

## COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

### Architectural Inventory Form

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#### I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL7998**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Louisville**
5. Historic building name: **Porta House**
6. Current building name: **Cianflone House**
7. Building address: **917 LaFarge Avenue**
8. Owner name: **Anthony L. & Belinda Cianflone**  
Owner address: **1165 Harper Lake Drive**  
**Louisville, CO 80027**

#### II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**  
**NE** $\frac{1}{4}$  of **NE** $\frac{1}{4}$  of **NW** $\frac{1}{4}$  of **SE** $\frac{1}{4}$  of section **8**
10. UTM reference  
Zone **13**  
Easting: **488640**  
Northing: **4425230**
11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**  
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **5, 6** Block: **4**  
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.**

#### 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: **1048 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **one**
17. Primary external wall material  
**Asbestos**
18. Roof configuration (enter one):  
**Gabled Roof / Hip-on-Gable Roof**
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):  
**Asphalt Roof**
20. Special features (enter all that apply):  
**Porch**  
**Chimney**  
**Fence**

22. Architectural style / building type:

**Hipped-Roof Box**



## Architectural Inventory Form

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### 21. General Architectural Description

This house is a one-story wood frame residence, supported by a low painted brown concrete foundation. A small planted grass front yard, to the east of the house, is unfenced, while a larger backyard and side yard (to the west and south) is enclosed by a woven wire fence. The house's exterior walls are clad with white undulated asbestos shingle siding, and the hipped and gabled roof has grey asphalt shingles and boxed eaves. A red brick chimney is located on the ridge. Window patterns include original 3/1 double-hung sash (ribbon style), and non-historic 3-light casements. A 3-step concrete porch, which extends nearly the full length of the facade (east elevation), is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof, held up by black wrought iron posts and a black wrought iron railing. A stained natural brown solid wood door opens onto the porch from the middle of the symmetrical facade. Located on the west elevation, the rear entry door consists of a painted white wood-paneled door, with an aluminum storm door, which opens onto a concrete sidewalk.

A 12' by 10' building, historically used as a **Summer Kitchen**, is located in the backyard, just six feet west of the house. This building has a wood timbers on grade foundation, painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior walls, with 1" by 4" corner boards, and a side-gabled roof with grey asphalt shingles and boxed eaves. One red brick chimney is located at the north end of the ridge. One 2/2 double-hung sash window is located on the west elevation, and one 4/4 double-hung sash window is located on the south elevation. Both windows have painted brown wood frames and surrounds. A painted white wood-paneled door, with a painted brown wood screen door, is located on the east elevation, facing toward the house.

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

Sanborn insurance maps document that the original part of this dwelling was constructed prior to 1893, and Boulder County Assessor records list 1891 as the building's year of construction. This date is probably reliable. At any rate, the original building would have been constructed sometime between 1880, when the Jefferson Place Addition was platted, and 1893, when the building drawn by the Sanborn Map Company. The original structure was enlarged during the early years of the twentieth century. The last addition, a 16' by 8' gabled extension to the west (rear) was constructed prior to 1950.

### 23. Landscape or setting special features:

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

### 24. Associated buildings, features, or objects **Summer Kitchen**

## IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

### 25. Date of Construction:

Estimate

Actual **1891**

Source of information:

**Boulder County Assessor records;  
Sanborn map, 1893**

### 26. Architect:

**n/a**

Source of information:

**n/a**

### 27. Builder/ Contractor:

**unknown**

Source of information:

**n/a**

### 28. Original owner:

**Antoni (Tony) Porta**

Source of information:

**Boulder County Directories**

### 30. Original location: **yes**

Moved **no**

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

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## V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Residence**

### 35. Historical Background

This house was built in 1891, and was owned and occupied by members of the Porta family for the next one hundred years. Antoni (Tony) Porta was an Italian immigrant who came to the Louisville area to work in the coal mining industry circa 1890. Antoni, and his wife Ella, are listed as Louisville residents in the first available Boulder County Directory, published in 1892. (Other members of the Porta family - , Henry and Edith Porta, followed by their son Albert "Boots" Porta - have lived continuously next door at 925 LaFarge from the late 1890s to the present. Henry worked at the Caledonia Mine in the 1890s. His son, Henry Jr., worked for the Lafayette-Louisville Coal Company for many years from the 1930s into the 1950s.

After this property passed out of the hands of the Porta family, it was owned by Gerald Mappin for a few years in the mid-1990s. It is presently (in 2000) owned by Anthony L. & Belinda Cianflone. They maintain it as a rental.

### 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.

Porta, Albert "Boots". Oral interview with Carl McWilliams, April 25, 2000.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated August 1893, November 1900, and August 1908.

## 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:

**Community Planning and Development; Ethnic Heritage / European**

40. Period of Significance: 1891 - 1950

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: ☒

## 42. Statement of Significance

Owned by a single family for over a century, this property is significant for its association with Louisville's historical development as a coal mining community in the late 1800s, and during the first half of the 1900s. The Portas are a representative Louisville's coal mining family. Collectively, these families had a lasting impact on Louisville's socioeconomic development. Because of alterations to the original structure the house likely does not qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It is eligible, however, as a contributing resource within a potential National Register historic district, comprised of properties in the Jefferson Place Addition. The Summer Kitchen building, located behind the house, is also historically significant.

## 43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This house's historical integrity has been compromised within the past fifty years by the addition of wrought iron porch railing and supports (in place of original turned wood columns), by the alteration of some window openings, and by the application of asbestos shingle siding, probably in the 1950s.

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## 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, between Elm and South Streets, 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: 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-4**

Frame(s): **23-27**

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 27, 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

Alley

937

929

925

917

913

909

901

LaFarge Avenue



40 Feet

717

Walnut Street

SKETCH MAP

917 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado



. . . LOCATION MAP . . .

917 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado



917 Lakside Avenue

