

Resource Number: 5BL7978
Temporary Resource Number: 157508435007

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
Cultural Resource Re-evaluation Form

OAHP1405
Rev. 9/98

1. Resource Number: 5BL7978 2. Temp. Resource Number: 157508435007

2A. Address: 617 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, CO 80027

(Previous addresses prior to 1939: 112 LaFarge, 116 LaFarge, 120 LaFarge. Louisville addresses were changed in 1939. 1943 directory lists this property as 603 LaFarge.

LaFarge is sometimes spelled La Farge. Alternate addresses may be 617 La Farge, 603 La Farge, 112 LaFarge, 116 LaFarge, or 120 La Farge.)

3. Attachments

(check as many as apply)

- ☒ Photographs
☒ Site sketch map
☒ U.S.G.S. map photocopy
☐ Other _____
☐ Other _____

4. Official determination

(OAHP USE ONLY)

- ☐ Determined Eligible
☐ Determined Not Eligible
☐ Need Data
☐ Nominated
☐ Listed
☐ Contributing to N.R. District
☐ Not Contributing to N.R. Dist

5. Resource Name: Historic Name: Leslie/Williams/Poydock House

Current Name: Brandenburg House

6. Purpose of this current site visit (check as many as apply)

- ☐ Site is within a current project area
☒ Resurvey
☒ Update of previous site form(s)
☐ Surface collection
☐ Testing to determine eligibility
☐ Excavation
☐ Other _____

Describe This property is within the Jefferson Place Subdivision in Louisville, which is being evaluated for historic district potential in 2010 – 2011. This resurvey is part of the historic district evaluation process.



7. Previous Recordings: Architectural Inventory Form 2000, as part of "Old Town" Louisville Historical Building Survey by Carl McWilliams of Cultural Resource Historians.

8. Changes or Additions to Previous Descriptions:

Construction History:

Gable siding has been replaced since the 2000 inventory, with clear-finish wood fish scale siding.

Not mentioned in the 2000 inventory is a very old and dilapidated shed along the alley, adjacent to the garage. The shed appears to be historic. It has vertical wood board and batten siding, with very little remaining paint. The roof is a shed, covered with green asphalt roll roofing, sloped down to the west. The shed opens to the east with a pair of wood board swinging doors on historic metal strap hinges.

City of Louisville building permit files record a 1976 building permit for Louisville Urban Renewal Authority (LURA) work to correct safety violations. These include removal of an existing unused chimney (location unspecified); roofing, gutters & downspouts; foundation waterproofing; addition of storm/screen windows;

painting; construction of a foundation under the dugout cellar; and corrections to electrical and plumbing code violations.

Landscape or special setting description: Jefferson Place Subdivision is a historic residential neighborhood adjacent to downtown Louisville. The subdivision is laid out on a standard urban grid of narrow, deep lots with rear alleys. Houses are built to a fairly consistent setback line along the streets with small front lawns, deep rear yards and mature landscaping. Small, carefully maintained single-family residences predominate. Most of the houses are wood framed, one or one and one-half stories in height, featuring white or light-colored horizontal wood or steel siding, gabled or hipped asphalt shingled roofs and front porches. While many of the houses have been modified over the years, many character-defining features have been preserved.

617 LaFarge is consistent with these patterns and blends well with the scale and character of the neighborhood. The house is set close to the front sidewalk, with a small grass lawn in the front and a stone and concrete walk to the front porch. A large cottonwood tree and a small pine tree flank the front walk. There is a non-historic white wrought iron decorative arch over the walk. The side and rear yards are enclosed by a 6-foot wood privacy fence along the sides. The rear yard is not clearly visible, but appears to be grassy with small trees, shrubs and planter boxes.

9. Changes in Condition: The garage and shed are very dilapidated.
10. Changes to Location or Size Information: None.
11. Changes in Ownership: Same ownership as 2000 inventory form.
12. Other Changes, Additions, or Observations:
Further research has yielded new information about the chain of ownership and previous residents of 617 La Farge.

