

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
Cultural Resource Re-evaluation Form

OAHP1405
Rev. 9/98

1. Resource Number: 5BL 8002 2. Temp. Resource Number: 157508404001
- 2A. Address: 936 La Farge Avenue, Louisville, CO 80027
Previous address prior to 1939: 455 La Farge, 445 La Farge, 447 La Farge, 451 La Farge, 944 La Farge, 934 La Farge. Louisville addresses were changed in 1939. 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
(OAHP 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: Buffo House.
Current Name: Reddington House



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 – 2012. 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.
8. Changes or Additions to Previous Descriptions: There is a small hip-roofed enclosed porch on the east side of the house. The porch has a white wood door with an upper light, and a wood screen door. Exterior cladding on the house consists of asbestos siding, not shingles.

Construction History: City permit files contain a permit to "repair siding and back porch", dated 1963. There is also a 1982 permit to relocate the garage from 936 La Farge to 705 Lois Drive. Window openings were significantly modified in 1978 and a brick chimney removed.

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

Resource Number: 5BL 8002

Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

houses have been modified over the years, most of the historic character-defining features have been preserved.

936 La Farge Avenue is consistent with these patterns and blends well with the scale and character of the neighborhood. The property consists of a relatively large corner lot. Except for a small portion of the back yard that is enclosed with a wire fence, the property is open to La Farge Avenue and South Street, with grassy front and side yards. A gravel drive leads into the property from South Street, where it may have led to the former garage location. The existing garage opens onto the alley at the east side of the property.

9. Changes in Condition: None.
10. Changes to Location or Size Information: None.
11. Changes in Ownership: Same ownership as 2000 inventory form.
12. Other Changes, Additions, or Observations:

Further research has yielded more information about the ownership and use of the building.

936 La Farge was the home of the Michele (Michael, Mike) and Maria Buffo family for at least forty-six years, from no later than 1900 until 1946. Members of this family have been residents of Jefferson Place for five generations.

The earliest owners of this lot were Benjamin Morgan, who acquired it from Jefferson Place developer Charles Welch in 1890, as well as Elizabeth Morgan, Amy Collier, and Esther Jane Schneider. Based on County recording dates, Esther Jane Schneider owned it from 1892 until 1902, when Michael and Maria Buffo purchased this property. John and Esther Jane Schneider and their eight children were living in Louisville in the 1890s, according to Louisville directories, and in 1900, according to census records; John Schneider was a miner, City Trustee, and Justice of the Peace. However, it is the Michael and Maria Buffo family who are shown as living at this location in 1900. They are shown as renting their house. This indicates that the Buffos lived here before 1902, when they evidently purchased the property. It is possible that the Schneider family lived at this location before the Buffos began to rent it by 1900.

This corner is not shown on the 1893, 1900, or 1908 Sanborn maps. Boulder County gives 1905 as the date of construction of this house. However, an earlier date seems more likely, particularly since dates of construction for houses in Louisville that are given by the County have at times been found to be in error and because the Buffo family was likely living here in 1900. Also, the Schneiders purchased this property no later than 1892, and the 1892, 1896, and 1898 Louisville directories show the family to have been in Louisville. A more accurate date of construction would seem to be circa 1900, if not earlier. (The 1909 Drumm's Wall Map shows this house to be in the correct location.)

Michael Buffo (1862-1924) and Maria Buffo (1866-1939, maiden name also Buffo) were married in Italy. They came from Prascorsano, Province of Torino, Italy, as did others who settled along this part of La Farge. More about their connections with the Fenolia, Enrietto, and Allera families and the connections of all of these families with Prascorsano can be found in the report on 920 La Farge (5BL7999). As noted in that report, Mary Enrietto has been stated to have been the niece of Michael Buffo, and she and her husband, Barney, lived here at 936 La Farge as well as at Mary Buffo Bosone's house at 937 La Farge (5BL11286) before purchasing and moving into 920 La Farge (5BL918). It should also be noted that the 1900 census, which shows Michael, Maria, and Baptist very likely living at this location, also shows a boarder, Toni "Fanoglio." This indicates yet another link with the Fenolia family. (A second boarder living with the family was John Balla, also an Italian immigrant.)

