



Parks & Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road • Longmont, CO 80503
303-678-6200 • POSinfo@bouldercounty.org
www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org

To: Historic Preservation Advisory Board
From: Carol Beam, Cultural Resource Specialist
Date: February 12, 2024
Re: Golden Farm Open Space barracks determination of eligibility

BACKGROUND:

Boulder County and the City of Longmont jointly purchased the 98.785 acre Golden Farm property on June 27, 2003.

The acquisition contains approximately 92 acres on the west side of North 119th Street and approximately 7 acres on the east side of North 119th Street. As part of the joint acquisition agreement, the City of Longmont acquired the fee interest in the 92 acres on the west side of North 119th Street and Boulder County acquired the fee interest in the approximately 7 acres on the east side of North 119th Street. The City of Longmont holds a conservation easement for the 7 acre parcel on the east side of North 119th Street.

At the time of the acquisition, the 7 acre parcel on the east side of North 119th Street featured a circa 1904 house, concrete block outbuilding, shed and 3 relocated World War II barracks mostly likely from either Lowry or Buckley Air Force Bases.

According to Jim Liles, the former Boulder County Housing Authority Director from 1975-2002, sometime in the early to mid-1970s, the previous land owners, the Tanaka Brothers Farm, moved the 3 barracks to the property in order to house some of their seasonal migrant farm workers for their large farm business. Jim stated the Tanaka Brothers Farm operated around the Longmont area that at its peak covered approximately 2,400 acres and employed about 600 farm workers.

When the 3 barracks were moved to the site, they were lined up end to end with a newly constructed small connector building between the barracks to house the common bathrooms. A septic system was installed for the common bathrooms that was partially funded by the State Division of Housing.

Although the exact date when the 3 barracks were moved to the site is unclear, Boulder County Onsite Wastewater System documents indicate the barracks may have been moved to the site in 1976. It is interesting to note that the Onsite Wastewater System documents identify only 2 barracks to be moved to the property. There is no further explanation of why 3 barracks ended up on the property.

The Tanaka Brothers Farm might have utilized the 3 barracks seasonally until early 1991 when the Tanaka Brothers Farm declared bankruptcy in January 1991.

With a shortage of livable seasonal migrant farm worker housing in the area, Boulder County Housing Authority constructed a new migrant farm worker residential facility nearby called

Casa Vista, located at 12525 Quicksilver Road by September 1993. While Casa Vista was being constructed, the Boulder County Housing Authority leased the barracks from the Tanaka Brothers Farm between 1991-1993 until Casa Vista was completed. Because the barracks condition was substandard, the Boulder County Housing Authority had to make improvements to bring the barracks to a livable standard. It is presumed the 3 barracks sat empty after Casa Vista was opened.

In 1994, Boulder Creek Farms, the then current property owner, submitted a building permit request to demolish the 3 barracks due their liability and the lack of need for them without paying a high cost for repairs. The building permit was referred to the Historic Preservation Advisory Board (HPAB) for the April 7, 1994 meeting.

The HPAB reviewed the request and determined that the 3 barracks have historic significance for their association with local agricultural history but recommended the building permits be approved. For some reason the barracks were not demolished at this time.

In December 2002, Golden Farm, the then current property owner, submitted a building permit request to demolish the long vacant circa 1904 house, concrete block outbuilding, shed, and the 3 barracks due to their poor condition. The building permit was referred to the Historic Preservation Advisory Board (HPAB) for the January 9, 2003 meeting.

At the January 9, 2003 meeting the HPAB determined the circa 1904 house may have some historic significance, however, due to its poor condition and alterations, the HPAB did not feel that a hold on the demolition permit was warranted.

The HPAB determined that the 3 barracks were historically significant for to their association with local agricultural history. The HPAB placed a 120 day hold on this part of the permit to allow time to consider alternatives to demolition.

During the 120 hold, a compromise between the HPAB and Golden Farm resulted in the permission to demolish the 2 poorest condition barracks but retain 1 barracks in the best condition (the most eastern barracks was retained). The circa 1904 house, concrete block outbuilding and shed were also demolished at that time.

Since its acquisition in 2003, Boulder County Parks and Open Space has secured the barracks by boarding up the windows and doors, replaced the roof, painted the exterior, repaired the wood windows, rebuilt the wood front steps, installed security lighting, and made many trips out to the property with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office (their presence is required each time to ensure no one is left inside when the building is boarded back up) to make repairs as a result of the increasing vandalism intensity. The inside of the barracks is empty and there is no public access.

REQUEST:

Since the HPAB found the 3 barracks buildings historically significant in 1994 and 2003, but today only 1 of them remains resulting in an adverse effect to the 1994 and 2003 historic significance and historic physical integrity HPAB determination, Parks and Open Space would like to request from the HPAB a formal determination of eligibility for the remaining 1 barracks located on the Golden Farm Open Space.






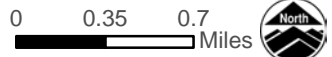
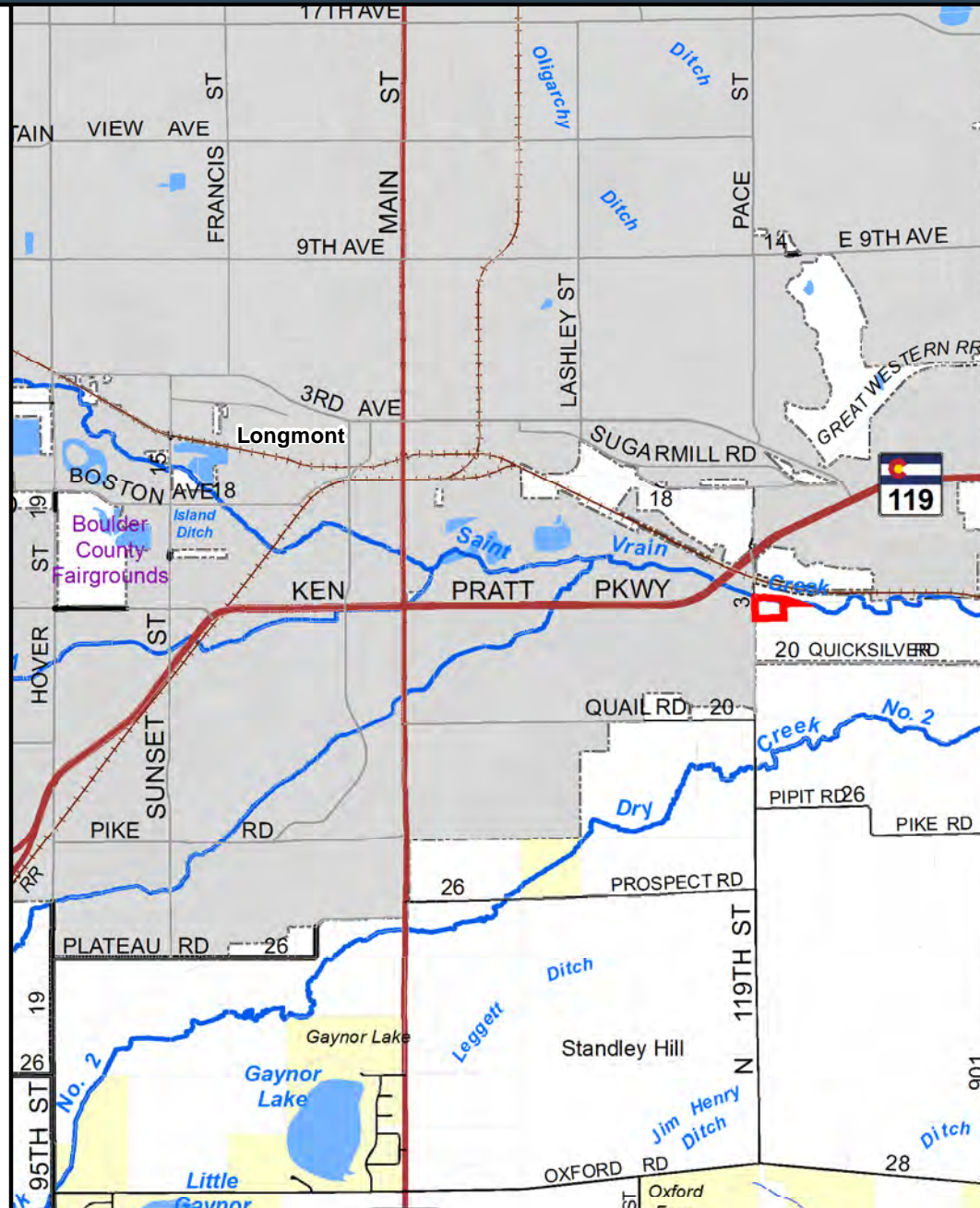
Community Planning & Permitting

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80302 303-441-3930 www.bouldercounty.org