617 La Farge and 609 La Farge (5BL11282) have an intertwined history, having had the same sets of owners for most of their histories. The Leslie family owned these two properties for approximately 28 years, followed by a period of ownership of the two properties by members of the Williams family for 58 years (in the case of 617 La Farge) and 48 years (in the case of 609 La Farge). An interesting aspect of these two properties is that they were part of a trade of real property between the Leslie family and the Williams family, and both families owned and operated the nearby Commercial Hotel at different times. The hotel is no longer extant. To the extent that it is relevant to the history of 617 La Farge, some information about 609 La Farge is also given below.

These properties presented some specific challenges for the research of their chains of ownership. Together, they occupy three lots (Lots 7, 8, and 9 of Block 7). Today, 609 La Farge occupies a lot and a half to the south, while 617 La Farge occupies the contiguous lot and a half to the north. However, it was found that these three lots were acquired separately and may have been used in separate ways for the first few decades after Jefferson Place was platted. Sanborn Maps for 1893 and 1900 show one house in the middle of these three lots on Lot 8, while the 1908 Sanborn map and the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville both show that house as gone from that location and instead show two houses, one to the south on Lot 9 and one to the north on Lot 7 and part of Lot 8. Also complicating the research is the strong possibility that a warranty deed for one of the lots, Lot 9, was not recorded with the County Recorder's office until years after the date that it was signed. It was additionally found that 609 La Farge for a long time consisted of only Lot 9, and 617 La Farge for a long time consisted of both Lots 7 and 8, until 1972.

Based on the evidence in the online property records, it appears that William and Eliza Leslie had acquired Lots 7, 8, and 9 by the late 1890s. (William Leslie's name first appears in a Louisville directory in 1896.) The County gives 1896 as the date of construction for 609 La Farge. As noted above, the Sanborn maps for 1893 and 1900 do not show a house on Lot 9. However, the house that is shown on Lot 8 on these Sanborn maps has a similar footprint as the house that appears as being on Lot 9 on the 1908 Sanborn map and the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map. It could be speculated that William and Eliza Leslie moved their house, which could have been constructed by 1893 as indicated on the 1893 Sanborn map, to the south side of their three lots so that they would have room to construct another house (617 La Farge) to the north. The County gives 1900 as the year of construction for 617 La Farge, which is possible if it was constructed after the 1900 Sanborn map was drawn.

Louisville directories show the Leslie family living in this location, although it is not known for certain whether Leslie family members always occupied the houses at both 609 and 617 La Farge, or just one of them. The 1904 directory shows William and "Elsie" Leslie living at "Lafarge btw. Pine & Hutchinson." William Leslie is described as being an

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engineer at the nearby Acme Mine that was located at Roosevelt & Hutchinson. In 1916, 1918, and 1921, members of the Leslie family are shown as residing at 120 La Farge. Based on evidence that is further explained below, this is believed to refer to 617 La Farge.

According to Louisville Cemetery records, Eliza Leslie lived 1863 to 1925 and William Leslie lived 1869 to 1911. They had a son, also named William, who lived 1897 to 1973. The family could not be located in the 1900 federal census, but in 1910, they are in this approximate location. William is shown as having Irish born parents, while Eliza's parents were born in England, but both William and Eliza were born in the United States. In the 1920 federal census, Eliza and her son are stated to be living on La Farge (William Sr. having died in 1911) and Eliza is said to work at a boardinghouse.

According to the *Louisville Times* Centennial Edition dated August 17, 1978, Eliza Leslie traded 609 and 617 La Farge for the Commercial Hotel that was owned by Laura and Dan Williams (this transaction was also mentioned in the 2000 Historical Survey for 617 La Farge, but the year and the names of the parties to the transaction were not given). Boulder County property records show that this trade took place in 1924. The Commercial Hotel, which was located on the southeast corner of Pine and La Farge, could have been the "boardinghouse" where Eliza Leslie was shown as working in the 1920 federal census. Eliza Leslie became the owner and operator of the Commercial Hotel, and Dan and Laura Williams (who had been living at the Commercial Hotel themselves) became the owners and residents of 609 and 617 La Farge. Eliza Leslie died one year later, in 1925.

According to the 1978 *Louisville Times* Centennial Edition, "Daniel Williams and Laura Roush were married in 1881 and came to Louisville from Coalton, Ohio, in 1906. Mr. Williams was a miner and together they operated the Commercial Hotel on Pine St." from 1910 to 1924. Not all of their twelve children survived infancy, but among them were four daughters, Bessie, Gale, Garnet, and Margaret. Bessie died in 1926, but Gale married and became Gale Johnson; Garnet became Garnet Poydock; and Margaret became Margaret Hodgson.