Michael Buffo immigrated to the US in 1893, coming first to Indiana. He was living in Louisville by 1898. Michael Buffo worked as a coal miner and saved money to send for his family. A passenger list from 1898 states that Maria Buffo and their oldest child, Battista, were coming to meet Michael in Louisville.

Louisville directories place the Buffo family at this location beginning with 1904 and continuing through the 1930s.

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

Their children were Baptist (his Italian name having been Battista), Dominic, and Mary. Their oldest child, Angelina, had died young in Italy.

Baptist Buffo was born in 1890 in Italy. A miner who took part in the strike of 1910-1914, he was shot in the stomach in the strike conflict of 1914 at the Hecla Mine in Louisville. Baptist served in World War I and died in the 1918 influenza epidemic while he was stationed in Kansas. He is listed on Louisville's World War I monument located in the Louisville Cemetery and is buried there.

Dominic Buffo, 1900-1976, also became a coal miner. Dominic married Lillian Majors in 1921 and they resided at 709 Walnut in Jefferson Place. In 1944, Dominic was severely injured while working on the Columbine Mine tippie. Their son, William, grew up at 709 Walnut (5BL11324) in Jefferson Place, then moved next door to 711 Walnut (5BL11325) at age 19 when he married.

Mary Buffo, 1903-1986, worked catty-corner from her home at Kate Allera's grocery store in the 1920s, following the death of her father, Michael, in 1924. She married Pete Bosone in 1935. They owned and resided at 937 La Farge in Jefferson Place, across the street from Mary's childhood home at 936 La Farge.

The following photo from 1910 shows Michael Buffo with his children, Dominic and Mary, just outside of their home at 936 La Farge. The view is looking east on South Street. The rear of the Jacoe Store, now the location of the Louisville Historical Museum, can be seen on the left. This photo is in the collection of the Louisville Historical Museum.



The following photo from 1929 shows Dominic Buffo's wife, Lillian, with their daughter, Marie. They are standing at a pole located just by the Michael and Maria Buffo home at 936 La Farge. In the background, diagonally across the intersection, is Kate Fenolia Allera's store. It was located at what would today be 1001 La Farge. Marie Buffo died just a few years later, in 1933, at the age of seven. This photo is in the collection of the Louisville Historical Museum.

Resource Number: 5BL 8002

Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001



According to a written Buffo family history that the family donated to the Louisville Historical Museum,

Michele Buffo was somewhat small in stature, 5'7" tall and 145 pounds, and always sported a bushy mustache. He also was very sickly because of asthma and had to retire from the mines in 1920 at the age of 59. He was generally a happy man but occasionally got angry with Maria because she went to church so much. (Every day of the week until she died.) Maria would not idly sit by and absorb the anger of her husband but instead would respond by calling him, "bruta bestia." (ugly animal.)

Two great passions in Michele Buffo's life were wine making and his garden. . . . [G]ardens were a necessity and much care and time went into them. It was unheard of to have lawns at the time and, as Michele would so often proclaim, "You don't eat grass but you eat the beans."

Maria Buffo died in 1939. In 1940, and perhaps before and after that year, 936 La Farge was used as a residence by Buffo relatives Barney and Mary Enrietto when they came to Louisville from Illinois. The Enriettos later settled at 920 La Farge (5BL7999). The 1946 Louisville directory shows that Paul and Mary Boyce lived at "934" La Farge, which is believed to have been a reference to 936 La Farge. They later settled next door at 928 La Farge (5BL918).

Mary Buffo Bosone sold this house in 1946 to Rosamond and Jordan Henry Jones, and it left the Buffo family at that time.

