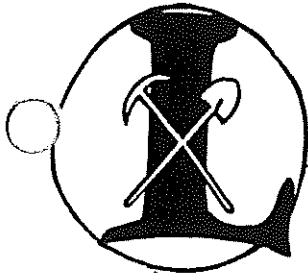


RECEIVED

AUG 31 1999

LOUISVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



LOUISVILLE HISTORIAN

A publication of the Louisville Historical Commission & Society

Issue No. 46, August, 1999

THE MUSEUM CORNER

Construction on the museum is complete and the Coca-Cola sign is currently being repainted and will be finished soon.

A bid has been submitted for air-conditioning in the Tomeo House. We will consult with the City Shop for their input.

Carol Gleeson has been hired as Museum Assistant and has been very helpful with the everyday business and maintaining the museum. Carol and Betty Buffo have been accessioning and cataloging artifacts.

The Taste of Louisville was a success with tours given steadily throughout the day. Pizzels were cooked and served in front of the museum.

The City's annual Fourth of July picnic took place at Memory Square Park. The Commission had booths with sale items, information, and historic photographs.

The summer months have seen an increase in visitors to the museum and we would like to see this continue. The museum hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Recent tours have been conducted for a Centaurus High School summer school class and the St. Louis Summer School Age Program.

We would like to thank the following people and businesses for their recent donations to the museum.

Patricia Ross—Easy Bake Toy Oven and Suzy Homemaker toy mixer

City of Louisville—Photographs to document an historical survey of Louisville Structures

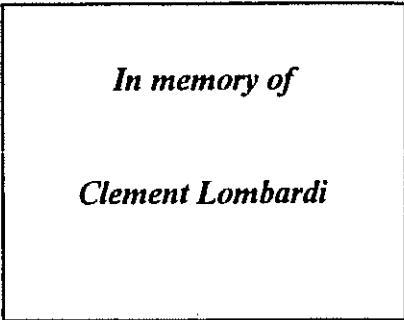
Don Ross—Photograph of 908/912 Main Street

Holy Cross Abbey Archives—1921 graduation announcement; LHS Senior Class

Arthur Biggs—Framed announcement of the U. M. W. A. Golden Anniversary Convention, 1890-1940

Jim and Beth Hutchinson—Apron from Steinbaugh's Furniture and Hardware Co., 800 Front St.

Work will begin soon on the Christmas ornaments.



In memory of

Clement Lombardi

LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Virginia Caranci.....	666-6235
Frank Domenico.....	666-6233
Robert Enrietto.....	666-4145
Dave Ferguson.....	666-6000
Richard Franchini.....	666-6272
Marion Junior.....	666-8283
Donald Ross.....	666-6836
Patricia Seader.....	666-8385
Cassandra Volpe.....	665-8542

CRIME AND REFINEMENT OF EARLY LOUISVILLE



In the late 1870's, miner's came to this area followed by merchants, builders, saloon-keepers, barbers, etc. and by the fall of 1880 there was talk of incorporation.

Crime seemed to be abundant during this era as an article in the Boulder County Herald, October 10, 1880, stated that a "brutal" fight between an Erie and a Louisville man, goes on to state that "As Louisville is not incorporated, the men were not arrested. Had they not been parted by friends, they would still be fighting."

A Louisville correspondent, while discussing the steady growth and healthy development of Louisville philosophizes, "We must do one of two things if we expect our streets and alleys to be cleared. We must either be incorporated as a town or else rely upon the county

commissioners to take care of us. Louisville is large enough to be taken out of swaddling clothes.... It is high time, for the sake of law, order, and health that we shall be incorporated into a town and then take care of ourselves."

There was much debate about the issue of incorporation for the next two years. In March, 1882, in an article entitled, "Louisville, The Future Outlook and Present Situation," the reporter writes, "Unless some measure is adopted this coming summer, Louisville will be a mere pest hole, as at present time the streets are literally covered with old rubbish, tin cans, bone and all sorts of incumbrances, which when the hot weather comes will breed all sorts of diseases, and furthermore, just across the railroad are dead pigs, cats, and dogs, on which putrefication has already set in and is making the air very foul even at this early date!...Let us have a town that will stand second to none in the state for cleanliness and freshness from disease.