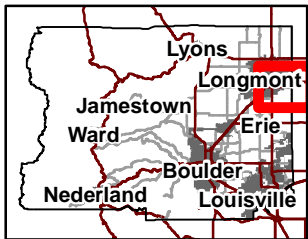
Vicinity

9772 N 119TH ST

-  Subject Parcel
-  Municipalities
- Subdivisions**
-  Subdivisions



Area of Detail Date: 2/26/2024



The user agrees to all Terms of Use set forth by Boulder County. For Terms of Use, please visit: www.bouldercounty.org/mapdisclaimer



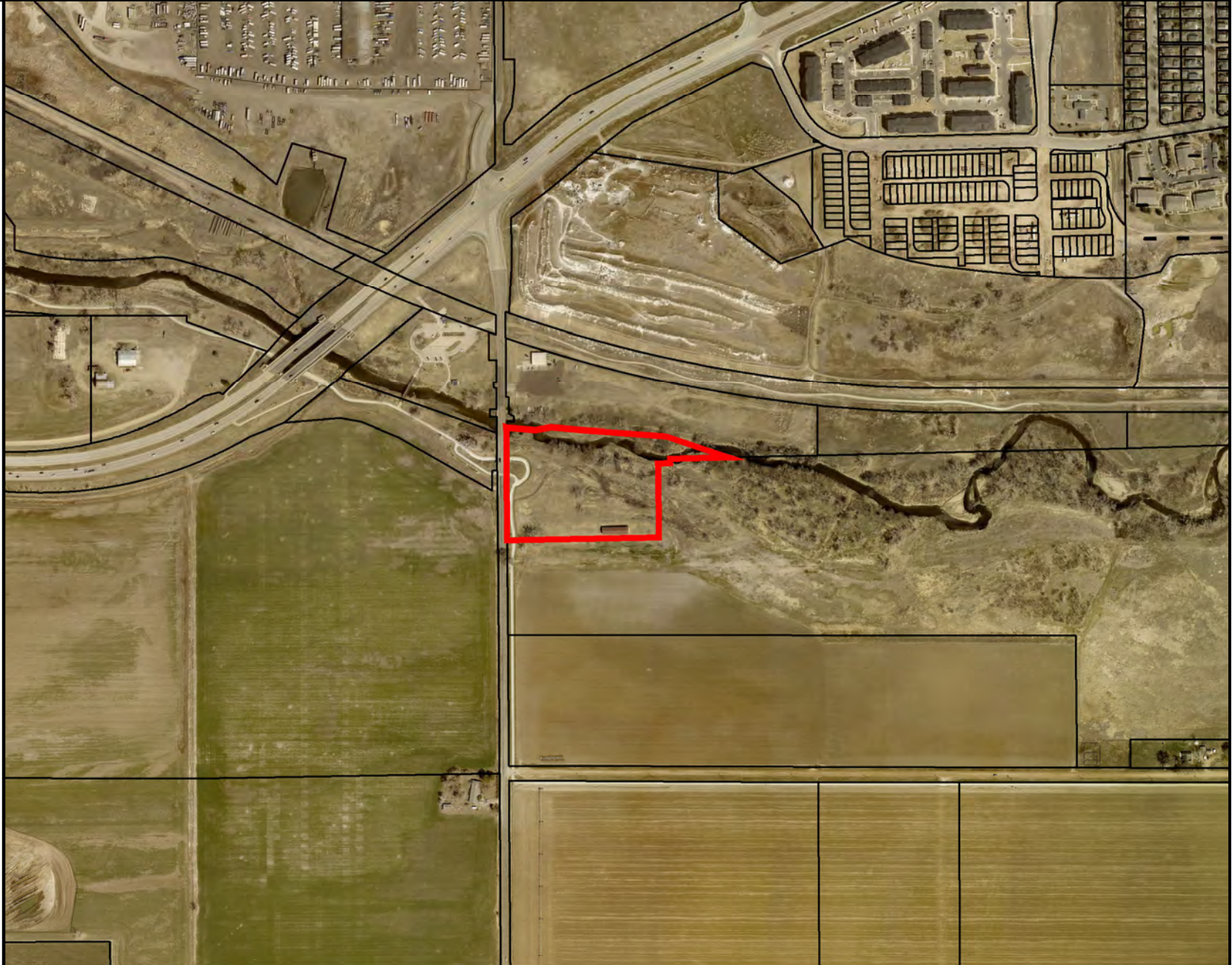
Community Planning & Permitting

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80302 303-441-3930 www.bouldercounty.org

Aerial

9772 N 119TH ST

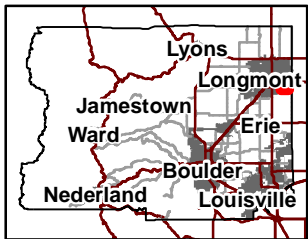
 Subject Parcel



0 0.05 0.1 Miles



Area of Detail Date: 2/26/2024



The user agrees to all Terms of Use set forth by Boulder County. For Terms of Use, please visit: www.bouldercounty.org/mapdisclaimer




Community Planning & Permitting

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80302 303-441-3930 www.bouldercounty.org

Aerial

9772 N 119TH ST

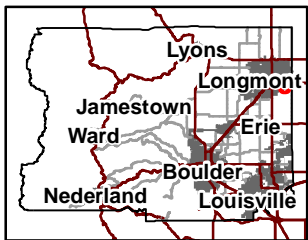
 Subject Parcel



0 0.015 0.03
Miles



Area of Detail Date: 2/26/2024



The user agrees to all Terms of Use set forth by Boulder County. For Terms of Use, please visit: www.bouldercounty.org/mapdisclaimer

BOULDER COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

- OAHP Use Only**
- Determined Eligible 7/16/99 jwc
 - Determined Not Eligible
 - Nominated
 - Listed
 - Need Data
 - Contributing to NR District
 - Not Contributing to NR District

MANAGEMENT DATA FORM

State Site Number: 513L5561	Temporary Site Number: 0051842
-----------------------------	--------------------------------

IDENTIFICATION

Resource Name: Boulder Creek Farms

Address: 9772 North 119th Street
Longmont, CO

Location/Access: This property is located southeast of Longmont on the east side of N. 119th, north of Quicksilver Road. The Saint Vrain River flows eastward to the north of the property.

Project Name: Boulder County Historic Sites Survey

Government Involvement: Local (Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department)

Site Categories: buildings

Located in an Existing National Register District? No
District Name: N/A

Owner(s) Address: Boulder Creek Farms
5653 North 115th Street
Longmont, CO

Boundary Description and Justification:

The property is bounded on the south by a wooden fence, on the west along North 119th Street by a post and wire fence, and open fields to the north and east.

Acreage: 7.21 acre parcel

ATTACHMENTS

HABS/HAER Form: No
 Building/Structure Form(s): Yes
 Sketch Map: Yes
 USGS Map Photocopy: Yes
 Photographs: Yes

LOCATION

County: Boulder

USGS Quad: Longmont, Colorado, 1968, photorevised 1979, 7.5 Minute

Other Maps: N/A

Legal Location: ^{NW} NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 69 West, of the 6th Principal Meridian

UTM References: Zone: 13

A. Easting: 493760 ✓ Northing 4444390 ✓

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

National Register / Local Landmark

		Does not meet any of the below National Register Criteria
N/A	N/A	Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A-G
xx	xx	Criterion A. (Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history)
		Criterion B. (Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past)
		Criterion C. (Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction)
N/A	N/A	Criterion D. (Has yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory)

Level of National Register Significance: Local

Condition: fair

Additional Comments:

N/A

Eligibility Recommendation: eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A; eligible for local landmark designation under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A-(1)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This parcel of land was patented by Rufus Rice on July 8, 1867. Born in 1836 in Auburn, Massachusetts, Rice came west to Boulder County in 1859 where he prospected in the Gold Hill area and worked as a blaster. He enlisted in Company 1, 2nd Colorado Cavalry in 1862 and fought at Pilot Knob and Shiloh, and then served on the Kansas frontier until he was mustered out in 1865. After returning from the army, he extended his land holdings near Longmont and grew hay which he sold to the mining camps. He married Kate Rowe in 1877, and fathered two daughters who eventually inherited this farm. In 1971, granddaughters Ernestine and Catherine Tamage were still living on the southern half of the original homestead that their mother Mamie had inherited from her parents. According to archived Assessor's records, with entries from 1948 and 1951, this parcel now owned by Boulder Creek Farms, was owned by D.W. McCarty and D. Ludlow at that time. In these and in subsequent years, the barracks were likely used to house migrant workers. Later, the property the property was owned by Tanaka Brothers Farms. The house's date of construction is estimated at 1904. The cinder block outbuilding does not appear on the 1951 county inventory, and thus was evidently constructed after that date.

Evaluation

This property is significant for its association with the development of agriculture in eastern Boulder County. It is particularly notable as the site of one of the areas earliest homesteads, dating back to 1867, and for its association with Rufus Rice and his descendants. In more recent times, the property - and particularly the barracks building - is important for its use in housing migrant farm workers. For these reasons, the property should be considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, and for local landmark designation under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A-(1). The cinder block building should be considered non-contributing.