The 1926 directory for Louisville shows Dan and Laura Williams as living at 120 La Farge, and again, this is believed to refer to 617 La Farge. In 1928, they are stated to be living at "46" La Farge, which is an address number that does not fall within Louisville's normal address system from that time period. In 1930, they are at 112 La Farge, and in 1932, 1935, and 1936, they are at 116 La Farge. As explained below, the addresses of 112 and 116 are believed to refer to 609 La Farge. It appears that between 1926 and 1930, they moved from their larger house at 617 La Farge to their smaller house at 609 La Farge.

The 1930 federal census records shed some light on who lived where. For 1930, Dan and Laura Williams are shown as living on La Farge, and George and Garnet Poydock and their son, Carl, are the next listing. Based on where other people on the list lived, it appears that Dan and Laura Williams were living at 609 La Farge, and their daughter Garnet Williams Poydock was living with her husband and son next door at 617 La Farge. The 1930 directory for Louisville confirms this placement of family members in the two houses. Dan and Laura Williams are living at 112 La Farge (presumably today's 609), while George and "Garrett" "Pydock" are living with their son Carl at 120 La Farge. In 1932, 1935, and 1936, Dan and Laura Williams are stated to be living at 116 La Farge (likely the same as 1930's 112 La Farge), and their daughter, Garnet Poydock, is at 120 La Farge. In 1940, no address on La Farge is given for Dan and Laura Williams, but Garnet Poydock and her family are still at 120 La Farge (an old address being given despite the fact that Louisville's address system changed in the late 1930s).

According to the 1943 directory, George and Garnet "Pydock" are living in 1943 at "603" La Farge, but this may be a slight deviation from the new address system that had just recently been adopted in the late 1930s. (There is no listing for Dan and Laura Williams.)

According to records of the Green Mountain Cemetery in Boulder, Dan Williams died in 1941 and Laura in 1947. In 1948, the properties at 609 La Farge and 617 La Farge were part of Laura Williams' estate and passed to her surviving children, Gale Johnson, Margaret Hodgson, and Garnet Poydock. Following legal transactions in which some of the sisters signed over their ownership interests, the end result was that Margaret Hodgson became the owner of 609 La Farge (Lot 9 only, unlike the legal description today) and Garnet Poydock became the owner of 617 La Farge (both Lots 7 and 8, unlike the legal description today).

George Poydock, Garnet's husband, grew up in Louisville as a member of a Czechoslovak family who lived nearby in the 600 block of Jefferson Ave. According to his obituary dated 1962 and other archival materials, he came to the

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United States and to Louisville as a small boy in 1896 and married Garnet Williams in 1920. He worked as a coal miner and retired from the Pluto Mine due to illness in 1954.

Louisville directories for the 1950s and 1960s show the George and Garnet Poydock family living at 617 La Farge. In the 1956 directory, it is noted that Garnet is a clerk at Joe's Fruit Store, which was located at 920 Main St.

Garnet Williams lived from 1897 to 1982. Records indicate that in 1972, she conveyed the south half of Lot 8 to the new owners of 609 La Farge, Allan and Rachel Farber, to whom her sister (Margaret Hodgson) had conveyed her property. In 1982, 617 La Farge, now consisting of a lot and a half instead of two lots, was conveyed to Gary Brandenburg and Joyce Halbert-Brandenburg, who are the current owners, and it left the Williams family after a period of 58 years.

Sources of Information

Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum.

Boulder County "Real Estate Appraisal Card – Urban Master" on file at the Carnegie Branch Library for Local History in Boulder, Colorado.

Boulder County Clerk & Recorder's Office and Assessor's Office public records, accessed through <http://recorder.bouldercounty.org>.

Census records and other records accessed through www.ancestry.com.

Conarroe, Carolyn, *The Louisville Story*, Louisville Times, Inc., 2000.

Directories of Louisville residents and businesses on file at the Louisville Historical Museum.

Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville, Colorado, 1909

Green Mountain Cemetery Index to Interment Books, 1904-1925, Boulder Genealogical Society, 2006.

