

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL8009**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Louisville**
5. Historic building name: **Twin Light Tavern Building**
6. Current building name: **Hank's Model Trains Building**
7. Building address: **724/728 Main Street**
8. Owner name: **Henry E. & Carol J. Argue**
Owner address: **4858 Fairlawn Circle**
Boulder, CO 80301

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**
NW of **SW** of **NE** of **SE** of section **8**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **488790**
Northing: **4425050**
11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **10** Block: **3**
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: **2340 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **One**
17. Primary external wall material
Stucco
Wood / Plywood/ Particle Board
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Gabled Roof / Front Gabled Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
False Front



21. General Architectural Description

724 / 728 Main Street is a double-storefront commercial building, historically comprised of two separate buildings. The one-story wood frame buildings rest on concrete foundations, and have stuccoed exterior walls. Both the foundations and walls are painted bright yellow. Each of the two buildings has a front gable roof, with grey asphalt shingles. The gable ends are hidden behind tall parapet walls, with distinctive stepped gables which rise well above the roof lines on the facade (west elevation). A glass-in-steel-frame door enters into 724 Main Street, near the south end of the facade, while a solid wood door, with a single light, opens into 728 Main Street, near the north end of the facade. Windows on the facade include two large single-light fixed-pane storefront windows, and one large 2-light storefront window. The windows at 728 Main Street feature wooden kickplate areas, with painted brown and yellow recessed panels. A painted yellow solid wood door, and a painted yellow and brown wood-paneled door, are located on the south elevation. There are also three boarded window openings on the south elevation. Two small 1x1 horizontal sliding windows are located on the east elevation.

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

These two lots were originally built on prior to 1893. The 1893 and 1900 Sanborn maps depict two small buildings here, labeled Office and Dwelling. By 1908, as depicted on that year's Sanborn map, the building at 728 Main Street had been extended to the alley, and housed a billiards hall and bowling alley.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This property is located on the east side of Main Street in downtown Louisville, between the Melting Pot Restaurant to the north, and the Boulder County Annex building to the south. The buildings front directly onto a wide concrete sidewalk which parallels Main Street.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects

n/a

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY**25. Date of Construction:**

Estimate **ca. 1890**

Actual

Source of information:

Sanborn maps; Boulder County Assessor records

26. Architect:

n/a

Source of information:

n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:

unknown

Source of information:

n/a

28. Original owner:

Austin family, William and Robert (possibly)

Source of information:

"The Louisville Downtown Historical Walking Tour" [brochure].

30. Original location: yes

Moved **no**

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

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Business**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Specialty Store**
33. Current use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Specialty Store**
34. Site type(s): **Commercial Building**

35. Historical Background

The original portions of these two buildings were constructed in the 1890s, and were originally used as an office and a dwelling. The building at 728 Main Street was extended to the alley shortly after the turn of the twentieth century, and subsequently used as a bowling alley and billiards hall. In the early 1920s, the building was acquired by L.J. Mossoni, who continued to operate it as a pool hall through the prohibition era. In the 1930s, Henry J. Rusher established the Twin Light Tavern and Restaurant at 728 Main Street, while Robert M. Woody had a barbershop at 724 Main Street. Both of these businesses were here many years, lasting into the 1960s and 1970s. The Twin Light Tavern became a Louisville institution, and was in business here through at least 1975. In the 1940s the tavern was operated by David French, and in later years by Paul Domenico. Woody's Barbershop was replaced by Herman's Barbershop, which was at 724 Main Street in the 1970s and 1980s. Numerous commercial and professional tenants have been located in the two buildings during the 1990s.

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.

"The Louisville Downtown Historical Walking Tour" [brochure]. On file at the Louisville Museum.

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.

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VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**Date of Designation: **n/a**

38. Applicable National Register Criteria

xx 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;

cc 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).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Commerce40. Period of Significance: **ca. 1890 - 1950**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **xx****42. Statement of Significance**

This property is historically significant, relative to National Register Criterion A, for its association with early sustained commercial development in Louisville, in support of the area's coal mining industry. The building is architecturally significant for its distinctive false front facade, and as a representative late 19th Century / early 20th century commercial building. The building's significance in these regards is probably not to the extent that would qualify it for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, however, it is eligible as a contributing resource within a potential downtown Louisville Historic District.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Although this building has undergone changes to its facade, and exterior wall surfaces, it has not had any additions within the past fifty years. It is unreasonable to expect the facades of commercial buildings to remain the same as new businesses come and go. For this reason a greater latitude in assessing integrity should be applied.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: xx