If in an existing National Register District, is the property
Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Is there National Register District Potential? no

Discuss: The property is located in a relatively, rural, isolated location. There are no other nearby related historic buildings.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Threats to Resource: neglect; erosion; vandalism; removal of some buildings may be under consideration

Local Landmark Designation: No

Preservation Easement: No

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

References: Archived Assessor's Records, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Boulder County Ledger 39, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Portrait and Biographical Record, "Rufus Rice," Carnegie Library, Boulder

St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc. *They Came to Stay*. Longmont: Longmont Printing Co. 1971.

Boulder County Assessor Real Estate Appraisal Card--Rural Master Index, 1949. Located at Carnegie Branch for Local History, Boulder Public Library.

Photographs: Roll(s): CM-1 Frames: 1-19

Negatives Filed At: Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

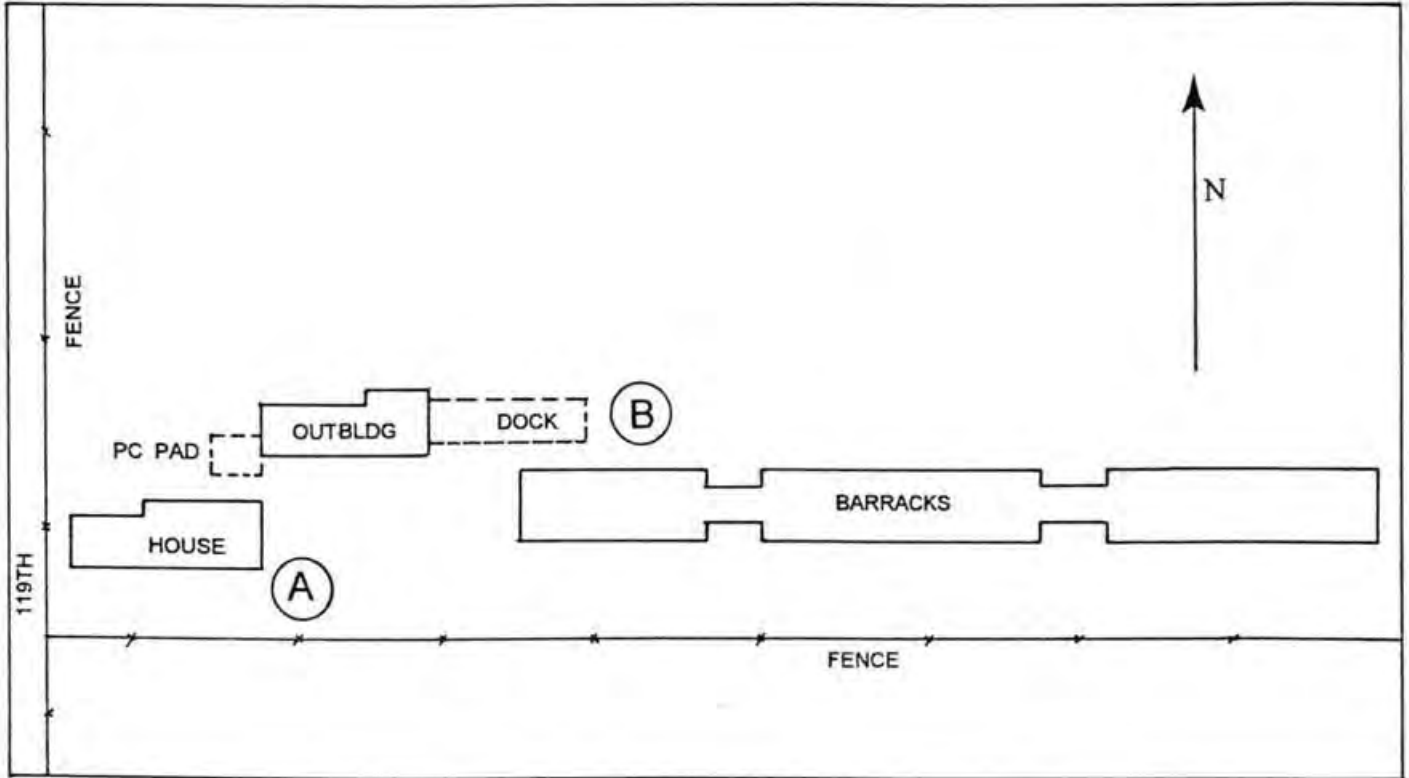
Report Title: Unincorporated Boulder County Historic Sites: Survey Report

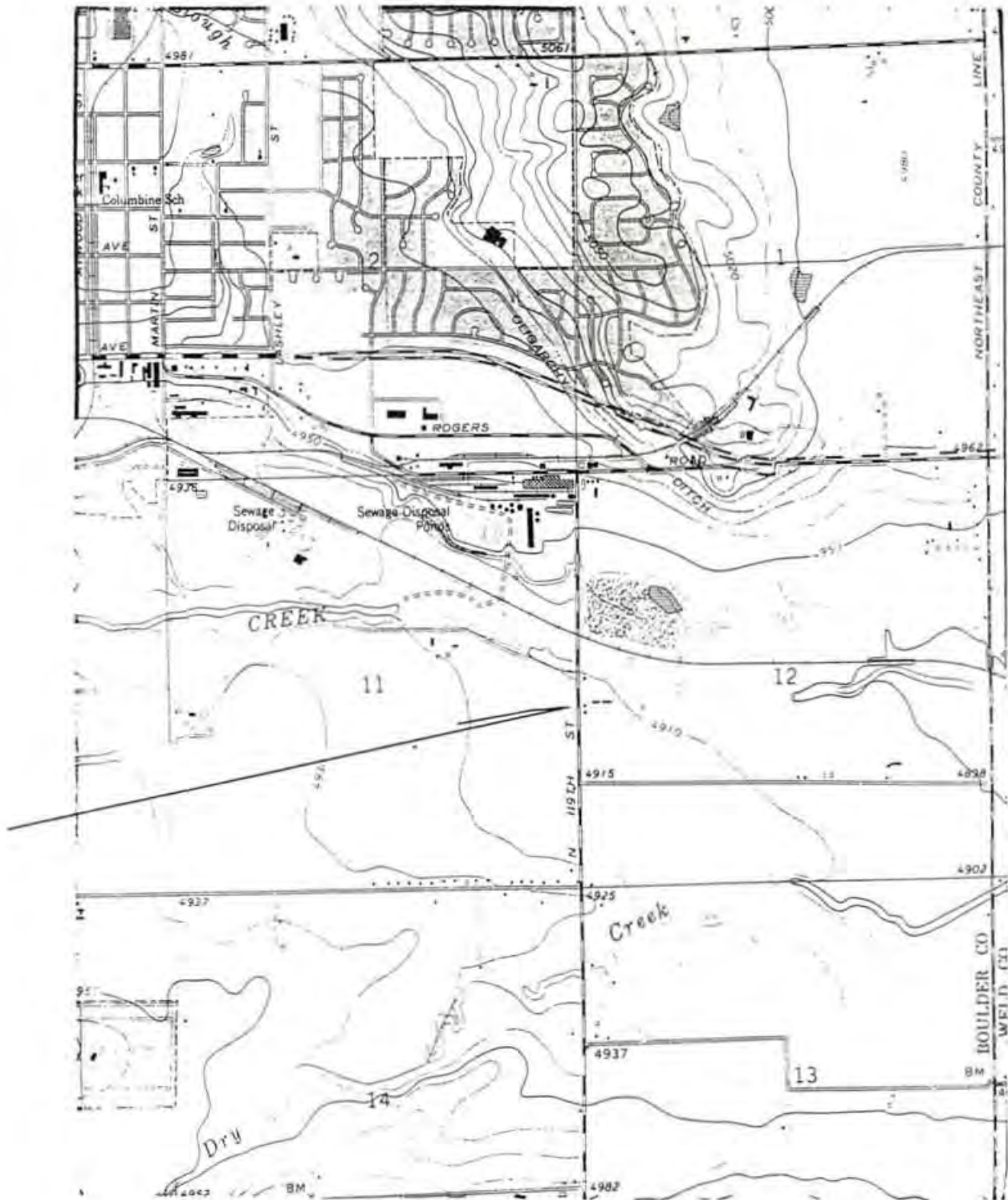
Recorder(s): Carl McWilliams

Date: 3 March 1995

Affiliation: Cultural Resource Historians
1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 493-5270

Tatanka Historical Associates Inc.
P.O. Box 1909
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 490-2110





LOCATION MAP (Copied from , Longmont, Colorado USGS Quadrangle Map)

BOULDER COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL BUILDING STRUCTURE FORM

State Site Number: 5BL5561

Temporary Site Number: 0051842

IDENTIFICATION

Map ID Number/Feature Number of Code: A

Building/Structure Name: House

Complex/Site Name: Boulder Creek Farms at 9772 North 119th Street

Roll: CM-1 Frames: 1-7 Photographer: Carl McWilliams

FUNCTION

Current Use: Vacant / Not in Use

Original Use: residence

Intermediate Use(s): NA

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Architect: N/A

Builder: Rice family

Date of Construction: c1904

Based On: Boulder County Assessor's estimate

Additions/Modifications: Minor: Moderate: xx Major:

Moved? no Date: N/A

Specific References to the Structure/Building

Archived Assessor's Records, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Boulder County Ledger 39, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Portrait and Biographical Record, "Rufus Rice," Carnegie Library, Boulder

St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc. *They Came to Stay*. Longmont: Longmont Printing Co. 1971.

