

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL8014**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Louisville**
5. Historic building name: **Wolfer House**
6. Current building name: **Louisville Chamber of Commerce**
7. Building address: **901 Main Street**
8. Owner name: **Vanatta Limited Partnership LLLP**
Owner address: **1492 Alpine Avenue**
Boulder, CO 80304

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**
NW of **NW** of **NE** of **SE** of section 8
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **488750**
Northing: **4425220**
11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **1** Block: **n/a**
Addition: **Brock Subdivision** Year of Addition **1979**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

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: **2112 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material
Stucco
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Gabled Roof / Cross Gabled Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
Porch
Dormer

22. Architectural style / building type:

**Late 19th and Early Twentieth
Century American Movements
/ Craftsman**



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21. General Architectural Description

Exhibiting elements of the Craftsman style of architecture, this building is supported by a concrete foundation, covered with painted blue green color stucco. There is at least a partial basement, with non-original 1x1 horizontal sliding windows. The building's walls are also painted blue green color stucco, over masonry or wood frame construction. The intersecting gables roof is clad with green asphalt shingles, and the rafter ends are exposed. A shed-roofed dormer, on the east elevation, has three 3-light windows. Windows are primarily 4/1 and 6/1 double-hung sash (ribbon style), with painted wood frames and surrounds. A large, rectangular bay window, covered by a gable roof, is located on the south elevation. An enclosed shed-roofed front porch extends nearly the full length of the facade. The porch is illuminated by a large 2-light fixed-pane center window, flanked by smaller 2-light windows. A painted buff red entry door provides access to the front porch at the far east end of the south elevation. A painted solid wood door, with an aluminum storm door, opens onto a concrete sidewalk, located on the building's north elevation. A flight of six steel steps, flanked by a black wrought iron, leads to a glass-in-steel-frame door, located on the south elevation. Below this door, another flight of steps descends to a basement-level door.

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

The oldest portion of this building was apparently constructed at the northwest corner of Main and Spruce Streets before 1893. In 1905, it was moved a block north, to its present location, to make way for the State Mercantile Building. The 1908 Sanborn map shows a slightly larger building on this lot than had previously existed on the lot at Main and Spruce. The building was renovated into professional office space, circa 1970.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This property is located at the northwest corner of Main and Walnut Streets in downtown Louisville. A nice stone retaining wall parallels the sidewalks along Main and Walnut. The lot has been professionally xeroscaped

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects
n/a**IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY****25. Date of Construction:**Estimate **ca. 1890**

Actual

Source of information:

Sanborn map, 1893**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: noMoved **yes**Date of move(s) **1905**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Organizational**
34. Site type(s): **Chamber of Commerce Building**

35. Historical Background

This building was historically the residence of Dr. Charles F. Wolfer, Louisville's most prominent physician during the early years of the twentieth century. Born in Germany on June 18, 1858, Wolfer immigrated to America, and came to Colorado as a young man. He graduated from the University of Colorado Medical School in 1890, and practiced medicine in Walden, Colorado, before coming to Louisville in 1892. Wolfer served as the town's doctor, and was employed directly by the coal company. Wolfers salary was deducted from the coal company employees' paychecks. Employees were free to seek medical advice elsewhere, but at their own expense. Dr. Wolfer was married to Flora Mary Lutz, and they had four daughter: Alice, Flora, Winifred, and Nellie. After their home was moved here in 1905, Dr. Wolfer had his office constructed next door to the north at what is today 909 Main Street. The Wolfer family lived here until 1926.

After the Wolfers' era, this building continued to be used as a single-family residence. During much of the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, this was the home of Martha Eberharder, and later Frank Eberharder. Martha was the widow of Ludwig Eberharder who had been Vice-President of the Louisville - Lafayette Coal Company.

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.

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 ☒

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).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Community Planning and Development; Health / Medicine

40. Period of Significance: 1905 - 1950

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

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

This building is historically significant, relative to National Register Criterion A, for its association with residential development in Louisville during the early 1900s. The building is also significant, under National Register Criterion B, for its association with Dr. Charles F. Wolfer, a notable individual, who made a significant contribution to Louisville's socioeconomic development. Finally, the house is architecturally significant, under National Register Criterion C, for its representation of the Craftsman style of architecture.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This building displays a relatively high degree of historical integrity. The structure's appearance was modified to some extent when it was converted to professional office space circa 1970. It still conveys a sense of its historic significance, however.