Louisville, Colorado building permit files

Louisville, Colorado cemetery records, accessed at <http://files.usgwarchives.org/co/boulder/cemeteries/louisville.txt>

Louisville Times Centennial Edition, August 17, 1978.

Sanborn Insurance Maps for Louisville, Colorado, 1893, 1900, and 1908

13. National Register Eligibility Assessment:

Eligible ☐ Not eligible ☒ Need data ☐

Explain: The house possesses a high degree of integrity and is a good representative example of the Late 19th and 20th Century Revival style. It is not sufficiently significant to qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, but it does have sufficient significance and integrity to qualify as a contributing property to a potential National Register or local historic district. Integrity of materials is somewhat compromised by the newer, and visually prominent, fish scale gable siding, but the rest of the historic siding and the historic windows are still intact.

13A. Colorado State Register: Not Eligible ☒

Local landmark: Eligible ☒

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The property is not sufficiently significant to qualify for individual listing in the State Register of Historic Places. However, its long association with the locally significant Williams and Poydock family (from 1924 to 1982), and its high degree of architectural integrity, make it potentially eligible as a Louisville Local Landmark.

- 13B. Historic District Potential: Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register and local historic district. There is potential for a National Register historic district. The main house would be a contributing structure to a historic district. The garage would be non-contributing.

Discuss: This building is being recorded as part of a 2010-2011 intensive-level historical and architectural survey of Jefferson Place, Louisville's first residential subdivision, platted in 1880. The purpose of the survey is to determine if there is potential for National Register, State Register or local historic districts. Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European, for its association with European immigrants who first lived here and whose descendants continued to live here for over fifty years. The period of significance for the State Register historic district is 1881 – 1980. Jefferson Place is potentially eligible as a National Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European. However it needs data to determine dates of some modifications, and to more definitely establish the significant impacts of various European ethnic groups on the local culture of Louisville. The period of significance of a National Register district is 1881 – 1963. Jefferson Place is eligible as a local Louisville historic district under local Criterion B, Social, as it exemplifies the cultural and social heritage of the community.

European immigrant families flocked to Colorado coal mining communities, including Louisville, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in search of economic opportunities they could not find in their own countries. Louisville's Welch Coal Mine, along with other mines in the area, recruited skilled workers from western Europe. In the early years before 1900, most of the miners who lived in Jefferson Place came from English-speaking countries.

Immigrants from England brought a strong tradition and expertise in coal mining. The English are widely credited with developing the techniques of coal mining that were used locally, and they taught these techniques to other miners. The British mining culture was instilled in the early Colorado coal mines. English immigrants also brought expertise in other necessary skills such as blacksmithing and chain forging.

