liability Company) still owns the property. The Louisville Preschool moved in as a tenant in 2001 and is still using the building.

### **Original Construction Date**

The year of construction of the building is now believed to be 1909 (as opposed to 1910). The first source of information for this is the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville located at the Louisville Historical Museum. That map shows the depot in its original and correct location by the railroad tracks near Pine Street. Just one year earlier, in 1908, the Sanborn map does not show a depot building. The other supporting information is in the 1909 Colorado State Business Directory, which lists W.O. McCullough as a Louisville agent for C & S Railway, Denver & Interurban Railway, and Wells Fargo Express. William O McCulloch (also sometimes spelled McCullough) was the agent who worked in the depot for many years. He is not listed as living in Louisville prior to 1909. He served as the agent until he passed away in 1928.

Other railway agents who worked at the Louisville railway depot included Robert Miller, William Clark, and Richard Vaughan.

### **The Depot Building and Labor Unrest**

The depot was at the center of labor unrest relating to the coal mine strike of 1910-1914. Local miners were on strike and they were hostile to the strikebreakers who had been brought in to work at some of the Louisville area mines. In April 1914, following a period of increased violence (including gunfire) between the two sides centered around the nearby Hecla Mine at South Boulder Road and Highway 42, the state militia was called in and arrived by rail. According to a *Boulder Daily Camera* article dated Jan. 21, 1957, which told of an interview with William Clark, the regular train crew refused to take the train carrying the militia into Louisville. (According to other sources, the train was being fired on by local miners.) Instead, they got off the train south of Louisville and "[r]ailroad supervisory personnel that was aboard pulled the train in. The entire town was down there to see it." It is believed that several photos of the depot in the collection of the Louisville Historical Museum capture the building as it appeared during this strike period of 1910-14.

### **Sources of Information**

Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum, including *Boulder Daily Camera* article "Railroad Man Tells of Strike Trouble in Boulder Fields: by Forest Crossen, January 21, 1957; *Louisville Times* article "Depot Keeps Pace with City's Progress" by Carolyn Conarroe, February 24, 1993.

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>.

Census records and other records accessed through [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

Conarroe, Carolyn, *The Louisville Story*, Louisville Times, Inc., 2000

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

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville, Colorado, 1909, at Louisville Historical Museum

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

Louisville, Colorado building permit files

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

Smith, Phyllis, *Once a Coal Miner: The Story of Colorado's Northern Coal Field*, Pruett Publishing Company, Boulder, Colorado, 1989.

Wagner, F. Hol, Jr., *The Colorado Road*, Boulder, Colorado: Johnson Publishing Co., 1970.

13. National Register Eligibility Assessment:

Eligible  Not eligible  Need data

Explain: The depot building was moved in 1962, resulting in a loss of integrity of location, setting, and association relative to its significance as a railroad depot.

13A. Colorado State Register: Not Eligible

Local landmark: Eligible

The property does not have sufficient integrity to qualify for individual listing to either the National or State Registers of Historic Places. However, it has been in its current location and setting for over 50 years. Since its relocation in 1962, it has achieved local significance as the home of community fraternal and service organizations and as a local preschool. It is also a visual symbol of the historic role of the railroad and the coal transportation industry in Louisville. For these reasons it is worthy of nomination as a local landmark.

13B. Historic District Potential: This building is outside the boundaries of a State Register historic district, local historic district, and a potential National Register historic district. Due to loss of integrity, the southeast portion of the Jefferson Place Subdivision, in which this building is located, is not included within the boundaries.

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. Most of the Jefferson Place subdivision, but not this portion, 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.

14. Management Recommendations: The property is worthy of nomination as a Louisville Local Landmark.

15. Photograph Types and Numbers: 5BL920\_628LaFarge\_01 through 07.

16. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location: Electronic files of forms with embedded photos and maps at Colorado Historical Society. Electronic files of forms, and electronic files of photographs at City of Louisville, Colorado, Planning Department.