To make Louisville a City required a many faceted economic base, making the transition from a rough-hewn camp to a refined settlement. Establishing a municipal government and law enforcement, as well as churches, schools, temperance movements, and a wide realm of clubs and organizations, would show true prosperity.

During the 1880's and 1890's the building of the first school house and its additions, the splendid condition of Sunday school, the establishment of the fire company, C. C. Welch Hooks, the construction of the Catholic Church, the installation of telephone service between Louisville and Boulder and Lafayette, and the building of a reservoir showed the community moving in the right direction.

After incorporation, Louisville had a mayor, a clerk, a treasurer, a marshal, a justice of the peace, and city trustees. We also had a postmaster, a fireman, and a policeman. In the 1880's a Catholic Church was built, and by the 1890's both a Methodist-Episcopalian and Baptist Church had been established. In the late 1880's and 90's, Louisville had its own newspapers, the Louisville Miner (1887-88), Louisville-Lafayette Advance (1892-97), Brooks Vindication (1896-97), and the Colorado Sun (1896-1901).

After having a closer look at the growth of clubs, societies, and organizations, you can see that some were for leisure purposes, some social causes, some political, and others were culturally-oriented. The Good Templers Lodge was referred to and claimed to be the "best regulated and in better condition than any other lodge in the state." The Democratic Club was given recognition as were Republican rallies. The Baseball Club, the Alpha Literacy Society, the Old Fellow Lodge, the Hancock and English Club, and the Alpha Literary Society, all received some publicity in the Boulder County Herald. The Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Redman, the Sons of Herman, and the Western Federation of Miners, fraternal societies, are included in the Boulder County, City of Louisville Directories for the years 1892 and 1896. A long time resident of Louisville, Catherine McNally Brimble, discussed the

organization in 1898, and the federation in 1899, of the Saturday Club. These clubs, organizations, and societies provided both mental and physical outlets for Louisville residents. One could voice their own opinion, accomplish municipal goals, and socialize with neighbors and friends.

Louisville always tried to meet the residents' social needs. The Christmas Dance and the Grand Ball occurred during Winter. Ethel Mitchell Lawrence said that dances were held every two weeks on Saturday night at the Redman Hall—"That was payday for the miners." Spring and Summer always brought with them baseball. Fall was the political season where people attended meetings and rallies by Democrats, Republicans, and Populists. Saint Patrick's Day ended with a dance and supper and the annual Fourth of July held great excitement. The months in which the mines operated actively also were the most active months socially. During those months, a higher percentage of Louisville's residents experienced relative prosperity.

With the opening of the mines, settlements proceeded rapidly. All settlers wanted a economic base that they could depend on, and neighbors and the way to attract this was to incorporate, to insure law, health, and order, and to create a sense of belonging to the community through churches, fraternal societies, schools, social happenings, and clubs. With the process of urbanization, there were totally unwanted occurrences of crime. These were an unwelcome disturbance in an otherwise peaceful town. This crime was in the context of an urban industrial frontier. Of course, Louisville would want to avoid and stop criminal acts that would taint or destroy her roots. A town bragging of violence was not going to attract buyers. The scarce coverage of criminal activity in the Boulder County Herald made sense if the elitist were to settle in Louisville. Too much publicity would look like a fault to an otherwise stable, prospering, and honest community and it would inhibit enterprising residents from settling in the area. This also makes it difficult to assess types and amount of crime.