Jordan H. Jones died by 1951. Rosamond lived at 936 La Farge throughout the 1950s. She worked as a cook at Colacci's Restaurant at 816 Main Street (5BL8012) in Louisville. In 1963, Rosamond Jones sold 936 La Farge to John Kakalecik, who then transferred it to Gary Reddington in 1968. It is now owned by both Gary and Mary Reddington.

This house has been known by the following other addresses under Louisville's old address system: 455 La Farge (1916), 445 La Farge (1921), 447 La Farge (1926, 1928, 1930), 451 La Farge (1932, 1936). Under Louisville's current address system, it is believed to have gone by the addresses of 944 La Farge (1940) and 934 La Farge (1943, 1946).

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

It should be noted that the 1948 County Assessor card for 801 Walnut lists as owners a couple who owned not 801 Walnut but rather 936 La Farge (J.H. and Rosamond Jones). The card for 936 La Farge similarly exhibits some confusion with 801 Walnut over the legal description and past owners.

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

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

Louisville, Colorado cemetery records, accessed at <http://files.usgwarchives.org/co/boulder/cemeteries/louisville.txt>

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

Buffo, Ron. "My Dad, Bill Buffo." *The Louisville Historian*. Louisville Historical Museum and Commission, Louisville, Colorado, Spring 2011.

Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum, including an undated family history entitled "Buffo," donated by the Buffo family.

Interviews conducted by Museum Coordinator Bridget Bacon: William Buffo, Jan. 26, 2011.

13. National Register Eligibility Assessment:

Eligible Not eligible Need data

Explain: While the property has sufficient integrity and significance to be a contributing resource to a State Register or local historic district, it lacks sufficient integrity to be individually eligible to the National Register or to be contributing to a potential National Register historic district. The property has integrity of location, workmanship, and association. Integrity of setting is compromised by the modified garage location. Integrity of design is compromised by modified windows and window openings. Integrity of materials is compromised by replacement asbestos siding.

13A. Colorado State Register: Eligible Not Eligible

13B. Louisville Local Landmark: Eligible Not Eligible

Although the property lacks sufficient integrity to be individually eligible to the National or State Registers, its long association with the locally prominent Buffo family, an Italian immigrant mining family, make it worthy of nomination as a local landmark.

13C. Historic District Potential: Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register and local historic district. There is potential for a National Register historic district. This property is a contributing resource to a State Register and local historic district, but non-contributing to a potential National Register historic district.

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

Resource Number: 5BL 8002

Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

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.