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

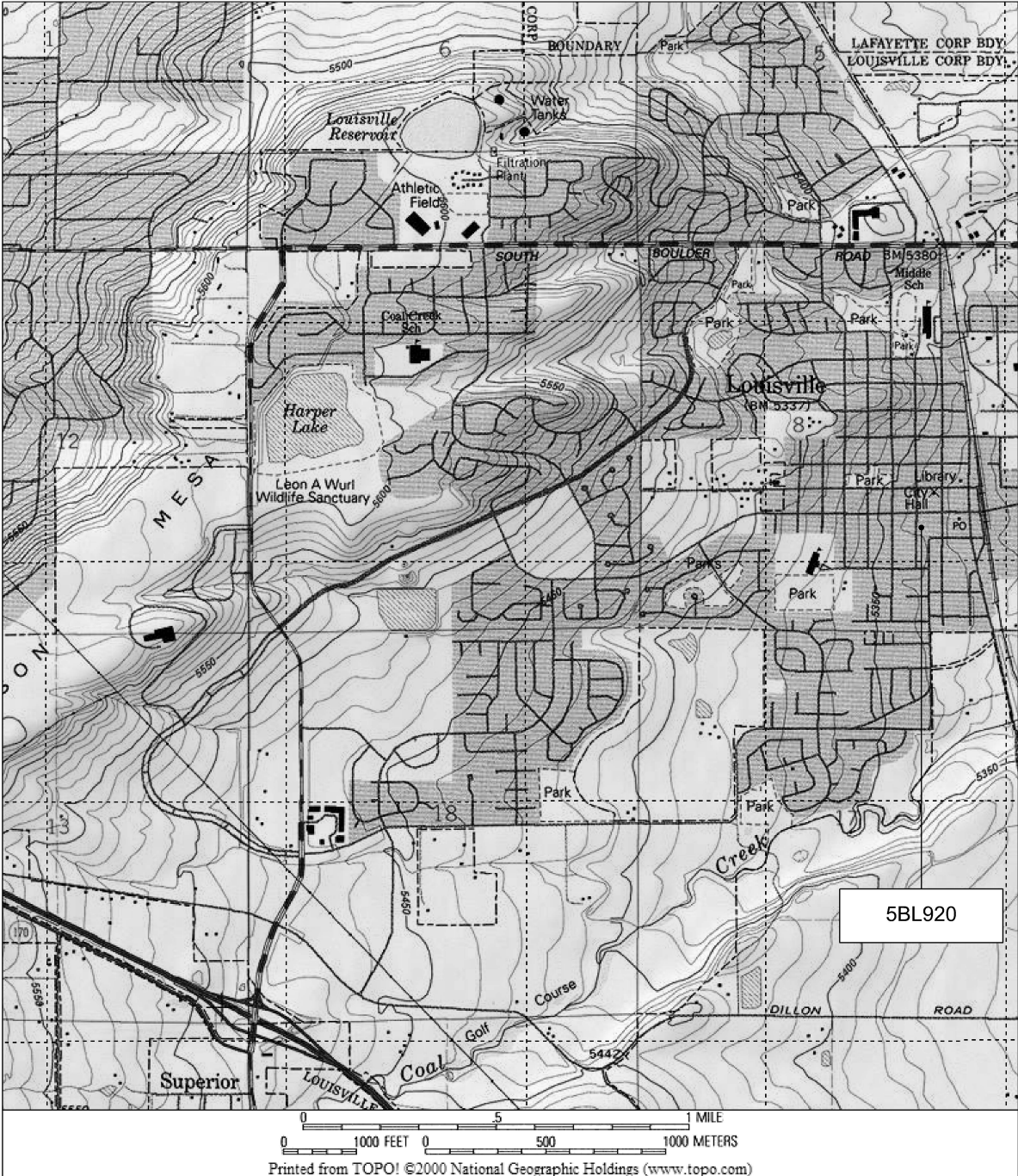
17. Report Title: Historical and Architectural Survey of Jefferson Place Subdivision, Louisville, Colorado
18. Recorder(s): Kathy and Leonard Lingo of Avenue L Architects, and Bridget Bacon of City of Louisville
19. Date(s): 2013
20. Recorder Affiliation: Avenue L Architects, 3457 Ringsby Court Suite 317, Denver CO 80216 (303) 290-9930

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

Resource Number: 5BL920  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002