Most research deals with crime to the years between 1880 and 1900. There were fifty three crimes: six assaults with the intent to murder, two assaults with the intent to harm and murder, four assaults with the intent to harm, one rape and incest, one rape, one kidnaping, one arson, three robberies, six larcenies, three forgeries and/or obtaining money under false pretenses, one libel, one riot, four brawls, rows, or quarrels, one bastardy, three malicious mischief, one obstructing a highway, three peace proceedings, five keeping tippling house open on the Sabbath, three selling liquor without a license, one gambling, one false imprisonment, and one unidentified crime. Indeed, the nature of crimes committed covered a wide spectrum. Although six people were charged with the intent to murder, there were no cases of manslaughter brought against a Louisville resident during the twenty years stated above. Other towns and camps had their share of killings, but Louisville escaped this kind of crime on its record.

The correlation between occupations and criminals (when occupations could be found) were: twenty-seven coal miners, thirteen farmers, eleven saloon keepers, two blacksmiths, one laborer, one fireman, and one policeman. It is interesting that there were no merchants cited as a violator of the law. Coal miners, on the other hand, constituted the most criminals; 48.2 percent for the period of 1880 to 1900. The dangerous nature of their work, of course, put incredible strain and stress on them, and may attribute to their criminal acts, on the streets and in the bars where they drank excessively and this often led to fights, riots, assaults, and malicious mischiefs. The work was also unsteady, which meant the pay was too. This may have led to robbery, larceny, or forgery.

This is only a small part of the crime activity that took place during this era.

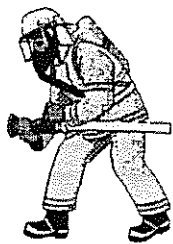
It is comforting to know we are now one of the safest communities in the United States.

STEINBAUGH'S FIRE

No one could ever forget that fateful day in

September when Steinbaugh's Store burned to the ground.

The following article was taken from the Louisville Times, Thursday, September 5, 1974.



A fire, believed to have been set purposely, consumed the entire Steinbaugh building and contents here early Sunday morning.

Accounts of who discovered the blaze differ, but the alarm was sounded by Wayne Davis, who lives just down the street from the store. He ran to City Hall and activated the siren himself.

A driver for Marv's Wrecker Service of Boulder was also reported to have been among the first to see the building on fire, but Police did not have his name as of Wednesday morning.

Glenn Steinbaugh, owner, told the Times that the loss "would probably be around \$350,000." All of the merchandise was destroyed - furniture, hardware, TV sets, appliances, equipment - everything beyond salvage. Some records of the company were retrieved from inside a safe which had fallen through the floor into the basement.

Police records show the alarm was sounded at 2:32 Sunday morning and the Fire Dept. and Police were at the scene by 2:36. The first firemen at the scene said the fire seemed to be mostly in the office area of the building but before firemen could enter, entire front windows "just seemed to explode outward." In just a matter of minutes the entire building was aflame, with fire shooting into the sky like a chimney.

A building next door, the Old Louisville Inn, suffered scorch marks, and a carnival set up in the Parking lot

across west from Steinbaugh's had several vehicles scorched.

In addition to local firemen and local equipment, the Lafayette and Cherryvale Departments helped out. Also present was the Boulder Rescue Squad, Lafayette Policemen, personnel from the Sheriff's Department, and equipment and personnel from Public Service Co.

Adding to the emergency were two rescue calls that the local Firemen responded to while the fire was in progress in the early morning hours (one suspected heart attack and one overdose of drugs).

Also housed in the Steinbaugh building was the office of Farmer's Insurance Group, Carmen DeSantis, manager. DeSantis told the Times all of his records were lost in the fire "but policies and other important papers of course are kept at company headquarters." Also consumed were about \$1,000 worth of game and fish licenses and "some cash kept in my office," DeSantis said.

Also affected by the fire was Louisville Electric which was using a part of the Steinbaugh basement for storage of its new appliances. Ray Caranci, owner, said his loss would probably be around \$2,000.

PLECTRONS NOT WORKING?

Some foul-up apparently occurred somewhere along the line in the emergency "notification system." Chief Munger said the Broomfield Police Department was moving its operations into another building and apparently electronic equipment used in conjunction with the Plectron warning devices "was not activated." He said it was doubtful, however, that anyone who had ideas of burglary would have known this.