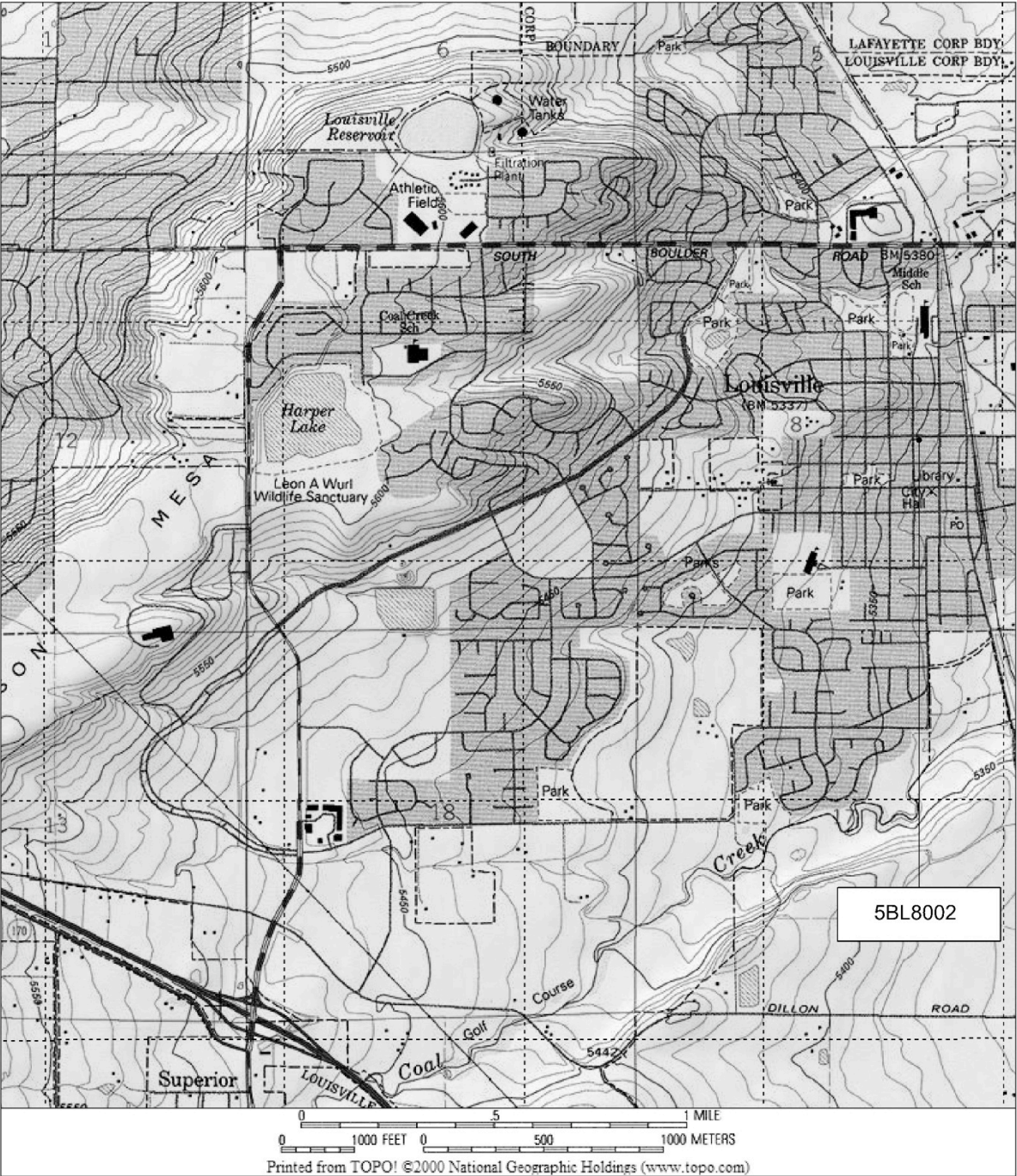
14. Management Recommendations: The property is worthy of individual nomination as a Louisville Local Landmark.
15. Photograph Types and Numbers: 5BL8002_936Lafarge_01 through 5BL8002_936LaFarge_06.
16. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location: Electronic files of forms with embedded photos and maps at Colorado Historical Society. Electronic files of forms, and electronic files of photographs at City of Louisville, Colorado, Planning Department.
17. Report Title: Historical and Architectural Survey of Jefferson Place Subdivision, Louisville, Colorado
18. Recorder(s): Kathy and Leonard Lingo, and Bridget Bacon, 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: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

