

MESSAGES RECEIVED CONCERNING GATEWAY PILLARS
(April 11, 2022 as of 8:30 am)

From: Guy Higgins <guy1016@icloud.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 14, 2022 at 11:10 AM
Subject: 9 Mile Corner Memorial

I am a veteran of 30 years active duty in the US Navy. My father was also a 30-year vet, my mother was a WWII Navy nurse, and my brother was a career Hospital Corpsman. Memorials to our veterans are important to me. I attended the presentation at the Lafayette library on Sunday the 13th. I very much appreciated it. I will be unable to attend the session on April 12th since I already have two conflicting meetings that evening.

That said, I think that preserving the memorial pillars should be a high priority for the city and the community. Lafayette developed a Comprehensive Master Plan over the last two years, and in that CMP are proposals for visually impactful "Gateways" to the city. I think that one of those gateways should be park with the pillars moved from their current location (where I think that they are being gradually destroyed by passing traffic) to a gateway park — a park that could be themed as a memorial park for all those Americans who fought in our wars since Lafayette was founded. The city cemetery is the resting place for some small number of those veterans dating back to the Civil War.

I would be stunned if Arapahoe Road isn't widened within the next decade. The traffic to and from Boulder from the surrounding municipalities is increasing every year and I don't see that ending. Lafayette, Erie, Thornton, even Brighton are going to provide housing for people working in Boulder, so improvements to the transportation in/out of Boulder will be necessary. That means that Arapahoe will have to become four lanes - two in each direction, and that means that the Arapahoe - 287 intersection is going to get a whole lot bigger, endangering the pillars. Let's bite the bullet now and move them out of any potential eight-lane intersection (two travel and two turn lanes in each direction).

Very Respectfully,
Guy Higgins
CAPT, USN (Ret)
Lafayette, CO
714-276-3100

Date: Thu, Mar 24, 2022 at 3:53 PM

Subject: New submission on Collected Forms "Collected form: .et_pb_contact_form, .clearfix"

To: <chad@tmcdigitalmedia.com>

Email:

kaystoakes@comcast.net

First Name:

Kay

Last Name:

Stoakes

Re: Nine Mile Corner Program. My mother, Virginia Ostrander was a 100-year resident of Boulder County, 1918-2018. As children she would often tell us about various landmarks and things unique to Boulder County. Because many family members were scattered around the County we did a fare amount of riding most the country roads (by automobile). Anyway she always said the Nine Mile Pillars were built by CCC during the 1930's as were many other improvements....Flagstaff road barriers, theatre, picnic areas and shelters, Bluebell Canyon shelter, Boulder Canyon Road barriers, among a few. She also told us the Nine Mile Corner name was because from the pillar location is s 9 miles to Boulder, 9 miles to Longmont and 9 miles to Louisville. Questions, my land line 720-600-5193

Mel Haik <mel.haik@icloud.com>

April 10 11:09 AM

Please save those important, historic pillars. If they have to be moved to save them, then move and reconstruct them on Arapaho to the west. If a WWI cannon can be acquired, please add that armament. We must honor those who served and we must remember the sacrifices.

Thanks!

Posted to Next Door as of 8:30 am on April 11

Debbie Sencenbaugh • Old Hwy 52 and WC- 5

Promises were made at the time, by my recollection, that there would be *no problem* preserving the pillars without relocating them. Government promises are easily broken. CDOT's as well. I'm jaded.

Mary Anne Hubble • Monarch Estates - Firestone

I remember the same discussions and promises. Although I thought they moved them? I wonder if there is a way to research articles in the Daily Camera? Do you have any idea when the road changes were made?

Ron Brotzman • Niwot

Don't destroy them. They were bombed in 1966 by a bunch of radicals. The canons had to be removed then They were never the same. They honor our WW1 vets. Keep the history. Who designed this new road anyway. Boulder county commissioners must not have been interested in what happened to them.

Jean Dayhoff • Brennan by the Lake

Everyone should attend or voice their opinion!!

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

yes, attendance is needed. But, come armed with facts. Knowledge is power!

Dave Svoboda • Longs Peak

To the contrary, most people don't care so much about facts as they do feelz.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

As Past Chairman of the Erie Historic Preservation Advisory Board, we did extensive research on them. They do mark from their point to the City of Boulder. Thus, they are known as the Nine Mile Markers. Tyler Carlson, who is the developer of Evergreen is willing to have them moved to the new area where Lowe's is being built. He respects history and wants to see them preserved. They can be moved by wrapping them. Feel free to contact me at: classyjackie93@gmail.com.

Suzanne Cote • Phillips/Owl/GR/Dawson

Thanks for letting us know. By wrapping them with what? Would it be miles of plastic, and /or styrofoam, wood? I have seen this in a shop in action, as they had to ship their high end custom cabinetry to home owners in Aspen and other hospitality places with endless wasteful resources. It was jaw dropping! This would produce a byproduct of a mountain full of plastic waste. Never mind the relocation program of the beautiful, well placed pillars. Road redesign and implementation for a whole different feeling. It would be awful and consequential!