Munger said there had been a recent attempt of burglary at the store, as on the night of August 18 someone had broken a skylight but had apparently been scared away.

Fire Chief Ken Buffo said he wants to "thank everybody who helped us at the fire...especially the men who have retired from the Department, and other residents who helped out in every way." He also had special praise for the Cinderbells for keeping a steady supply of coffee, rolls, and sandwiches going to the men, and the Blue Parrot for opening its facilities to the Department.

FIRE

Chief of Police Dennis Munger said Wednesday morning that an investigator from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has determined that the disastrous fire Sunday morning which destroyed the Steinbaugh building "was definitely arson."

Chief Munger said Steve Sedulecek, the investigator, said the fire probably was burglary motivated or set to cover up evidence. "It appeared that flammable liquid had been spread on the floors, across appliances and on TV sets," Munger said. He said the CBI man found also that the fire appeared to have been started in three different parts of the building.

Sedulecek was called to Louisville from Durango, where he has been investigating a previous disastrous fire in that city. The local Fire Department requested investigative assistance from the CBI after firemen who were first at the scene decided that the fire "spread much too quickly to have just been self-starting."

Louisville's last major fire occurred a little over a year ago, July 17, 1973, at the Carpet Shop, 801 Main Street. That fire, however, was brought under control and the building was saved.

A major fire in 1926 wiped out much of the business section along the east side of Main Street, with loss estimated at that time at \$75,000.

Sunday's fire was unquestionably the worst in Louisville's history.

Plans as to whether the store will be rebuilt are not known at this time, but it is believed that most of the loss was covered by insurance on both building and merchandise.

The following Editorial was also included in this edition of the Times.

Sunday morning was a sad time in Louisville's history, for in about two hours a good part of the historical appearance of this town was obliterated – forever – by fire.

We are, of course, referring to the tragic conflagration which destroyed the Steinbaugh store. The memories will linger, but the physical structures which have been put into place decade after decade over a time span of 82 years have been turned to ashes and rubble. John Jacob Steinbaugh opened his blacksmith shop on June 2, 1892, on Front Street and thus began the long and successful business enterprise which passed from J. J. to son Herman and then from Herman to his sons. At the peak of its activities (around 1950, according to Times file copies) the Steinbaugh Store could supply "all materials and furnishing for an entire house."

This meant that the store at that time handled a complete line of lumber, from rough to finish, all kinds of hardware, cement, wallboard, paint, furniture, appliances – everything necessary for a complete new house. And this claim was carried out several times over as the store supplied everything from its own stock "on demand" for new houses, not only in Louisville but those built as far away as Greeley.

Different approaches in retailing methods in later years forced the Steinbaughs to cut the variety of their stock in some departments, and finally they got pretty much away from the lumber part of the business, selling off the land which formerly housed the large lumber sheds.

But despite some curtailment in business activities, the store still carried the largest retail stocks in Louisville and was still the largest employer among local retail stores. It has long been our experience that when it came to hardware items, "If Steinbaugh's didn't have it, it probably wasn't available." More than once we have nervously torn apart an old-fashioned water faucet, for example, knowing almost for

certain that the part needed to fix it was long out of style. But, you know, we could go down to Steinbaugh's and Louie or someone else would scrounge around in hidden little trays or boxes and usually "find" the exact part we needed. This of course did not mean the store was "old-fashioned or behind the times," it was just an indication that over the years the store did handle a huge volume of merchandise, of all kinds and style.

For sure, if and when Glen Steinbaugh rebuilds a store the same friendly attitude of helpfulness will still prevail. But the buildings, the huge variety of stock much of it irreplaceable, the "old-fashioned feeling" of the large, high-ceilinged rooms, the historic skyline along Front Street – these are all gone forever.

Our Louisville firemen and those who came over from Lafayette, Cherryvale and elsewhere, to help with the fire-fighting Sunday morning deserve a very sincere thank you from the people of our city.