Resource Number: 5BL8002

Architectural Inventory Form
USGS Location Map



936 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

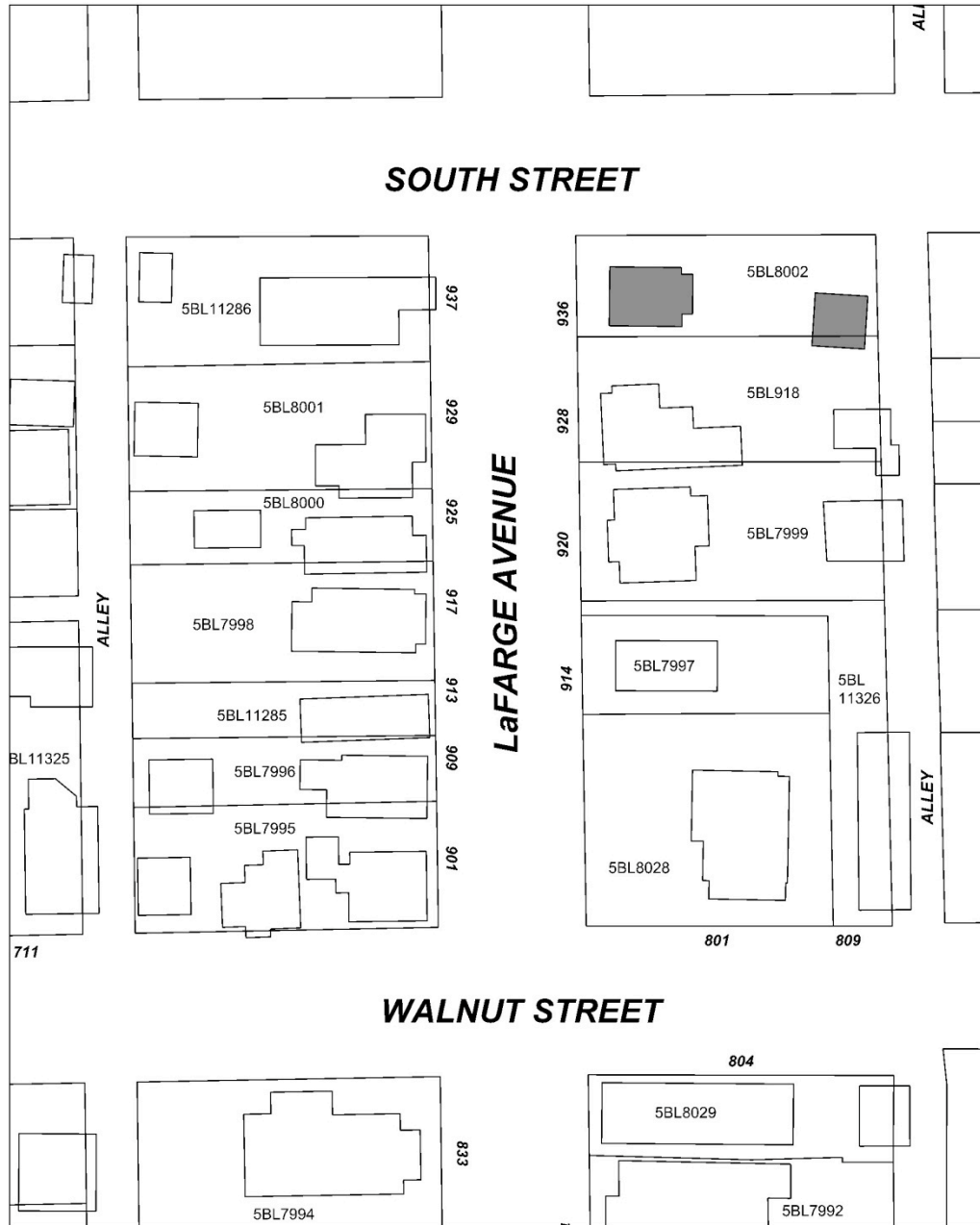
SOURCE: Extract of Louisville, Colorado
USGS map, 1994.



Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001

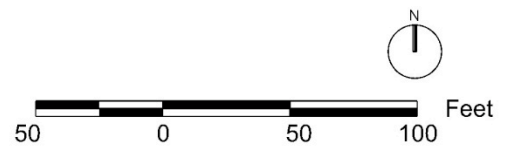
Resource Number: 5BL8002

Architectural Inventory Form
Site Location Map



936 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: City of Louisville, Colorado
GIS Files.



Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001



5BL8002_936LaFarge_01 west



5BL8002_936LaFarge_02 southwest

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001



5BL8002_936LaFarge_03 north



5BL8002_936LaFarge_04 east

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001



5BL8002_936LaFarge_05 garage southeast



5BL8002_936LaFarge_06 garage west

Resource Number: 5BL 8002
Temporary Resource Number: 157508404001



936 La Farge. Boulder county Real Estate Appraisal card, 1948.



936 La Farge. Boulder County Real Estate Appraisal card, 1978.