

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL7984**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Louisville**
5. Historic building name: **Ed Smith's Grocery Store**
6. Current building name: **Reis/ Kowalczyk House**
7. Building address: **805 / 805½ LaFarge Avenue**
8. Owner name: **Michael Reis & Kristen Kowalczyk**
Owner address: **738 Pear Court**
Louisville, CO 80027

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**
SE¼ of **NE¼** of **NW¼** of **SE¼** of section 8
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **488640**
Northing: **4425120**
11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **2** Block: **5**
Addition: **Jefferson Place** Year of Addition **1880**
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:

Other Style
(Wood Frame Gable
Roof Dwelling)

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: **1040 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material
Metal / Aluminum
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):
Porch
Fence



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21. General Architectural Description

This 1½-story wood-frame building is supported by a concrete foundation, and its exterior walls have been clad with white horizontal aluminum siding. The roof is a clipped front gable, with brown asphalt shingles and boxed eaves. A non-original shed-roofed dormer, with two 1x1 horizontal sliding windows, is located on the north elevation. Windows on the facade (east elevation) include two single-light fixed-pane windows, flanking the entry door, and two single-light windows, with flanking casement windows, in the upper half story. Windows on the secondary elevations are 1x1 horizontal sliders, with painted pale green wood frames and surrounds. One window, on the west elevation, has a metal awning. A stained natural brown wood door, with a wrought iron security door, opens onto a 3-step concrete and brick porch on the facade. The porch is outlined by a black wrought iron railing, and wrought iron posts, which support a corrugated metal porch hood. A stained natural brown wood-paneled door, with a white wrought iron security door, opens onto a 2-step concrete porch at the west end of the south elevation. This porch is also covered by a corrugated metal hood, with black wrought iron supports. Also on the south elevation, a flight of fifteen interior steps leads up to a solid wood door in the upper half story. This is the entrance for 805½ LaFarge Avenue.

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

Maps prepared by the Sanborn Map Company for insurance purposes, in 1900 and 1908, document that this building was constructed sometime during that time period. The building historically housed a general store, or grocery store, and had a false-front facade. This was removed when the building was converted to a residence in the late 1950s. A 16' by 15' hipped-roof addition to the west (rear) elevation predates 1950, and may actually be part of the original construction.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This property is located on the west side of LaFarge Avenue, west of downtown, in Louisville's oldest residential neighborhood.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects
n/a**IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY****25. Date of Construction:**
Estimate **ca. 1904**
Actual

Source of information:
Sanborn maps, 1900 and 1908

26. Architect:
n/a

Source of information:
n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

28. Original owner:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

30. Original location: **yes**
Moved **no**
Date of move(s) **n/a**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Grocery Store**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Multiple Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Residence**

35. Historical Background

Used historically as a grocery store, this building was constructed between 1900 and 1908. Oral sources indicate that this building, and the house next door to the south, which was the storekeeper's residence, may have a shared basement. The two properties have a history of common ownership. For many years, from the mid-1930s until the early 1960s, the house next door was owned and occupied by members of the Edward C. Smith family. (Edward's given name was either "Edward Charles" or "Charles Edward", but he was commonly known as "Ed." Along with his brother Samuel Smith, Ed was engaged in the general merchandise business at the Monarch Mine in the 1920s. Ed, and his wife Kathleen, moved into the house in the early 1930s and began operating Ed Smith's Grocery Store in this building, at what is today 805 LaFarge Avenue. The Smiths apparently ran the store, while living next door, until the mid-to-late 1950s. Ed and Kathleen then converted the store into their residence, while other members of the Smith family continued to live in the house at 801 LaFarge Avenue until the early 1960s. Other members of the Smith family, included Edward R. Smith, Donald R. Smith, and Raymond L. Smith.

A circa 1950 appraisal photo of this building shows a distinctive false front facade with a hand-painted sign band across the top of the building, above a canvas awning. The name "**ED SMITH**" appears under the heading "**HOME OWNED STORES**", with logos for "**Solitaire Coffee**" and "**Solitaire Groceries**", appearing at either end of the sign band. A sign painted on the building's south elevation advertises "**7 Choice Cereals Post Tens**."

In the 1960s, the building was converted into a two-dwelling residence, with addresses at 805 and 805½ LaFarge Avenue. The building has had several occupants from that time to the present. Michael Reis & Kristen Kowalczyk, the property's current owners, also own the property next door. They maintain both residences as rentals.

36. Sources of Information

(Boulder County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card - Urban Master", on file at the Boulder Carnegie Library.

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.