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-10**

Frame(s): **31-34**

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 12, 2000**

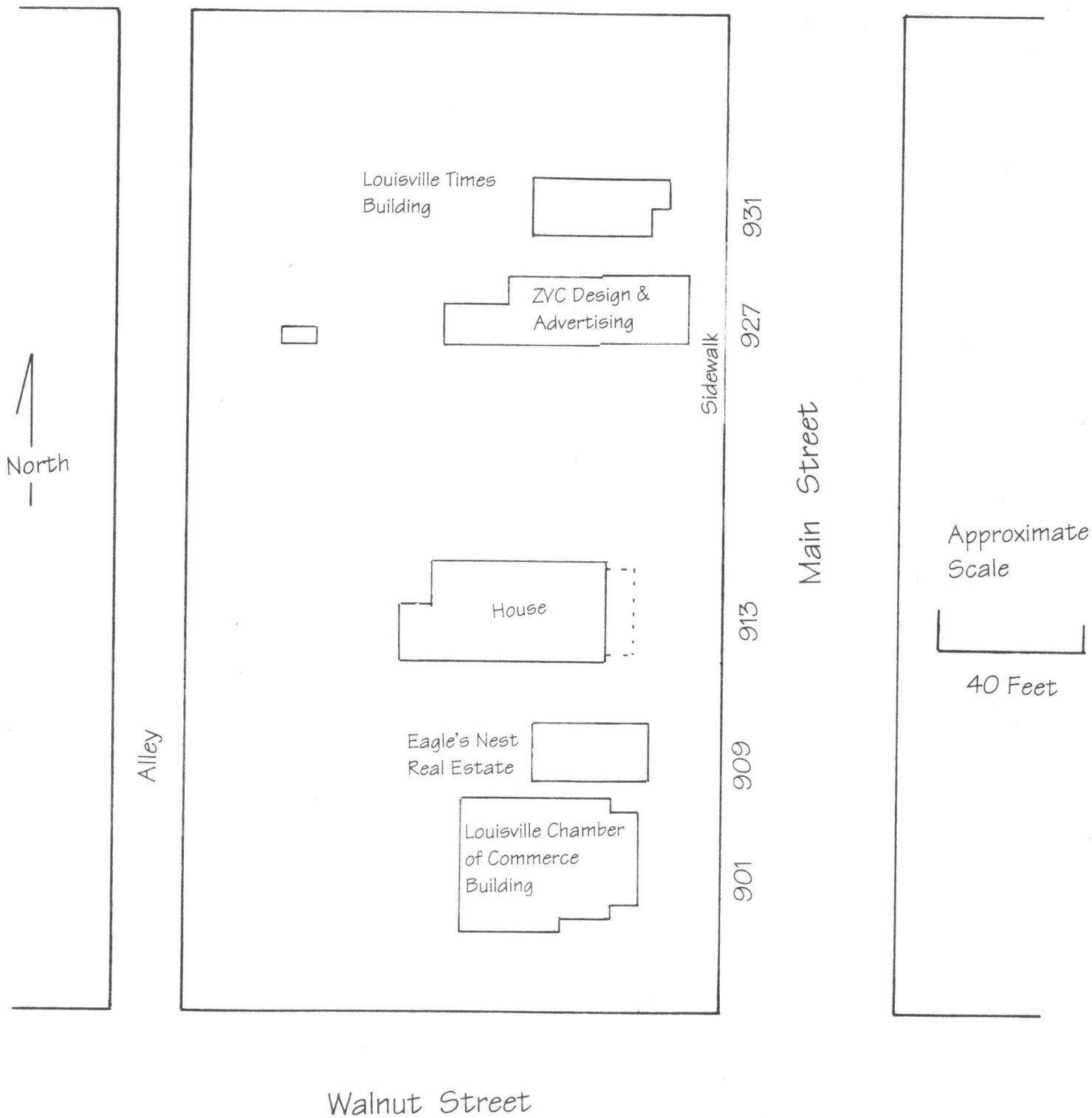
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