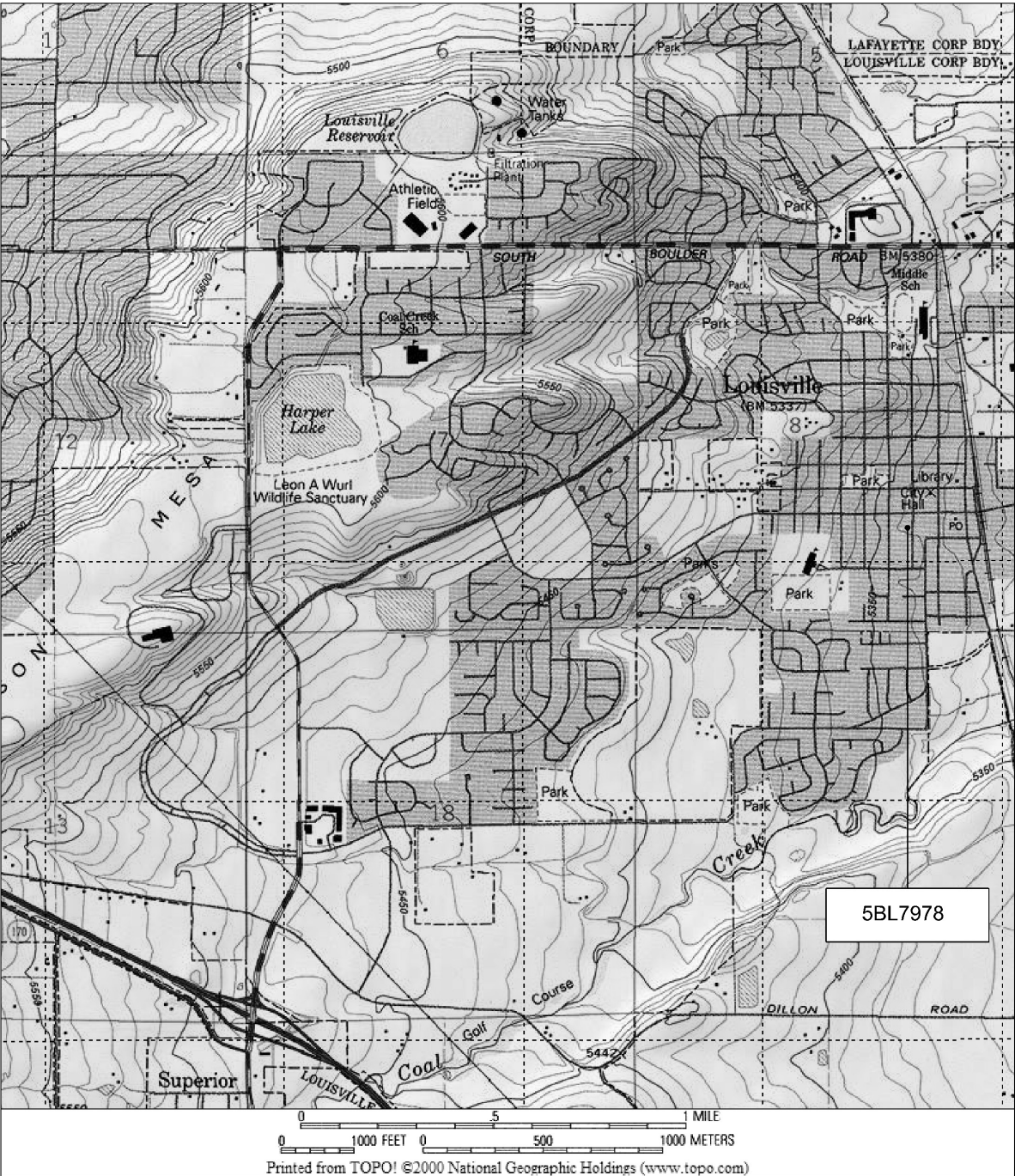
Later Jefferson Place residents arrived from Italy, France, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, and Slovenia, among other places. The Italians eventually became the largest single ethnic group in Jefferson Place and in Louisville as a whole. About one-third of the houses in Jefferson Place were owned and occupied by Italian immigrants. Italian immigrants left their mark on Louisville in the food and beverage industries. To the present day, downtown Louisville is known throughout the Front Range for its tradition of Italian restaurants. The impacts of the heritage and customs of the other European ethnic groups could be significant, but are not well documented and need further investigation.

14. Management Recommendations: The property is worthy of nomination as a Louisville Local Landmark.
15. Photograph Types and Numbers: 5BL7978_617LaFarge_01 through _06.
16. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location: Electronic files of forms with embedded photos and maps at Colorado Historical Society. Electronic files of forms, and electronic files of photographs at City of Louisville, Colorado, Planning Department.
17. Report Title: Historical and Architectural Survey of Jefferson Place Subdivision, Louisville, Colorado
18. Recorder(s): Kathy and Leonard Lingo of Avenue L Architects, and Bridget Bacon of City of Louisville
19. Date(s): 2013
20. Recorder Affiliation: Avenue L Architects, 3457 Ringsby Court Suite 317, Denver CO 80216 (303) 290-9930

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Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203
303-866-3395



