City of Boulder, Colorado, Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board

Adopted 6/3/87 [signed] Peter Pollock, Secretary to the Board

Signage Guidelines for the Chautauqua Historic District

The intent of the Chautauqua Signage Guidelines is to offer a framework or guide for signage that will preserve and continue the style which has been present since the inception of the Chautauqua at the turn of the century.

After 1899, the original tent dwellings of the grounds were gradually replaced by simple, one-room cottages with broad porches, designed for summer use. The prevailing style for public buildings, as well as for cottages and signs, was simple and plain, and did not include ornate "gingerbread" Victorian styles.

"Signage" refers to signs or lettering on buildings, or to other structures within the park, and to lettering relating to Chautauqua. The sign code encompasses all identifying and informational signs within the Chautauqua Park Historic District, with the exception of traffic signs, which are governed by City ordinances. Where the Chautauqua Historic District signage guidelines are different from the existing City of Boulder sign code, the more restrictive requirements shall prevail.

The Chautauqua Sign Code Guidelines are as follows:

That:

- 1. Signage be kept to a minimum and be in the simple style of the period of the Chautauqua movement as described in these guidelines.
- 2. A single lettering standard is not required, and varieties are allowed within the basic style described herein.
- 3. Signs be done in simple lettering with no surrounding embellishments or decoration.
- 4. Lettering be all capitals. Where needed, smaller capitals may be used in place of lower case type.
- 5. Medium or bold (block) typeface (style) letters be used.
- 6. Lettering be unadorned serif or sans serif type; imprinted by sand blasting and/or high contrast paint
- 7. Lettering not be in italics (slanted), condensed (close), script, extended (stretched), nor routed (grooved).
- 8. Plain background be used, with high contrast lettering i.e. dark letters on white, or light letters on dark background.
- 9. The basic sign form be horizontal, rectangle or square, not round or any unusual geometrical shape.

- 10. Signs be placed flush to the structure and not perpendicular to it or protruding from it.
- 11. Signage be of wood, bronze, or natural materials with no internal or back lighting.
- 12. If color is used on a building sign, it should be compatible with the established color palette of the building.
- 13. On original buildings, the original name be used on the identifying sign.
- 14. For public restrooms, a single sign, not to exceed 100 square inches, will be placed on the outside of the building which houses the building. The international symbols for men and for women may be installed on the appropriate entry doors.
- 15. "Name" signs for residential cottages will be placed above the front porch, or on, above, or immediately beside the front door and will not exceed 150 square inches in size.
- 16. Signage for Chautauqua's Dining Hall, Academic Hall, and Mission House will have the original names restored. A single identifying sign for each of the following buildings will be installed: The Ranger Cottage, The Chautauqua Community House, and Columbine Lodge. Each of the above signs will not exceed 300 square inches, and will be mounted above the main entry staircase.
- 17. Signs which have been present on Chautauqua residences as well as on public buildings, other than those listed in item #16, prior to Chautauqua's historic designation in 1979 may remain unchanged.
- 18. A maximum of three free standing identifying signs will be allowed, one on the Grant Place Entrance, one at the 12th Street entrance and one at the pedestrian entrance (bus stop at 10th Street); each of these signs will not exceed 15 square feet, and, with supporting posts, may not exceed six feet in height.
- 19. Identifying signs at the Park entrances will refer to Chautauqua as "Chautauqua Park Historic District."
- 20. Bronze plaques may be installed for historic identification purposes only, and not as memorials or as commemorations.
- 21. All signage must be approved by the Boulder City Landmarks Board.
- 22. Replacement of the street identification signs with original concrete pylons or replicas is encouraged.

Chautauqua Park Signage Guidelines approved by: Chautauqua Board of Directors, December 1, 1986 Boulder Parks Department, May 28, 1987 Boulder Landmarks Board, June 3, 1987