Debbie Sencenbaugh • Old Hwy 52 and WC- 5

A few years ago we attended a Frederick meeting about the illegal flagpole annex of parts of CR5. It was contentious, with a large number of affected Weld residents attending wishing to speak. Midway, the City Attorney, thinking his mike was off, which it wasn't, advised the Mayor "by law we have to let them speak, but we don't have to listen to them" (quote not verbatim) Don't have the date but you can look up the meeting re: CR5 annexation. Don't know if it made the record as we were clearly not supposed to see it

Keri Beard • Erie Village

This is an area landmark and it would be a shame to lose it. 9 Mile is an eyesore and I wish they'd never built it.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

Reply to Keri: Beard how sad.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

Keri Beard the 9 Mile Pillars have never been Landmarked. This has to be done by the owner requesting it through the Town/City or County to the local Historic Advisory Board/Commission. The Erie Historic Preservation Advisory Board is trying to dig out the records for ownership.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

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Gloria Davis • John Breaux

I couldn't agree more Keri - thank you for standing up!!!

Suzanne Cote • Phillips/Owl/GR/Dawson

Those pillars are an extraordinary piece of history, and a beautiful element! Why must we argue about such obviously treasured things that developers want to complain about? They need to be preserved!

Caroline Tyra • Erie Commons

The 'serious vehicular hazard' was not a thing before development at the corner. So what is the real deal here?

Mary Anne Hubble • Monarch Estates - Firestone

Reply to Caroline Tyra We've recently traveled through that intersection a couple times and, if traveling the speed limit, I do not see why they would be an impediment to traffic. The traffic was really heavy when we went through....I wonder if there is a hidden agenda like future plans to redo the entire intersection?

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

Reply to Mary Ann Hubble. You nailed it! Future plans are to reconfigure the intersection.

Mary Anne Hubble • Monarch Estates - Firestone

Sneaky aren't they?!

Tiffany L. • Longmont Estates East

Overcrowding destroying more history.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

Wait a minute! Have you been to Italy or Germany?

Sue Peterson • Gay St

My dad told me it used to have an arch.

Jackie Connor • Erie Commons

and a Cannon.

Will Holsclaw • Gunbarrel Estates

I believe they had to remove the arch when they moved them further apart several decades ago to accommodate the wider roadway

Ronda Romero • Indian Peaks South

I remember as a child the arch had green ivy (?) growing on it. We would drive under it as we went to Boulder.

Gloria Davis • John Breaux

yes it did, my brother-in-law's Grandfather helped build those arches!!

Lee Hazzard • Isabelle-Arapahoe

It's not the pillars creating the vehicle hazard it's the design of the merges and lane turns! Pillars should remain in place! Enough destroying our history and preservation. Enough sprawl!

Gloria Davis • John Breaux

hear hear Lee!!! Or maybe people could just be a little for respectful instead of thinking these roads were built just strictly for them!!!! Love one another!!

Randy/Deb Coffin • Arapahoe Ridge

The merge lanes are an insane way of managing traffic! The merge lanes on Arapahoe east and west of US 287 are dangerous! I have been nearly hit a few times by drivers who appear not to check the lane they are entering before merging! Who designs stuff like that and what is their design rationale!?

Barbara Hansen • Blue Heron

agree. It's always a race to beat out cars in the other lane to get ahead. Same issue at 95th and Baseline.

Jim MacDonald • Kenosha Farm

It's way more important to be checking or talking on your cell phone than to be paying attention to all the 3-4000 lb. missiles all around you. Safety? WE don't need no stinking safety

Richard E. • Niwot

Cell phone addicted people have a death wish these days. Just try crossing the street doing that in New York City. Road runner anyone?

christy gorringer • Niwot

dang there goes another iconic landmark. don't we love progress...speechless.

Rhonda Pollock • Countryside

Well said christy

Jim Wester • East Weld

I hope they can safely relocate them. They are too close together for how busy the intersection is.

Molly Sabatino • Colliers Hill

I've always wondered about those pillars. Thank you for the history. I would be sad/mad if they were destroyed.

Steven Dunbar • Indian Peaks North

Please read William Meyers historical summary on these pillars, link below.

While these were built to honor those that served in WW-I, make no mistake that it was commercial and tourism interests that pushed their construction along from the outset- the same types of interests that are developing the land around it now.

* The pillars were not maintained or cared for at all for a solid 50 year span from the 30's to the 80's.

* The north pillar was accidentally destroyed when attempting to move on a prior occasion to widen the road, and was rebuilt where it sits today, sitting in brush and shrubs, so it already isn't "original". Only the south pillar inside the pork chop traffic island is as built, in its original location.

* Legion park in east Boulder is tied loosely to the pillars as well. Maybe they should be relocated to Legion Park.

* CDOT appears to not have followed the historical preservation rules on this, but in the long run, that probably wouldn't have mattered- they would still have to move most likely given the immense pressure from traffic and development.

The fact is the growth of the area demands they be removed one way or another. I hope they can be moved safely to a prominent, meaningful location nearby or to Legion park, and that their original

purpose of honoring veterans of WWI can be better accomplished. As is and has been for a very long time, the pillars are completely inaccessible and unable to serve this purpose.

<https://boulderrotary.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Doc.-A-History-and-Current-Status-of-Nine-Mile-Corner-Monument.pdf>

Caroline Tyra • Erie Commons

why should they be moved? Location is an important part of the history. Moving them to a park dilutes their purpose as meaningful points on a map.

Robert Greenhalgh • Dakota Ridge

I've always wondered what those were. They definitely should be saved!

Cary Teegarden • South Near Rec Center

Keep the pillars where they are. Hire some engineers that know what they're doing, we must stop changing history. And while you're at it you could re-restore the sign that used to be north of Iris arch over the road saying welcome to Boulder coming in and you're now leaving Boulder. They tore that down years ago. They're ruining the historic icons of the city. I have family dating back to the 1800s I am fourth generation we now have six generation Boulder and these people that are moved in here from the coast have changed Boulder drastically some for the good And some not so good.

Sally Kaplan • Wildgrass

Totally agree. Landmarks and memorials are exactly that! Sally Kaplan

Donna Deffke • SW Longmont Estates

My mother used to go by them when she traveled from Denver to Boulder to school at CU. The Nine Mile Corner intersection was the only way to get to Boulder from Denver at the point in time. Most the folks that remember that fact are long buried now.

Richard B., Country Fields

think they should remain where they are and be reconditioned.

Jenny Ott • Flatiron Meadows

Why would they propose moving the pillars now, after they recently did so much roadwork??? Nothing like build a road, ripping it out, and building it again. How many times can we do that in Lafayette or Erie?! It's seems there is a game to constantly throw money away through roadwork around here.

John Putnins • Erie Village

hey are thinking about moving the pillars now because they forgot about them when they planned the enlarged intersection. People don't pay attention to details anymore.

Jenny Ott • Flatiron Meadows

thanks for the information. Wow, that's a pretty big oversight 🙄 I can't imagine I'd have a job if I had that BIG of oversight!

Don Parcher • Heritage Park

As I recall, there's a plaque that refers to the World War or the Great War, it being before World War II.

Richard B. • Country Fields

Look at prior post's, they explain all about the pillars

Don Parcher • Heritage Park

I just think it's interesting that it refers to "the World War" instead of "World War I"
<https://boulderrotary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Plaque.jpg>

John Rhinehart • Longmont Estates East

I remember those pillars, seeing them for the first time when my husband and I were house-hunting prior to relocating here. It seem it also had an arch across Arapahoe connecting both pillars on either side of the road. I asked our realtor about them and she told me they were a "war memorial."

Boni Bichler-Lagana • Godding Hollow

There used to be canons there and my Grandpa would be the one that kept them polished. He would take me with him when he went. He was a WWI disabled Vet. That area means a lot to my family.

Paul Donaghey, Historic East Side

They should be relocated to an area of honor at any one of our county buildings or libraries. In a new location they might actually be able to be viewed & appreciated.

Demi Prentiss • E. South Boulder Rd.

Happy to hear about Boulder Rotary's constructive involvement in mitigating a bad situation. The presentation @ 9milecornerpillars.com is about 40 min long and worth the time.

Vic Hoerner • Niwot

It is so easy to tear history down. Lets try to honor the past.

Donna Caccamise • Isabelle-Arapahoe

These pillars were compromised as part of recent development, which included some really poor engineering in changing that corner. Where was the oversight? I live nearby and never got a notice about any of these new developments on Arapahoe at and near that corner during their planning stages. There is a host of snafus this development has precipitated that did not get proper consideration during planning.

Wes Nelson • East Weld

I've lived in this area for more than 50 years and never knew that there was an actual significance to those towers. Thanks for the info.

Serin Silva • Orchard Creek

Well, the city council just wants to rip everything out so I'm not surprised. Forget history, just sell, rip and take out anything that has any meaning.

Kelly Keatley • Orchard Grove

Yes Please Keep Our History Safe & Alive!us P.S. Loving Memories of Seeing the Lakes & Pillars on our way going to Denver versus going on the Turnpike

Shirley Parry • Old Town

I will never understand why people find the need to destroy historical objects. The pillars would be meaningless if relocated. Remember the beautiful huge cottonwoods that were torn down on Arapahoe just to widened the road? Stop it already...

Francine Startup • Winding Trail

Yes! When I moved here to Lafayette in 1988 from The east cost Hudson Valley. Worked next to Washington's headquarters .. I was amazed at the lack of historical interest here and things have not changed! So sad.

Vickie Slade • Bullhead Gulch/Spring Creek

So sad to see all the commercial development at this intersection where there once was a lake. Erie is literally adding developments everywhere, gobbling up land, adding rooftops and exacerbating traffic issues. Lafayette seems to be trying to compete for tax dollars and adding more and more commercial development along the 287 corridor. Stop it already!!