Boulder County Assessor Real Estate Appraisal Card--Rural Master Index, 1949. Located at Carnegie Branch for Local History, Boulder Public Library.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Complex/Structure/Building Type: building

Architectural Style: vernacular

Landscape/Setting: This property is located southeast of Longmont on the east side of N. 119th, north of Quicksilver Road. The Saint Vrain River flows eastward to the north of the property. The property is bounded on the south by a wooden fence, on the west along North 119th Street by a post and wire fence, and open fields to the north and east.

Orientation: vernacular gabled ell

Dimensions: ~70' by ~20'

Stories: one

Plan: ell

Foundation: poured concrete; no basement

Walls: painted white 4" wide horizontal wood siding on wood frame construction; weathered, painted blue 1" by 6" corner posts

Roof: moderately-pitched intersecting gables with weathered wood shingles and exposed rafter ends; shed roof extension over enclosed porch on north elevation

Chimneys: one red brick chimney on the ridge

Windows: primarily double-hung sash with flat arches, blue trim, and plain wood surrounds, in glazing patterns of 1/1, 1/2, 4/4, and 4/1; 4-light fixed-pane or hopper windows on the south elevation

Doors: solid wood slab entry door, with a wood screen door, on the west elevation; single wood-paneled entry door, with plywood covered screen door, on the north elevation

Porches: wood stoop on the north elevation

Interior: not surveyed

Additions: large flat roofed, plywood and vertical wood plank, addition to the east elevation

Associated Buildings, Features or Objects:

barracks building; cinder block outbuilding

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

National Register Eligibility Recommendation

Individually Eligible Not Eligible Need Data
Potential District? no Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Local Landmark Eligibility

Eligible Not Eligible Need Data

Statement of Significance / NRHP Justification

This property is significant for its association with the development of agriculture in eastern Boulder County. It is particularly notable as the site of one of the areas earliest homesteads, dating back to 1867, and for its association with Rufus Rice and his descendants.. In more recent times, the property - and particularly the barracks building - is important for its use in housing migrant farm workers. For these reasons, the property should be considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, and for local landmark designation under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A-(1). The cinder block building should be considered non-contributing.

For historical information, please see the accompanying Management Data form.

If in an existing National Register District, is the property
Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Archeological Potential: Yes No Not Evaluated

Recorder(s): Carl McWilliams

Date: 3 March 1994

Affiliation: Cultural Resource Historians
1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 493-5270

Tatanka Historical Associates Inc.
P.O. Box 1909
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 490-2110

BOULDER COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL BUILDING STRUCTURE FORM

State Site Number: 5BL5561

Temporary Site Number: 0051842

IDENTIFICATION

Map ID Number/Feature Number of Code: B

Building/Structure Name: Barracks Building

Complex/Site Name: Boulder Creek Farms at 9772 North 119th Street

Roll: CM-1 Frames: 15, 16, 18 Photographer: Carl McWilliams

FUNCTION

Current Use: Vacant / Not in Use

Original Use: migrant farm workers' housing

Intermediate Use(s): NA

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Architect: N/A

Builder: unknown

Date of Construction: c1940s

Based On: Boulder County Assessor's estimate

Additions/Modifications: Minor: xx Moderate: Major:

Moved? no Date: N/A

Specific References to the Structure/Building

Archived Assessor's Records, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Boulder County Ledger 39, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Portrait and Biographical Record, "Rufus Rice," Carnegie Library, Boulder

St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc. *They Came to Stay*. Longmont: Longmont Printing Co. 1971.

Boulder County Assessor Real Estate Appraisal Card--Rural Master Index, 1949. Located at Carnegie Branch for Local History, Boulder Public Library.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Complex/Structure/Building Type: building

Architectural Style: vernacular

Landscape/Setting: This property is located southeast of Longmont on the east side of N. 119th, north of Quicksilver Road. The Saint Vrain River flows eastward to the north of the property. The property is bounded on the south by a wooden fence, on the west along North 119th Street by a post and wire fence, and open fields to the north and east.

Orientation: north and south

Dimensions: 333' E-W by 26' N-S

Stories: one

Plan: rectangular

Foundation: poured concrete

Walls: painted white horizontal wood siding on wood frame construction; painted red 1" by 4" corner posts

Roof: moderately-pitched gables with red asphalt shingles and exposed rafter ends

Chimneys: metal roof monitors

Windows: series of double-hung windows are located along the long north and south elevations

Doors: eight wood-paneled entry doors, with wood screen doors, are located along the long north and south elevations

Porches: series of eight small wood porches, with concrete steps, located along the long north elevation

Interior: not surveyed

Additions: none

Associated Buildings, Features or Objects:

house; cinder block outbuilding

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

National Register Eligibility Recommendation

Individually Eligible xx Not Eligible Need Data
Potential District? no Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Local Landmark Eligibility

Eligible xx Not Eligible Need Data

Statement of Significance / NRHP Justification

This property is significant for its association with the development of agriculture in eastern Boulder County. It is particularly notable as the site of one of the areas earliest homesteads, dating back to 1867, and for its association with Rufus Rice and his descendants. In more recent times, the property - and particularly the barracks building - is important for its use in housing migrant farm workers. For these reasons, the property should be considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, and for local landmark designation under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A-(1). The cinder block building should be considered non-contributing.

For historical information, please see the accompanying Management Data form.

If in an existing National Register District, is the property
Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Archeological Potential: Yes No Not Evaluated xx

Recorder(s): Carl McWilliams

Date: 3 March 1994

Affiliation: Cultural Resource Historians
1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 493-5270

Tatanka Historical Associates Inc.
P.O. Box 1909
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 490-2110

Boulder County Historic Sites Survey

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL BUILDING STRUCTURE FORM

State Site Number: 5BL5561

Temporary Site Number: 0051842

IDENTIFICATION

Map ID Number/Feature Number of Code: N/A

Building/Structure Name: Cinder Block Outbuilding

Complex/Site Name: Boulder Creek Farms at 9772 North 119th Street

Roll: CM-1 Frames: 8, 10, 11 Photographer: Carl McWilliams

FUNCTION

Current Use: Vacant / Not in Use

Original Use: agricultural outbuilding

Intermediate Use(s): NA

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Architect: N/A

Builder: unknown

Date of Construction: post 1951

Based On: Boulder County Assessor Real Estate Appraisal Card--Rural Master Index, 1949 and 1951. Located at Carnegie Branch for Local History, Boulder Public Library.

Additions/Modifications: Minor: xx Moderate: Major:

Moved? no Date: N/A

Specific References to the Structure/Building

Archived Assessor's Records, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Boulder County Ledger 39, Carnegie Library, Boulder

Portrait and Biographical Record, "Rufus Rice," Carnegie Library, Boulder

St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc. *They Came to Stay*. Longmont: Longmont Printing Co. 1971.

Boulder County Assessor Real Estate Appraisal Card--Rural Master Index, 1949. Located at Carnegie Branch for Local History, Boulder Public Library.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Complex/Structure/Building Type: building

Architectural Style: vernacular

Landscape/Setting: This property is located southeast of Longmont on the east side of N. 119th, north of Quicksilver Road. The Saint Vrain River flows eastward to the north of the property. The property is bounded on the south by a wooden fence, on the west along North 119th Street by a post and wire fence, and open fields to the north and east.

Orientation: south

Dimensions: 35' N-S by 60' E-W

Stories: one

Plan: rectangular

Foundation: cinder block

Walls: cinder block

Roof: shed, with gravel-tar composition roofing

Chimneys: none

Windows: small square 2-light windows

Doors: single wood slab entry door on the west elevation; large horizontal sliding wood entry door on the south elevation

Porches: concrete pad from removed building to west; concrete ramp/dock on east elevation

Interior: not surveyed

Additions: none

Associated Buildings, Features or Objects:

house, barracks building

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

National Register Eligibility Recommendation

Individually Eligible Not Eligible xx Need Data
Potential District? no Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Local Landmark Eligibility

Eligible Not Eligible xx Need Data

Statement of Significance / NRHP Justification

This property is significant for its association with the development of agriculture in eastern Boulder County. It is particularly notable as the site of one of the areas earliest homesteads, dating back to 1867, and for its association with Rufus Rice and his descendants. In more recent times, the property - and particularly the barracks building - is important for its use in housing migrant farm workers. For these reasons, the property should be considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, and for local landmark designation under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A-(1). The cinder block building should be considered non-contributing.

For historical information, please see the accompanying Management Data form.

If in an existing National Register District, is the property
Contributing N/A Non-Contributing N/A

Archeological Potential: Yes No Not Evaluated xx

Recorder(s): Carl McWilliams

Date: 3 March 1994

Affiliation: Cultural Resource Historians
1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 493-5270

Tatanka Historical Associates Inc.
P.O. Box 1909
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 490-2110



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to NE

Roll CM-1

Frame 4



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department
2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to East

Roll CM-1

Frame 3



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department
2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SE

Roll CM-1

Frame 1



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to East

Roll CM-1

Frame 2



58L1922

Outbuilding (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to NE

Roll CM-1

Frame 8



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to South

Roll CM-1

Frame 7



5BL1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to NW

Roll CM-1

Frame 5



58L1922

House (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department
2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SW

Roll CM-1

Frame 6



5BL1922

Outbuilding (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to South

Roll CM-1

Frame 11



58L1922

Outbuilding (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical

Associates Inc.

View to SW

Roll CM-1

Frame 10



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical

Associates Inc.

View to SW

Roll CM-1

Frame 14



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SE

Roll CM-1

Frame 12



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to East

Roll CM-1

Frame 17



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical

Associates Inc.

View to North

Roll CM-1

Frame 18



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department
2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SE

Roll CM-1

Frame 15



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department
2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SE

Roll CM-1

Frame 16



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical

Associates Inc.

View to NW

Roll CM-1

Frame 19



5BL1922

Barracks (Boulder Creek Farms)

9772 North 119th Street

3 March 1994

Negative located at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department

2045 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80306

Photographed by Cultural Resource Historians / Tatanka Historical
Associates Inc.

View to SW

Roll CM-1

Frame 22

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
Cultural Resource Re-evaluation Form
(page 1 of 2)

OAHPI405
Rev. 9/98

1. Resource Number: 5BL.5561 2. Temp. Resource Number: _____

3. Attachments
(check as many as apply)
- Photographs
 - Site sketch map
 - U.S.G.S. map photocopy
 - Other _____
 - Other _____

4. Official determination
(OAHPI 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: Boulder Creek Farms

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 _____

7. Previous Recordings: Originally recorded by Carl McWilliams, 3 March 1994

8. Changes or Additions to Previous Descriptions: The house, outbuilding and two of the barracks were demolished by June 2003 by the previous owner. The eastern most barracks is the only remaining building on the site.

Resource Number: 5BL 5561

Temporary Resource Number: _____

Cultural Resource Reevaluation Form

(page 2 of 2)

9. Changes in Condition: The house, outbuilding and two of the barracks were demolished.

10. Changes to Location or Size Information: None

11. Changes in Ownership: Boulder County is the current owner.

12. Other Changes, Additions, or Observations: Located along the future St. Vrain trail, the remaining building will be interpreted with the use of an exterior sign explaining the buildings role in Boulder County's agricultural heritage.

13. National Register Eligibility Assessment:

Eligible Not eligible Need data

Explain: _____

14. Management Recommendations: _____

15. Photograph Types and Numbers: On file at Boulder County Parks & Open Space Department

16. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location: _____

17. Report Title: n/a

18. Recorder(s): Carol Beam 19. Date(s): February 21, 2005

20. Recorder Affiliation: Boulder County Parks & Open Space

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes for
Thursday, April 7, 1994
7:00 p.m.

On Thursday, April 7, 1994, the Historic Preservation Advisory Board held a meeting convening at 7:02 p.m. and adjourning at 9:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Karl Anuta, Karen Burns, David Morgan, Glenn Sherwood and Harold Steele

NOT

PRESENT: Jeanne Fetterman and Thomas Hendricks

STAFF: Camilla Laughlin, Rich Koopmann and Martha Perez

OTHERS

PRESENT: A few interested citizens (2-4)

...

3. Building Permit Review for Structures 50 years of age and older

- a. Irwin, BP-94-326, 339, 340, and 341: Demolition of Structures at 9772 119th Street, Longmont

CAMILLA LAUGHLIN: These structures were previously reviewed by HPAB as part of a subdivision exemption application. Since then Mr. Irwin has withdrawn this particular property from that application, and it is now being reviewed as a demolition permit. At the February hearing HPAB requested that the historic sites survey consultants examine the property to find out more about its history. The consultants determined that the site in question did not meet any criteria for either local, state, or national landmarking. I included in your packet a copy of the letter which they sent to us that detailed the results of their research. (slide show)

KARL ANUTA: Do we know where the barracks came from?

CAMILLA: We haven't been able to gain any knowledge about that.

DAVID MORGAN: Were they used as migrant housing in this location?

CAMILLA: Yes. I would also like to clarify that our current zoning would not allow this to occur.

KARL: I wish we knew more about the barracks because I would wager that they are some of the last World War II barracks that are left in Boulder County.

DAVID: I think those barracks are significant to the history of this County. I also

think that they are significant to the agricultural, and to ethnic history of this County. However, I am not going to say that they should be preserved in place because I cannot justify it, but if our job is to say that they are significant structures, I believe that these barracks are. So in my opinion, I feel that the barracks are historically significant to Boulder County.

PHIL IRWIN, owner of the property at 9772 119th Street, Longmont: My concern with these structures is that the migrant workers are coming in soon, and I am worried about the liability of these structures. I do have a farmer in Fort Collins who is interested in moving them up to his property. However, my game plan is that I need to get them off this site because I have no use for them, and can't utilize them in any way without them costing a whole lot of money.

DAVID: What would be the hang-ups in having the farmer from Fort Collins in coming in and moving them?

MR. IRWIN: The only hang-up that I see is whether he wants to go through the expense, and the transportation cost.

DAVID: These barracks appear to be very structurally sound to me.

MR. IRWIN: From others that we have seen these are in good shape as far as structural.

KARL: I would like to see them saved, and share David's concern because these are structures like service stations or old silos which have been discarded as something that people aren't really concerned about anymore. However, I do think that they are worthy of some preservation. I am not willing to preserve it at the cost of the development of the site, but while it may be historically significant I don't think it is that worthy of preservation unless we have some more information. Therefore, I am willing to recommend that although we find them to be historically significant that the building permit be granted.

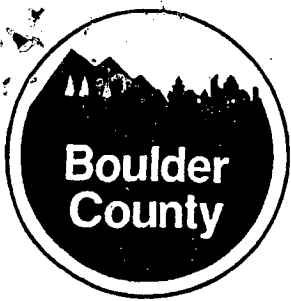
HAROLD STEELE: Do you know how many of the buildings the farmer up in Fort Collins would be willing to take?

MR. IRWIN: He would take all three barracks.

MOTION: HAROLD STEELE MADE A MOTION THAT THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD FINDS THAT THERE IS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE STRUCTURES BUT RECOMMENDED THAT THE BUILDING (DEMOLITION) PERMIT BE GRANTED.

SECOND: DAVID MORGAN.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS.



Land Use Department

Courthouse Annex

2045 13th Street • 13th & Spruce Streets • Boulder, Colorado 80302 • (303) 441-3930

MEMO

To: HPAB

FROM: Denise Grimm

DATE: 1/2/03

RE: BP-02-2046 Golden Farm demolitions of several structures.

approx. 9752 N. 119th (aka 9772 and 9797 N. 119th) (one house on the west side of 119th and one on the east and migrant workers housing)

*landmark
best seg
11*

*120 day stay
other 3 holdy not prop*

*Buckley airfield
barracks*

*BKKLEY OPENED IN
APRIL 1942 AS AN
AUXILIARY AIRFIELD
FOR LOWRY*

Attached are documents related to BP-02-2046 for demolition of two houses and migrant workers quarters just south of Longmont.

Your role now is to review the information and determine if the structures would qualify for landmarking and if the proposed demolitions would have an adverse impact.

If you determine that the proposed action will have an adverse impact on the historic significance, the issuance of the permit may be stayed for up to 120 days. The 120 day time period during which the permit is stayed shall be used to consider alternatives. If, at the conclusion of the stay, an alternative to the proposed detrimental action has not been implemented, the permit proceeds in the building review process.

The structures on the east side of 119th have been vacant for many years and have been subject to considerable vandalism. The house on the west side has been lived in recently.

Survey information is attached for the structures on the east side of 119th. There is no survey for the west side house. I have visited the property, but did not have a camera with me. I'll get photos before the meeting.

Staff recommends that HPAB find the migrant workers quarters to be significant and their demolition to be detrimental to the eligible structures and that a hold time be considered. Staff recommends that HPAB find the house on the east side of 119th to be significant, however, because of the poor condition and proximity to the road it is extremely unlikely anyone would ever invest in the upkeep of this house and therefore no hold is recommended for this permit. Staff recommends that HPAB find the house on the west side to not be significant due to previous alterations.

May 15, 2003

Mel Stonebraker
Boulder County Parks and Open Space
2045 13th Street
Boulder, Colo. 80302

- RE: 1. Migrant Worker Quarters on Golden Farm
9700 block N. 119th St. Longmont, Colorado
2. HPAB Docket BP-02-2046 – January, 2003 meeting
3. HPAB May, 1, 2003 site visit

Dear Mel:

At the May 1, 2003 HPAB site visit to the above listed property you granted me a two week stay. To attempt to find some person/group/action regarding the migrant housing quarters from demolition. That stay expires May 15, 2003 @ 6 PM.

