

Will the survey results affect my property?

The survey results include recommendations for several areas of potential historic significance that may be worthy of protection. Currently, there are no plans to designate properties or areas as historic landmarks. Such designations usually are only initiated at the request of individual property owners or neighborhoods.

What if my property is inventoried and I want to demolish my house?

Whether your property has been surveyed or not, if your house is over fifty years in age and you plan to demolish it, you will need to apply for a demolition permit through the city's historic preservation program. Established by ordinance in 1994, the demolition review process is intended to prevent the loss of buildings that may be historically or architecturally significant. Information from the inventory will be used by City staff and the Landmarks Board when reviewing demolition requests.

Fun Fact:

The University of Colorado's enrollment jumped from 3,846 in 1940 to 8,846 in 1950.

Did You Know?

- * In 1945 Boulder's first post-war housing development "Vetsville" opened at the corner of Arapahoe Avenue and 24th Street. It consisted of a collection of trailers with kerosene heaters and no running water.
- * In 1952, the Boulder Turnpike (US 36) was opened. Known as the "short line to the skyline," the initial toll was 25 cents per car.
- * Boulder's growth during the post-war years was largely associated with new research and scientific industries that located in the city.
- * Production built housing during these years was affordable, simple, open, and technology driven – most included forced air furnaces, modern kitchens, bathrooms, and "convertible" rooms.

How can I get more information?

Visit the City of Boulder's historic preservation program website at:
www.boulderhistoricpreservation.net
 or contact James Hewat at tel. 303.441.3207 or Email: **hewatj@bouldercolorado.gov**
 or Jessica Vaughn at tel. 303.441.4161, Email: **vaughnj@bouldercolorado.gov**



This project was funded through a Colorado Historical Society grant.

Building Boom!

A Study of Residential Development in Post World War II Boulder, Colorado



The City of Boulder has recently completed a historic context and architectural survey of the city's post-WWII housing. As with many cities in the United States, Boulder experienced a surge in growth following the war. Rapid expansion of Boulder's population continued for several decades transforming a quiet town of 13,000 in 1940 to a sophisticated city of 72,000 by 1970.

Waves of construction to affordably house new residents occurred in all corners of the city during this growth boom.



Carnegie Branch Library for Local History Research.

The project represents the first in-depth study of post-war tract housing in Boulder between 1947 and 1967, and one of the first of its kind in the nation.

It focuses on ten subdivisions: Sunset Hills, Interurban Park, Flatirons Park, Highland Park, Edgewood, Martin Acres, Wagoner Manor, Baseline, Table Mesa, and Park East.

Residential buildings constructed between 1947 and 1967 make up about thirty percent of the city's current housing stock. Given the number of buildings from this period and the resulting post-war character of many Boulder neighborhoods, understanding this period of history and architecture is important.

This survey does not determine or create individual landmarks or historic districts but does include recommendations regarding the significance of each of the ten subdivisions examined.

Curious* Fact:

Several houses included in the survey are known to have been modified to include nuclear fallout shelters.

1,953 HOMESITES
PARKS - CHURCHES
SHOPPING CENTER
VARIOUS BUILDINGS
RECREATION AREAS
• 4-LANE TABLE
MESA PARKWAY
• ALL DISTINCTIVE
HOMES \$16,000 UP

HOME CONSTRUCTION
TO BEGIN
IMMEDIATELY

TABLE MESA ADDITION

CENTRALLY LOCATED
Minutes to University of Colorado Campus, Dow Chemical Co., Bureau of Standards, Denver Toll Road and adjacent to National Center of Atmospheric Research Institute.

Why is the City of Boulder looking at post-WWII architecture and neighborhoods?

The city maintains historic building inventories for buildings in Boulder that are older than fifty years in age, but has not been able to keep up with the vast number of houses constructed after WWII. Over the next several years, the number of buildings older than fifty years in age will continue to increase. The study will assist in considering the potential architectural value of buildings and neighborhoods from this period and in making decisions about which areas may be of significance.

How was the project funded?

The project was funded through a Colorado Historical Society grant.

How will it be shared with the community?

In addition to this brochure, a project website, and a short video describing the study, several neighborhood meetings will be held in the fall of 2010 to share the results of the study and to hear from the community about Boulder's post-WWII neighborhoods.

Did You Know?

Over 20 million houses were constructed in the US between 1963 and 1973, making this period the largest housing boom in American history.



Carnegie Branch Library for Local History Research.
Boulder/Denver Turnpike
opening ceremony, 1952



Denver Post Centennial Magazine, 1959