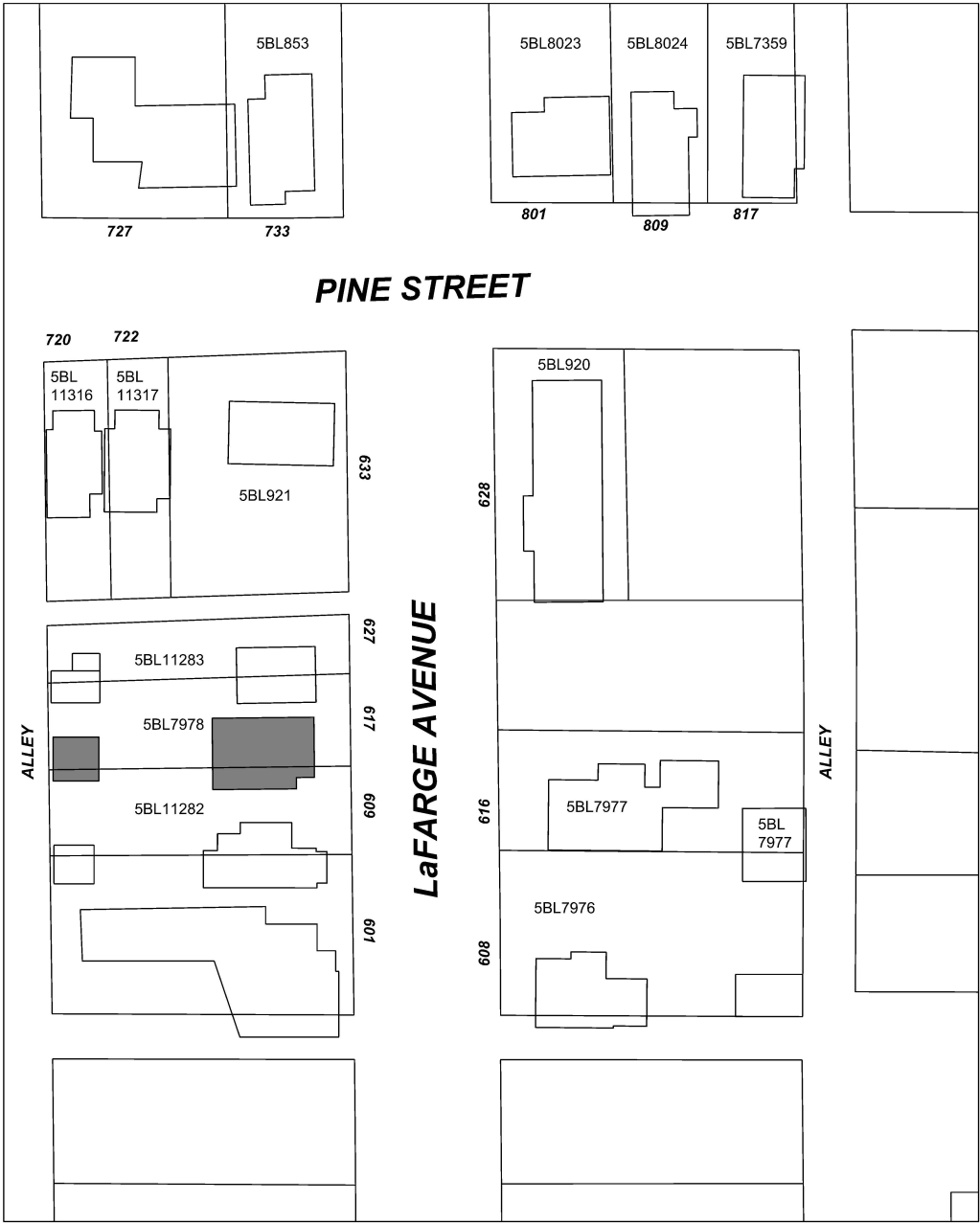
617 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: Extract of Louisville, Colorado
USGS map, 1994.



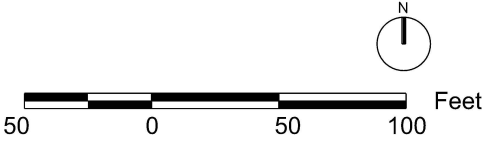
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Architectural Inventory Form
Site Location Map



617 LaFarge Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: City of Louisville, Colorado
GIS Files.



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5BL7978_617LaFarge_01 East



5BL7978_617LaFarge_02 South

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5BL7978_617LaFarge_03 North



5BL7978_617LaFarge_04 West

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5BL7978_617LaFarge_05 Garage West



5BL7978_617LaFarge_06 Garage North

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Louisville Historical Museum photo 2008.008.038, ca. 1960s, 617 LaFarge.
609 LaFarge (5BL11282) is visible to the left.



Boulder County Appraisal Card, 1956