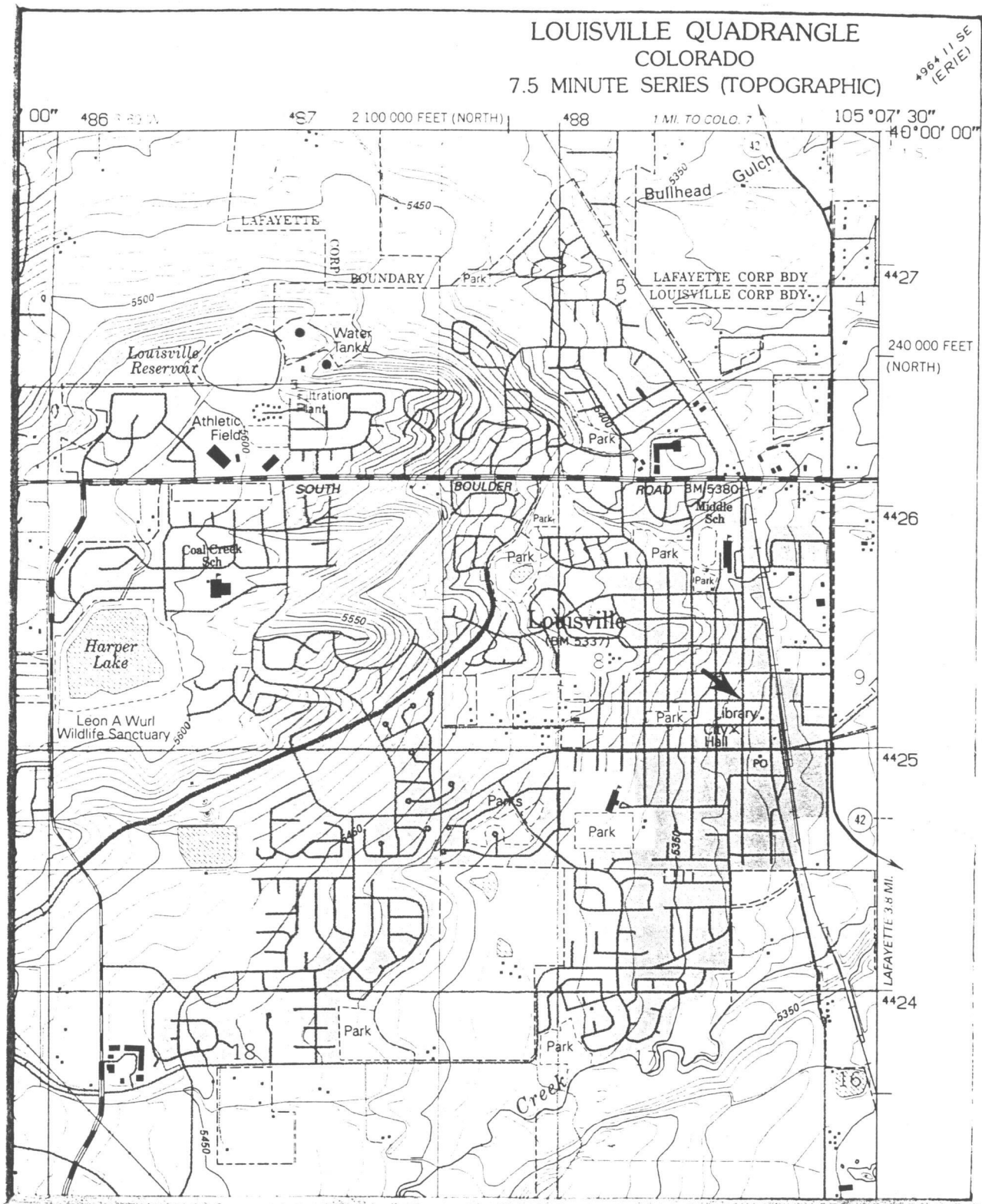
52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number: **970/493-5270**

South Street



901 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado



. . . LOCATION MAP . . .

901 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado