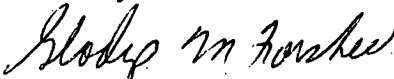
I have met the challenge by finding support for preservation. My response to that stay is attached in the form of a proposal to Boulder County Commissioners and attachments.

My request to you now, is to do a photography documentation of the quarters/site. As well as, when the property is purchased by Boulder County, to allow HPAB to put a stay on the property to allow time to bring preservation to fruition. PLEASE allow time for a meeting with the groups/individuals/others to attempt to plan the preservation.

If you care to discuss any or the contents of this letter/attachments please feel free to contact me (303-494-7986) or come to our HPAB June meeting. A few more days will not hurt in preserving history.

Thank you for your time. We MUST protect our heritage!

Sincerely,



Gladys M Forshee
404 So. 3rd Ave.
Superior, Colorado 80027

]May 15, 2003

Boulder County Commissioners
Boulder County Courthouse
Boulder, Colorado 80302

RE: Migrant Housing Quarters on Golden Farm
9700 block N. 119th S. Longmont, Colo.

HPAB Docket BP-02-2046 from January 2, 2003 meeting

Gentlemen:

It is with GREAT recognition that Boulder County has preserved numerous historical holdings. Once again YOUR help is urgently needed to preserve our history.

The above mentioned property came before HPAB January, 2003 meeting regarding land marking/demolition. Our Board put a 120 day stay on the property, to attempt to find someone to preserve the property. I contacted various individuals regarding the situation. Land Use then told me not to worry – the situation seemed to be ok as it was.

For our May HPAB meeting we were called to do a site visit to the property. Our 120 day stay had expired but we were asked for our input. I managed to get a two week stay that expires May 15th @ 6PM. I have contacted numerous individuals and small groups. Some expressed interest in seeing my proposal as a cultural/community center pursued. They are not able to do this task in large financial stages or immediately before the May 15th deadline.

It is of concern to various individuals in historic volunteer groups that there seems to be an attitude of some Boulder County personnel that all Boulder County Open Space needs to be barren and not save our heritage thru building preservation. Boulder County will be purchasing this property very soon as Open Space.

As a resident of Town of Superior and at-large member of HPAB, I'm asking that you create a Hispanic Cultural Center with community meeting space. You have created an Agricultural Heritage Center. The migrant workers were a large important part of our heritage in Boulder County. Please see information attached from HPAB document material.

There is little documentation or preservation regarding the Hispanic/Latino community. El Comite, in Longmont has published an excellent Hispanic history – "We, Too, Have Come To Stay".

Continued on page 2

Page 2

St. Vrain Historic Society has been most kind to state their position in an attached letter regarding the site.

Historic Boulder graciously included discussion of the site at their May 12th Board meeting.

Latino Task Force in Longmont is just getting organized – they too know of the site.

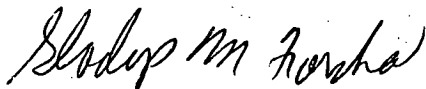
Sister Rosa of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Longmont agrees that the site would be a nice community meeting place.

As you can see several impressive groups/individuals are interested.

PLEASE help the historical community of Boulder County preserve the site/migrant workers quarters.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Gladys M. Forshee
404 So. 3rd Ave.
Superior, Colo. 80027
303-494-7986

The St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 705

Longmont, Colorado 80502-0705

Phone: (303) 776-1870 Fax: (303) 776-5778

Email: svhsstaff@stvrainhistoricalsociety.org

May 14, 2003

Mr. Ron Stewart
Boulder County Commissioner
P.O. Box 471
Boulder, Colorado 80306

Dear Ron:

The St. Vrain Historical Society is well aware of - and very much appreciates - the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department's efforts to preserve so many structures and sites that bear witness to the great variety of contributions to our county's history. The efforts of the County have preserved and made accessible to the public a number of sites which help our current citizens understand and appreciate the diverse factors, forces, and populations that built the communities in this county.

We are particularly concerned about the imminent threat to the migrant housing barracks on Colorado Road 119 on land which will soon belong to Boulder County. We understand that these structures are slated for demolition. We hope that the County will postpone any action to demolish them until it has investigated all options for their preservation. There is very little preserved, or possible to preserve, to document the contribution of Hispanic migrant workers and the pivotal role they played in the economic development of Longmont and many other front-range communities. The preservation of the migrant barracks, together with letters, oral histories and other sources could tell a powerful story of an important part of our community's history.

We urge you to explore all the options for saving these buildings. This could include anything from preserving all of them for adaptive reuse as a museum to preserving one or two as examples of period migrant housing. In any case, the migrant housing barracks should be carefully photographically documented for the information they can provide to future generations.

Because of existing preservation commitments, The St. Vrain Historical Society, Inc. is not able to assume responsibility for another preservation project. We do, however, urge the County to assess carefully the value of a significant part of our heritage which falls in their domain.

Very truly yours,

Dale S. Bernard

Dale S. Bernard
Executive Director

*by MKL in her
absence*

CC: Boulder County Commissioners
Rich Koopman, Boulder County Parks and Open Space
Gladys Forshee, Boulder County Historic Preservation Advisory Board
Mel Stonebraker

Cultural Resource Re-Visitation Form

A Re-Visitation Form can only be used when a Management Data Form and component forms have been previously filed with the land managing agency and/or the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and no substantive changes to the character of the site are required as a result of the current re-visitiation. Please use the Management Data Form and supporting forms (archaeological component, linear, vandalism, etc.) when changes are required to:

- Site type
- Linear resources
- Additional artifact assemblages and/or features
- Boundary size
- Vandalism
- NRHP recommendations

4. Official Determination (OAHP use only)

- Determined Eligible NR/SR
- Determined Not Eligible NR/SR
- Nominated
- Need Data NR/SR
- Contributing to NR Dist./SR Dist
- Not Contributing to NR Dist/SR Dist
- Supports overall linear eligibility NR/SR
- Does not supports overall linear eligibility NR/SR

1. Resource Number: 5BL5561

2. Temporary Resource Number: 6087-5BL5561

3. Resource Name: Boulder Creek Farms

4. Project Name/Number: Saint Vrain Restoration Project (Project 6087)

5. Government involvement: Local State Federal
Agency: FEMA

6. Site Categories: (Check as many as apply)

Prehistoric: Archaeological site Paleontological site

In existing National Register District? Yes No Name:

Local Landmark? Yes No Name:

Historic: Archaeological site Building(s) Structure(s) Object(s)

In existing National Register District? Yes No Name:

Local Landmark? Yes No Name:

7. Owner(s) Name and Address: Boulder County
PO Box 471
Boulder, CO 80302

8. Was the site relocated? Yes No If no, why? (100% collected in previous recordings, ground disturbance, etc.)

9. Previous recordings:

The site recorded by Tatanka Research Inc. and Cultural Resource Historians in 1995 and then again in 2005 by Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.

10. Most recent National Register Eligibility Assessment: Eligible Not Eligible Need Data

Explain: Although the site was previously eligible in 1995 and 1999, the site was most recently recommended not eligible.

11. Listed on Register: National State None

Date Listed:

12. Condition (describe): During ERO's visitation, the barracks (F1) were found to be in good condition with no visible alterations.

13. Threats to Resource: Water Erosion Wind Erosion Grazing Neglect Vandalism
 Recreation Construction Other (specify):

14. Existing Protection: None Marked Fenced Patrolled Access controlled

Other (specify):

Comments:

Cultural Resource Re-Visitation Form

Resource Number: 5BL5561

Temporary Resource Number: 6087-5BL5561

15. Recorder's Management Recommendation: No further work

The Golden Farms (5BL5BL5561) was determined officially eligible in 1999; the property was eligible under Criterion A for its association with the early settlement of Longmont. However, because of ongoing demolition to the site the property was determined field not eligible for listing on the NRHP in 2003. Based on this survey, there is no change to the 2003 eligibility recommendation because most of the structures associated with the period of early agriculture (Criterion A) or with the original homestead owner (Criterion B) are no longer extant, and therefore the site no longer maintains enough aspects of physical integrity to convey its significance. The remaining portion of the barracks is not distinctive in type, period, or method of construction and is not sufficient to convey the site's historical significance. Further investigation into the area is not likely to yield significant information about the history of the area under Criterion D.

16. Known Collections, Reports, or Interviews:

Beam, Carol

2005 5BL5561 Cultural Resource Survey Forms. On file, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver.

Keeley, Gail

1999 Boulder County Digital Image Library: User's Guide, July 1997 (CLG Grant 08-69-11103.15). Prepared by Hermesen Consultants for the Colorado Department of Transportation.

McWilliams, Carl

1994 5BL5561 Cultural Resource Survey Forms. On file, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver.

1995 5BL5561 Cultural Resource Survey Forms. On file, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver

2003 Historic Resources Survey Report: Ken Pratt Boulevard Extension Longmont, Colorado. Prepared by Cultural Resource Historians for Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.