Resource Number: 5BL920

Architectural Inventory Form  
USGS Location Map



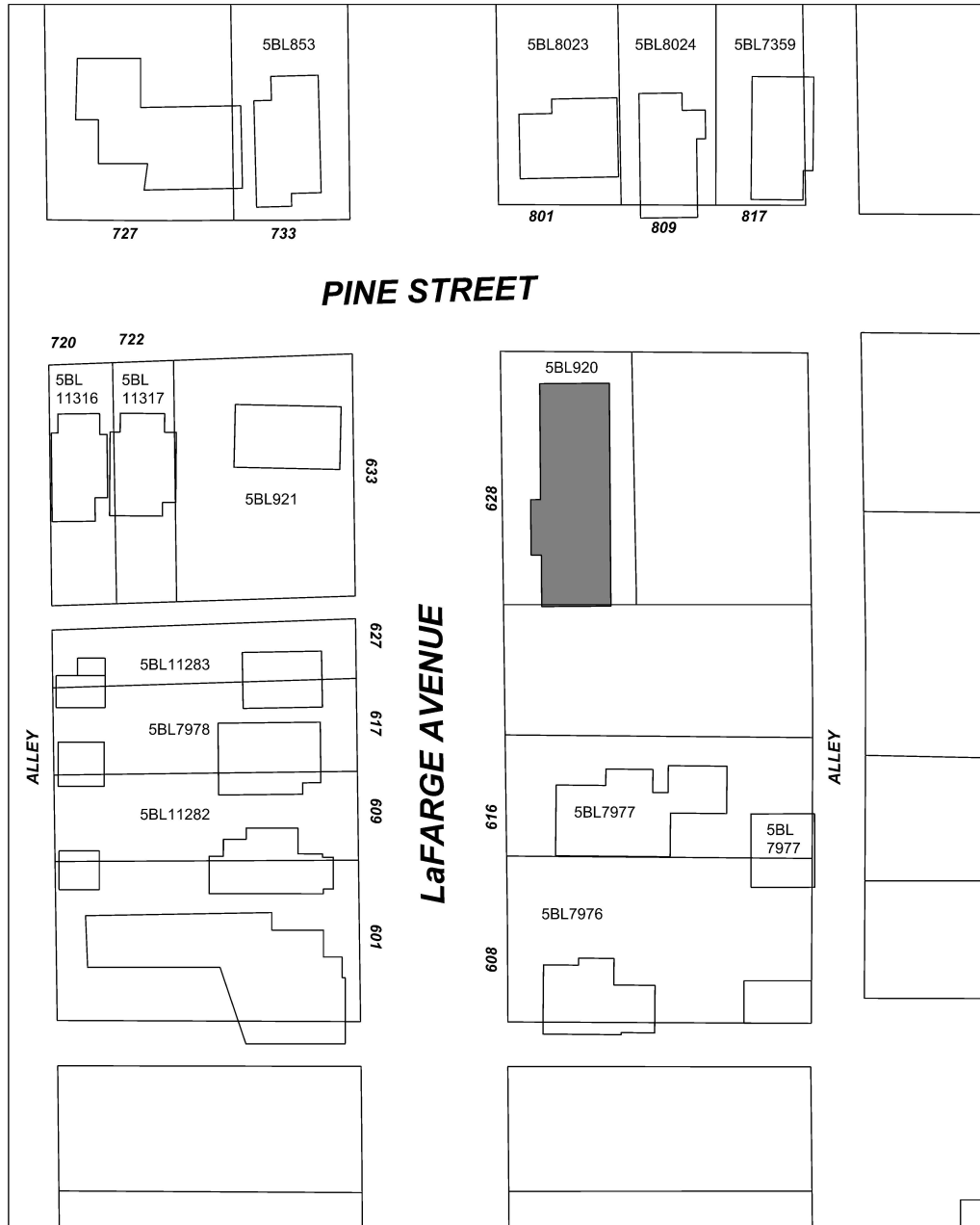
628 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

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



Resource Number: 5BL920

Architectural Inventory Form  
Site Location Map



628 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: City of Louisville, Colorado  
GIS Files.



Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



5BL920\_628LaFarge\_01 West



5BL920\_628LaFarge\_02 South



Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



5BL920\_628LaFarge\_03 North



5BL920\_628LaFarge\_04 East side and parking lot

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



5BL920\_628LaFarge\_05, decorative pavers (Louisville Preschool children's artwork) along west fence