Obviously, the fire had gained too much headway too quickly to have been controlled with anything less than the help of a "miracle." But the firemen were on the job, working doggedly around the clock, seeking no praise and no reward.

Owner of adjoining properties in that entire area should be extremely thankful that Louisville has a modern, well-trained, effective fire department.

SIGNIFICANT WORLD EVENTS OF THE 1970'S

1970: Aswan High Dam

One of the great engineering feats of the 20th century was the construction of a dam across the Nile River in Egypt. The chief benefit of the dam to Egypt was the ability, for the first in Egypt's history, to control the annual flooding of the Nile. With the advent of the Aswan High Dam, thousands of new acres have been brought into cultivation. Water is released when needed for irrigation. The dam also generates a huge amount of electricity. The chief drawback of the dam is that it holds back the silt that was formerly carried northward and deposited on lands along the riverside, thus enriching the soil. About 40 million tons of silt used to be deposited yearly by the Nile Floods.



The dam is located in southern Egypt as Aswan. It is 364 feet (111 meters) high and 12,562 feet (3,830 meters) across. The waters it holds back form Lake Nasser, named after the president of Egypt during whose rule the dam was planned and built. A fishing industry flourishes on the large lake. The construction of the dam at this site made it necessary to move the large and very ancient temple complex at Abu Simbel. About 90,000 people also had to be relocated.

1972: Watergate

Watergate is a large building complex in Washington, D. C., that includes a hotel, offices, and apartments. On the night of June 17, 1972, five men broke into the offices of the Democratic National Committee, which were located in Watergate. The men were caught, arrested, and charged with burglary. Eventually it was revealed that the burglars were connected with the Committee for the Re-election of the President—the president in question being Richard M. Nixon.

This break-in set off one of the greatest political scandals in American history. The events relating to Watergate lasted for more than two years, with investigation, Congressional hearings, and investigative reports in the major newspapers—mainly the Washington Post, whose reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward unveiled most of the scandal. Several White House aides were tried and convicted of various offenses related to Watergate.

Many of the investigations centered around the “Nixon tapes,” tape recordings of conversations that had taken place in the president’s office over a period of years. By the end of 1974, Vice-President Spiro Agnew had already resigned, along with other members of the President’s cabinet. The House Judiciary Committee began instituting impeachment proceedings against the president in the summer of 1974. Nixon resigned the presidency on Aug. 9, 1974—the only president ever to do so. He was succeeded by his recently appointed vice-president, Gerald R. Ford, whose first act as president was to pardon Nixon.

1972: Terrorism at Munich Olympics

Al-Fatah was founded by Yasir Arafat and Abu Jihad in the late 1950’s as a paramilitary unit of Arab Palestinians. The organization was dedicated to the destruction of the State of Israel and became one of many Islamic terrorist associations.

An extremist group called Black September emerged within al-Fatah in late 1971. On Sept. 5, 1972, members of Black September infiltrated the Olympic Village in Munich, Germany. There they killed two Israelis and took nine others hostage, demanding the release of 200 Arabs held in Israeli prisons. The hostages were taken to a nearby airport. In an exchange of gunfire with German police five of the Arabs were killed. All nine remaining hostages were killed when one of the terrorists threw a hand grenade into their helicopter.

This event was one of the most notorious acts committed by Arab Terrorists in an era of violence against civilians that began in about 1968. Acts of terrorism by pro-Palestinian groups with the support of nations such as Uganda, Lebanon, and Libya continued in the next few decades. The hijacking and destruction of civilian airplanes and passenger ships was a common tactic of terrorists.

1979: Idi Amin driven out of Uganda

On January 25, 1971, Army Chief Idi Amin staged a coup against Uganda’s President Milton Obote and took over the reins of government. During his eight-year tyranny, the former heavyweight boxer nearly ruined Uganda.

Amin ruled Uganda directly, becoming, in effect, the whole government. In 1972 he expelled all the Asians from his country, thus eliminating the prosperous middle class. In 1976 he ordered the hijacking of a French airliner bound from Tel Aviv, Israel, to Paris France. The plane was brought to Uganda but rescued dramatically by Israeli commandos.