17. Site Description/Update:

Tatanka Research Inc. completed the original documentation for Boulder Creek Farms in 1995 (McWilliams 1995) and Cultural Resource Historians visited the property in 2003 (McWilliams 2003). In 1995 Tatanka Research Inc. historians inventoried a house, outbuilding, and a set of barracks (McWilliams 1995), and in 2003 only one set of barracks remained extant of the property (McWilliams 2003). During ERO's visitation, the barracks (F1) were found to be in good condition with no visible alterations. Rufus Rich patented the property and surrounding section in 1867; however, it was not until 1904 that later land owners constructed the house and began to develop the property to residential uses. During the late 1940s and 1950s, the barracks on the property were used to house migrant farm workers (McWilliams 1995).

18. Photograph Numbers: D3.P1020299

Digital files at: ERO Resources Corporation

19. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location:

ERO Resources Corp

20. Report Title: Cultural Resource Survey City of Longmont Resilient St. Vrain Project Boulder and Weld Counties, Colorado

21. Recorder(s): A. Sanocki

Date: 10/28/2015

22. Recorder Affiliation: ERO Resources Corporation - Denver/Durango

Phone Number/Email: 303.830.1188 / 970.422.2136

Note: Please attach a sketch map, a photocopy of the USGS quad map indicating resource location, and photographs.

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

Document Path: C:\Users\lcrosser\Desktop\6087 Saint Vrain Restoration\Longmont\Maps\Cultural\Site Maps\6087 - 5BL5561.mxd

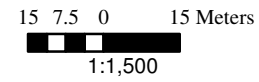


City of Longmont Resilient St. Vrain Project
 Middle Reach, Boulder County, Colorado



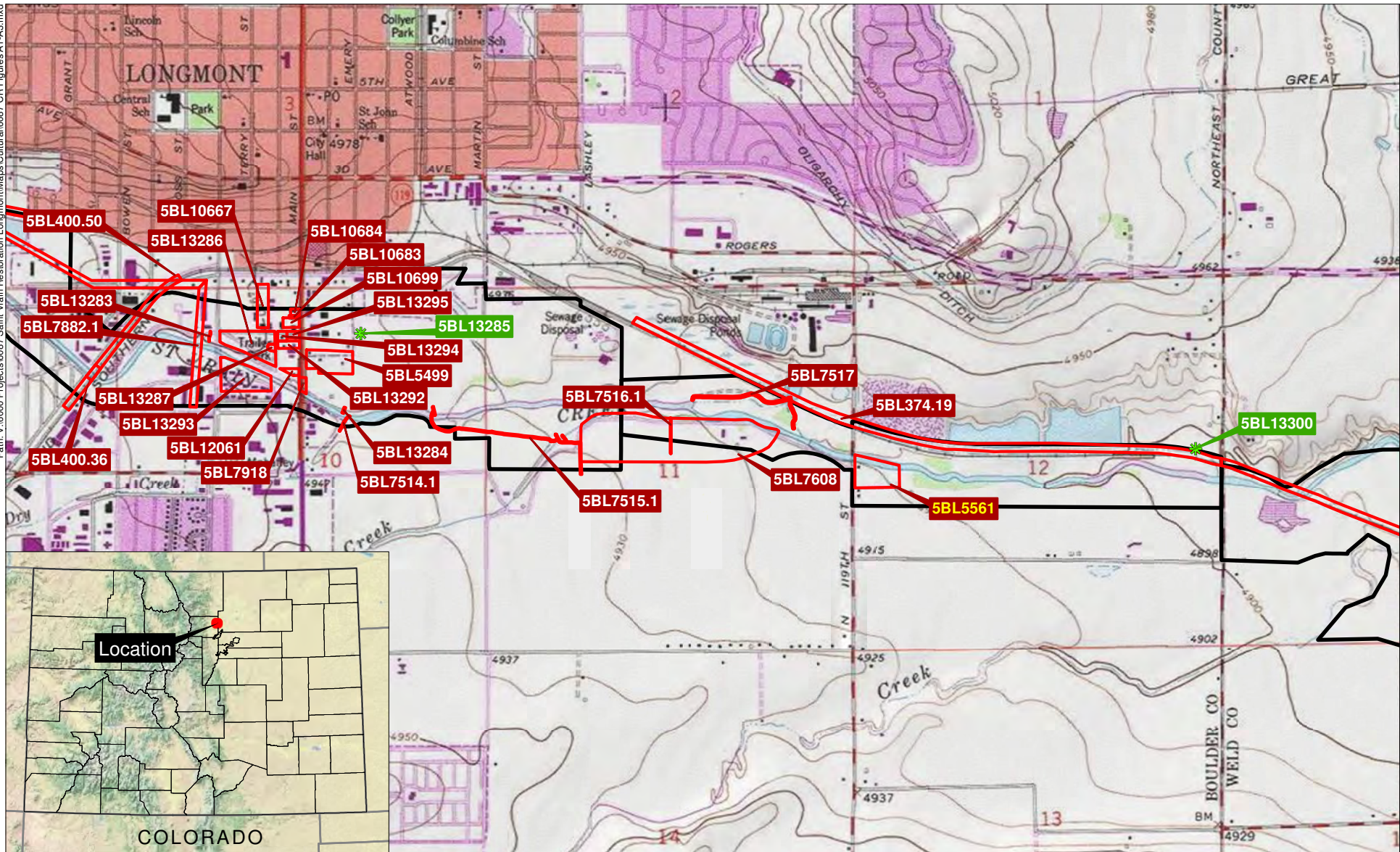
5BL5561

- Feature
- Nearby Resources
- Site Boundary
- Project Boundary






Prepared for: CH2M Hill,
 and the City of Longmont
 File: 6087 - 5BL5561 (IC)
 November 10, 2015





St. Vrain Restoration Project

Sections 7-9, 17, and 18, T2N, R68W; Sections 3-6 and 9-12, T2N, R69W; 6th PM
USGS Hygiene and Longmont, CO Quadrangles (1:24,000, 1978)
Boulder and Weld Counties, Colorado

-  Isolated Find
-  Cultural Site
-  Area of Potential Effect

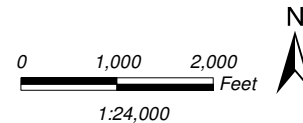


Figure A2 Project Location

Prepared for: CH2mHill
File: 6087 CR Figures A1-A3.mxd (GS)
November 17, 2015





**5BL5561 – Site overview, view to the northeast.
Photo Number: D3.0298 Date: 10.28.15**



**5BL5561 – Site overview, view to the west.
Photo Number: D3.0299 Date: 10.28.15**



**5BL5561 – Feature 1, bunkhouse, east and north elevations, view to the southwest.
Photo Number: D3.0293 Date: 10.28.15**



**5BL5561 – Feature 1, bunkhouse, west and south elevations, view to the northeast.
Photo Number: D3.0295 Date: 10.28.15**

Times Call November 12, 2016 article

The end of Boulder County's Tanaka Farms

A blizzard swirled into Longmont as Dick Tanaka's then high school-age daughter knocked on doors, and she figured bad weather motivated her boss to pick her up and take her home.

Debbie (Tanaka) Williams had been canvassing neighborhoods for a Colorado nonprofit foundation against big banks and other powerful special interest groups.

"But my boss told me it was something else, something serious, and when I got home it was surreal," she said.

That afternoon in 1989, Boulder Creek Farms foreclosed on the \$3 million mortgage Tanaka Farms held on 1,000 acres five miles south of Longmont and forced the family to file Chapter 11 bankruptcy and liquidate assets, according to Times-Call reports.

Frank Tanaka started farming in Colorado after he immigrated from Japan in 1907. After his death in 1953, four of his sons — Dick, Rocky, Sam and Bobby Tanaka — built it into an empire that once ranked as one of the nation's largest family-owned vegetable farms with 5,000-plus acres, divided roughly between family-owned and leased land in Boulder and Weld counties.

Then the empire fell.

Debbie (Tanaka) Williams, now 43, said that after the auction she and her family of four crowded into an aunt's two-bedroom Longmont apartment. But by 1992, her dad got back to farming — the only thing he said he knew how to do, she explained.

Dick Tanaka repaired old, broken-down equipment, borrowed money from friends, and secured a small bank loan before moving them out of his sister's apartment to an apartment on Longs Peak Avenue in Longmont. He farmed a small plot near the southwest corner of East County Line Road and Colo. 119 then, and his produce sold well. By 1995, he successfully bid on leasing the family's current Boulder County Open Space farm with some Erie acreage that closed Oct. 31 after its final season.

On Nov. 19, the Tanakas again will sell everything.

A vast collection of tractors, wagons, forklifts, skid-steer loaders, cultivators, trucks and more now line fields recently harvested of pumpkins and long leased from

Boulder County at the southeast corner of U.S. Hwy. 287 and Colo. Hwy. 52 near Longmont.

Other items — platform scales, a chili roaster, onion sorter, air compressor, drill press, etc. — will go on the block, too.

Dick Tanaka got back into farming at that intersection in the mid-1990s until his death on June 27 at 83 of a stroke complicated by pneumonia.