Not Eligible:

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: xx

Noncontributing:

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

Contributing: n/a

Noncontributing: n/a

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **CM-14**

Frame(s): **17-19**

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

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

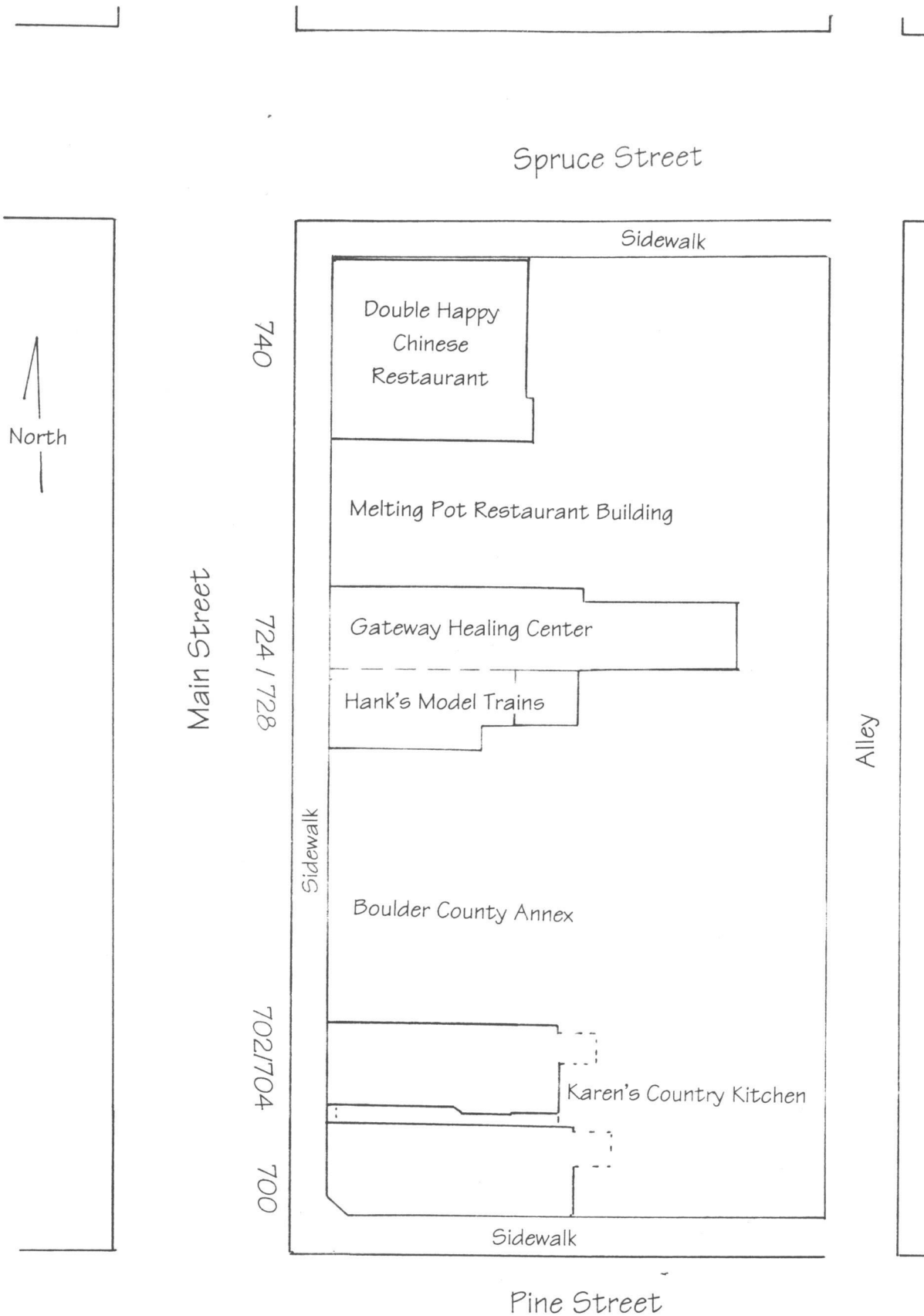
49. Date: **April 11, 2000**

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**



. . . SKETCH MAP . . .



. . . LOCATION MAP . . .

724/728 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado