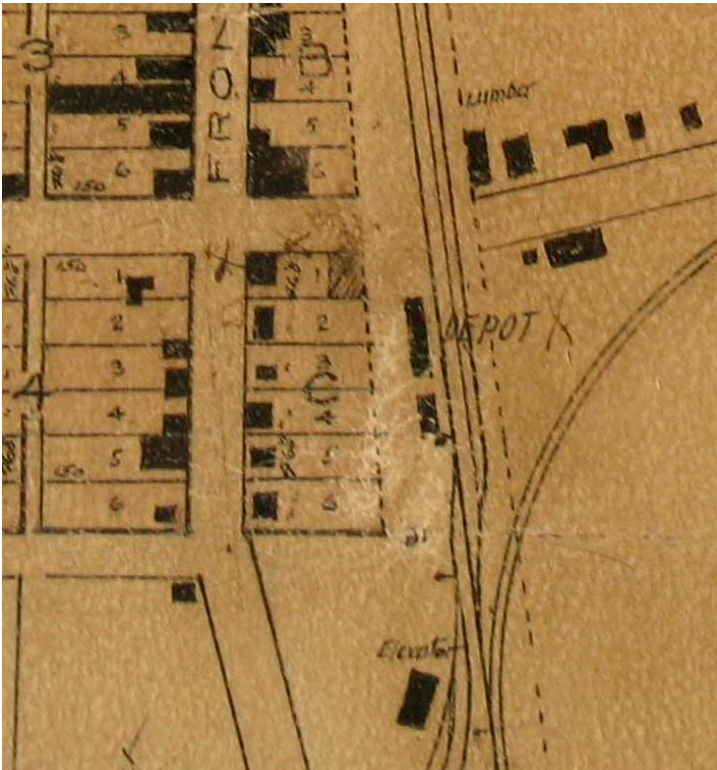


5BL920\_628LaFarge\_06, detail of decorative paver dated 2006

Resource Number: 5BL920  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



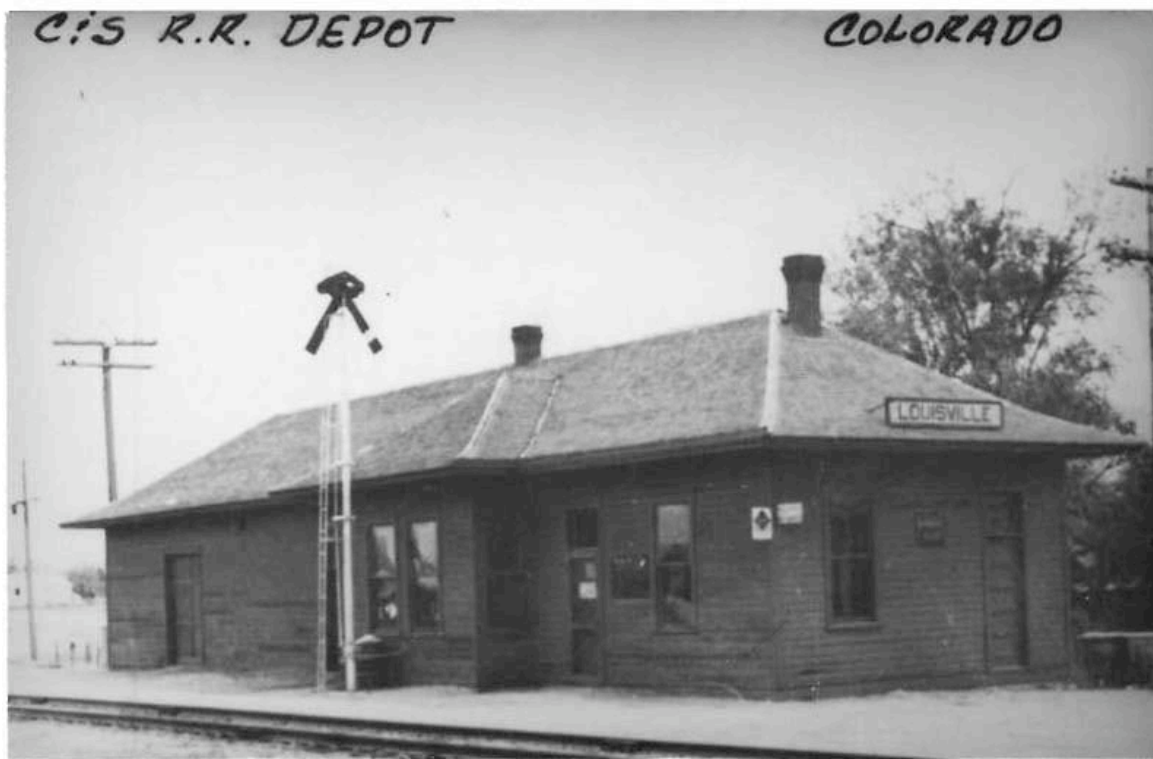
5BL920\_628LaFarge\_07, east playground



Portion of 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville, Colorado, showing depot building in its historic location west of the railroad tracks near the intersection of Pine and Front

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



Undated photo of depot, in collection of Louisville Historical Museum



1912 photo of depot in collection of Louisville Historical Museum



Depot during 1910 – 1914 strike conflict. Louisville Historical Museum 2000.005.001



Labor organizers by depot, c. 1910 – 1914, Louisville Historical Museum

Resource Number: 5BL920

Temporary Resource Number: 157508436002



Depot interior, undated, Louisville Historical Museum 2010.004



Depot interior, 1920, Louisville Historical Museum 2010.004