Until 2015, the family operated a market in Longmont on the east side of South Main Street near Quail Road, before moving it to a shed near their residence at 10760 Mineral Road for the final harvest. They sold the usual summer vegetables along with 10 varieties of chili peppers, six varieties of squash, five varieties of pumpkins, three varieties of cabbage, American and Japanese eggplant, artichokes, beets and more.

“This was our livelihood. Dick worked so hard with all of this equipment to get crops out of the field. Watching it go at the auction will be like losing him again,” his widow, Charlotte (Konishi) Tanaka, 76, said.

Yet, the auction invites a curtain call to honor Dick Tanaka, a farmer inducted in 2013 to the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame, a farmer who kept an eye on the sun rising all his life.

A hardscrabble startup

The first page of his story as the son of Japanese immigrants opens with his birth on Dec. 28, 1932, at the Denver Union Stockyards — the place noted on his birth certificate. Tragedy struck two years later when his mother died after delivering her ninth baby — a loss that eventually forced his father to farm out all of the children to Japanese friends and family.

Poverty dogged them, Debbie (Tanaka) Williams said.

She remembers her dad holding a .22-caliber long rifle they found in storage and telling her how he needed to shoot squirrels when he was just 8 years old to help feed all of his brothers and sisters. They also often ate soup made from the butcher’s pig tail scraps and crackers with jam to survive.

“That explains why he even years later refused to eat jam. It just reminded him of those hard days,” she said.

To make matters worse, as a toddler Dick Tanaka stuck his tongue in a pan of tofu that his mother had set out to steep in lye. Though she quickly put his whole head in

a bucket of water, the lye burned off part of his tongue and caused him to grapple with a lifelong speech impediment, Charlotte Tanaka said.

“He had a lisp. And he couldn’t pronounce ‘l’ or ‘r,’ which is why he could never pronounce my name,” she said. “So, he called me ‘Mom,’ and I’m not sure what he called me before Debbie was born. Maybe he didn’t call me by name then.”

Charlotte Tanaka played “A Boy Named Sue” by Johnny Cash at her husband’s funeral because he related so much to that song — understood the hurtfulness of being teased for being different.

“He was a soft-hearted man, a man very sensitive to the underdog all his life for that reason,” she said.

Bright spots in Dick Tanaka’s youth included loving sports and every year playing three of them on teams for Erie, where he grew up in a small, two-bedroom home until his dad split up their farm family.

He graduated in 1952 from Erie High School — then a one room school that included the lower grades at the southwest corner of Lookout Road and North 115th Street. Shortly thereafter, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served from 1954 to 1956 after completing basic training at Fort Ord in California. He shipped out to serve in Germany and France.

After that, the land called to the young man, and he put down roots to farm it in the Longmont area for the rest of his life.

Dick Tanaka’s niece, Jere Fukai, of Arvada, acknowledged the hardships that marked so much of his early life.

“But he endured those things with dignity,” she insisted. “He never complained or blamed anyone. And the whole family moved through life that way. They didn’t dwell on what they couldn’t change. Instead, they had faith in putting one foot in front of the other, in working hard, and earning things back.”

Legacy with fellow farmers

Over many years in the farming business, Dick Tanaka’s reputation spread to other farmers and wannabe farmers, Wyatt Barnes, owner of Red Wagon Organic Farm in Longmont, said.

“His fields were amazing. They were perfect. Straight lines. No weeds,” he explained. “... Toward the end of his life, it was a little hard to talk with Dick on the phone. But one day I just brought my employees who wanted to get into farming over to meet

him. I was a little worried about what he would do when we dropped in. But his face lit up. He was pretty happy to talk with them, pretty happy that people still wanted to learn more about farming and happy to share his trade secrets.”

Another Longmont farmer, Dave Asbury of Full Circle Farm and Rocky Mountain Pumpkin Patch, was in his 20s loading trucks with wholesale vegetables when he met Dick Tanaka.

Asbury called him “a prince of a man” for his kindness, generosity and helpfulness.

“He was so poor as a child, and everyone knew it. Only had one pair of shoes, and yet he was like no one you would meet again in this lifetime,” Asbury, 57, said, pausing to collect himself several times. “He was just that person, someone as close to Buddha as you could be. ... And when I met him, it was the height of the season, when he had everything coming in, and I was just amazed at the bounty and beauty of his place.”

Juan Salomon, 61, also of Longmont, in 1978 started working as one of three supervisors over 120 men at Tanaka Farms during its heyday. Then, 15 forklifts scurried around moving pallets between warehouses and semi-truck trailers lined up around the clock to haul freshly picked vegetables across the country, Salomon said in Spanish as his wife, Margarita Salomon, 57, translated.

Even toward the end of each harvest, crews kept busy loading 22 pallets of onions daily. One pallet held 25 50-pound burlap sacks, Juan Salomon said.

“Dick sensed the soil. He loved the fields, and that love for the earth is what made it productive,” he continued. “He farmed by instinct, just knew the dates and the times to plant and pick without keeping notes.”

The two men communicated for 16 years at work — both before and after the bankruptcy — through broken English and Spanish, body language, and time-tested trust.

Juan Salomon believes their trust grew like the crops because of how Dick treated him and fellow employees.

“He told us to be ready to go out into the fields at midnight if need be due to frost to cover the onions. But he wouldn’t just stand by when that happened. He would work along with the men at the same pace,” he said. “And Dick took care of us with housing, cars, loans, meat and more.”

Now, Juan Salomon works as a warehouse overseer for a vegetable wholesaler in Aurora, Margarita Salomon said.

“But my husband had a good friendship with Dick, and he felt free and secure in that role because of the trust they had in each other,” she said. “Now, he feels more like a bird in a cage. ... My husband has teary eyes talking about Dick.”

The farmer behind the farm

The emotional connection so many of Dick Tanaka’s employees, proteges, friends and family members feel toward him might be surprising given the usual Japanese-American reserve, Charlotte Tanaka, who grew up on a dairy farm in Platteville, said.

“In our generation, and in past generations, emotions didn’t come into the picture for the Japanese. I was taught not to cry or hug or kiss. Generally, we were very reserved — never even held hands in public,” she said. “But Dick was not like that.”

Their older sisters set them up, and they watched the Clint Eastwood western, “Paint Your Wagon,” at a Denver drive-in movie theater on their first date.

Three months later, on their Jan. 11, 1970, wedding day, she and 200 guests waited 20 minutes for both the groom and the reverend at what is now the Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple.

“I was so nervous. And I had no idea where they were. For all I knew, Dick was being consoled by the reverend,” she said, chuckling.

Instead, Dick Tanaka — ever passionate about sports — and the reverend arrived late after together watching the final quarter of Super Bowl IV between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Minnesota Vikings as televised live from New Orleans.

Then, the groom in his tux could move on to marry her.

They began their life together as a farming family by touring onion fields in Oklahoma on their honeymoon, she said.

They brought up two children, Debbie (Tanaka) Williams and Wayne Tanaka, 41, who now lives in Long Beach, Calif. Their daughter and her husband, Rory Williams, 44, live in Erie with their two children, Robert, 9, and Grace, 6.

Tanaka farm equipment auction

What: Farm equipment auction of Dick Tanaka Estate hosted by Greeley-based Kreps Wiedeman Auctioneers & Real Estate Inc.

Where: 10760 Mineral Road (southeast corner of U.S. 287 and Colo. 52), Longmont

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily preview starting Wednesday. Auction starts at 10:30 a.m. Saturday

To view auction items online, visit <http://www.k-wauctions.com/myweb/Tanaka.htm>

Neither of the Tanaka children as adults went into farming.

But Debbie (Tanaka) Williams remembers the boom time before the bankruptcy forced the family to sell their corn picker.

“The corn picker then looked like it had giant teeth. And when we rode on it, it was like it gobbled up the corn to fill our wagon, and then it left the field shaved down to the stubble to be ready for the next year,” she said. “The harvest fascinated us as kids.”

Charlotte Tanaka said that her husband’s many years of such hands-on labor brought arthritis to those joints prematurely.

Even as a newlywed, she remembers tightening bolts for him on equipment because he couldn’t close his hands fully. Buttoning shirts eventually became impossible, too, and he wore shirts with snap buttons and high-top pull-on Red Wing boots in middle age for that reason.

Yet, he never got too old or uninspired to drive his pickup truck out to the fields to squat down and sit on his heels. He tickled the land then, dusted it off with his right index finger.

Many people who knew him, in their mind’s eye, still see him this way.

“He would spend hours out there doing that in the spring, especially when the seeds hadn’t broken ground when they were supposed to,” Charlotte Tanaka said. “And when he found them growing, he would say, ‘There’s hope!’ He always said that. ‘There’s hope.’”

Pam Mellskog can be reached at p.mellskog@gmail.com or at 303-746-0942.

Prior to
demolition
of two of
three
buildings



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks

Prior to
demolition
of two of
three
buildings



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks

Prior to
demolition
of two of
three
buildings



2024



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks

2024



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks

2024



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks

2024



HP-tbd: Golden Farm Barracks