During Amin’s brutal years in office, there were reports of the torture and execution of up to 300,000 Ugandans. Uganda was finally invaded by Tanzanian troops, along with Ugandan exiles, in October 1978. Amin fled when the invaders arrived near the capital city, Kampala, on April 13, 1979. He settled in Saudi Arabia. Uganda remained in a state of civil war, and tribal hostilities continued for years afterward.

HISTORY TRIVIA WHO AM I?

1. My father cursed my birth and killed my mother...I never married, but not for lack of potential mates...Though not a king, I ruled my country for more than 40 years... An age of superlative literature bears my name.
2. I studied law in Britain, but later worked to free my country from British rule...My struggle for human rights began in South Africa, but my home was elsewhere. My followers called me “great soul.” I championed non-violence but died from an assassin’s bullet.
3. My mother was an American beauty and my father a British nobleman. Despite a life of privilege and success, I suffered from chronic depression. I guided my country through one of its greatest ordeals only to lose my office. Writing and painting filled my final years.
4. Born a slave, I was orphaned, stolen, and traded for a horse before my first birthday. Called “father of chemurgy,” “miracle worker,” and “goober wizard,” I created more than 300 products from a single plant. I was the first African-American to whom a national monument was dedicated.
5. At various times, my last name was Mortensen, Dougherty, and Miller – I even went by the pseudonym Zelda Zonk. Born out of wedlock, I converted to Judaism and formed by own film production company.
6. Once a pacifist, I later invaded Albania and Ethiopia... I founded Fascism and became the dictator of my country.. Called The Leader at the height of my rule, I later became a

follower... I was shot and killed after falling from power.

Answers can be found at the end of this page.

1898 ADVERTISEMENTS

The Colorado Sun, Louisville, Colorado, Saturday, August 13, 1898

Selling out at cost, Mrs. J. W. Weed, Louisville, Colo., -Is offering her entire stock of Millinery at cost. Call and see her.

The Louisville Packing Co., - Dealers in - Fre, Salt and Cured Meats. Fish, Oysters and Vegetables in Season, Highest market prices paid for - veal calves and choice beeves, Louisville and Lafayette

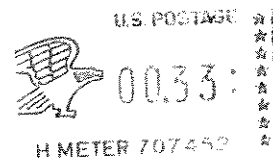
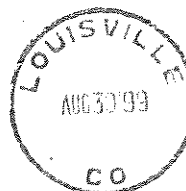
Frank Jordinelli, Liquor Dealer, Imported and Domestic Wines, Liquors, Champagne and Cigars, 1230 pearl Street, Boulder, Colo.

City Bakery and Lunch Room and Grocery, George Bartsch Proprietor, Fresh Bread, Cakes and Pies, always on hand. First-Class Ice Cream Parlor, Short Orders at all hours - cakes, etc., will be furnished for suppers and banquets.

Selling at Cost, 100 cases choice California canned fruit, full weight, full syrup, in order to reduce stock, 2 cans blackberries-- 25¢, 2 cans pears-25¢, 2 cans peaches-25¢, 2 cans apricots-25¢, 2 cans egg plums-25¢, 2 cans G G plums-25¢, 2 cans grapes-25¢, 2 cans raspberries-35¢, blackberries per can-15¢, 3 cans tomatoes-25¢, 3 cans corn-25¢, 3 cans peas-25¢, 4 cans L N peas-25¢, 3 cans string beans-25¢, 28 bars white Russian soap-\$1.00, 28 bars Denver Best soap-\$1.00

Answers to trivia: 1. Queen Elizabeth 2. Mohandas Gandhi 3. Winston Churchill 4. George Washington Carver 5. Marilyn Monroe 6. Benito Mussolini

LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
749 MAIN STREET
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027



Louisville Public Library
950 Spruce Street
Louisville CO 80027