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

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**

Date of Designation: **n/a**

38. Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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;
- 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).

xx Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Commerce; Community Planning and Development

40. Period of Significance: **ca. 1904 - 1950**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **xx**

42. Statement of Significance

This building is historically significant for its association with commercial development in Louisville during the first half of the twentieth century. Built circa 1904, the building housed a general store or grocery store until the 1950s. The building was also important, architecturally for its false front facade.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Although this building was historically and architecturally significant, it is no longer eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, due to a loss of integrity. The building's original false front is gone, virtually all of its windows have been altered, a shed-roofed dormer has been built onto the north elevation, and the historic exterior wall surface has been covered over with aluminum siding. For these reasons, the property is no longer able to convey a sense of its historic significance.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **Platted in 1880 as the Jefferson Place Addition, the neighborhood, along Lafarge and Jefferson Avenues, is Louisville's oldest residential neighborhood. Historic houses in this area, 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:

Noncontributing: **xx**

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-3**

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: **March 24, 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**

Walnut Street

Alley

833

825

821

817

815

809

805

801

LaFarge Avenue



Approximate Scale

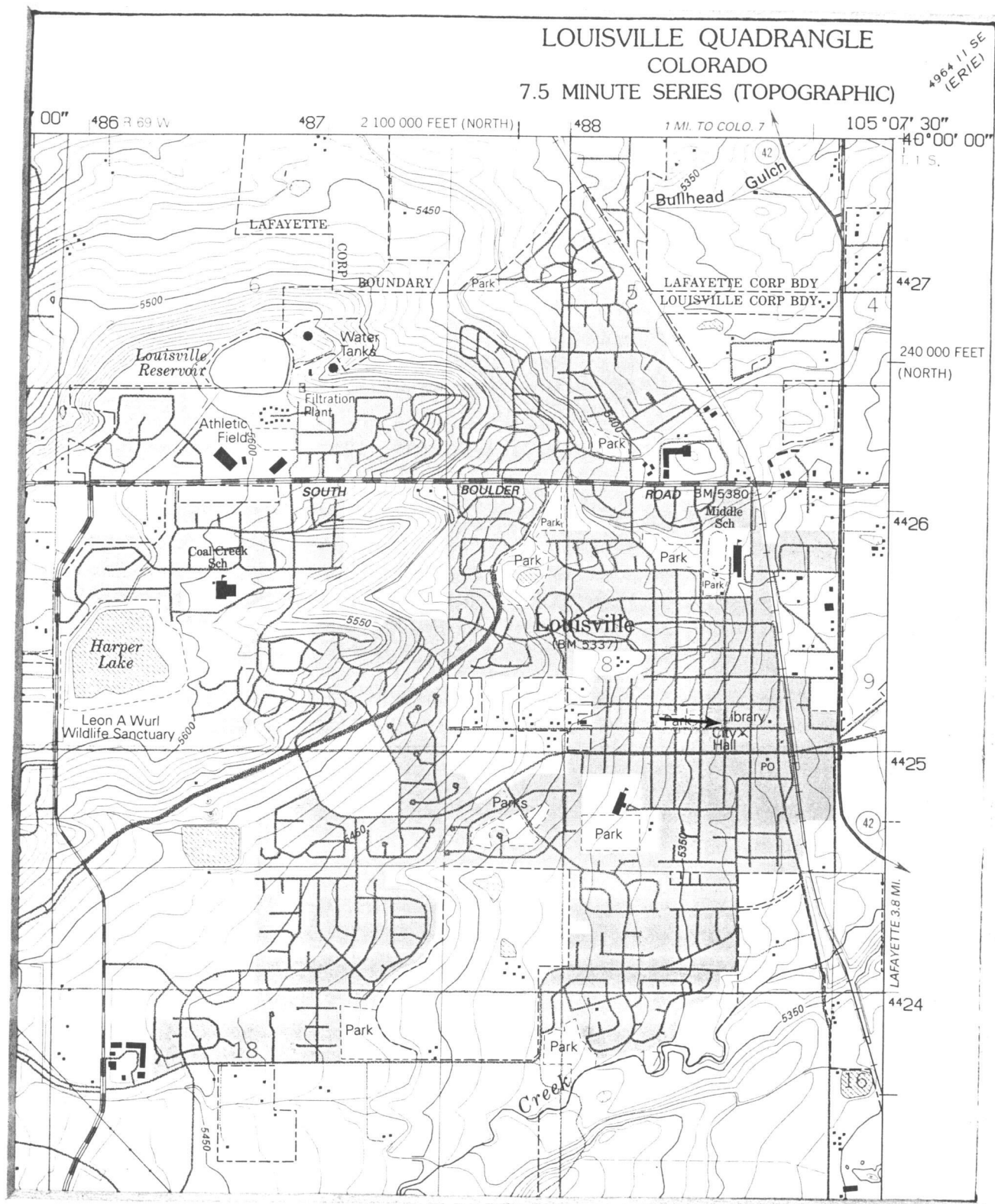


40 Feet

Spruce Street

• • • SKETCH MAP • • •

805 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado



. . . LOCATION MAP . . .

805 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

