

Mapleton Hill Historic District

Designated in 1982

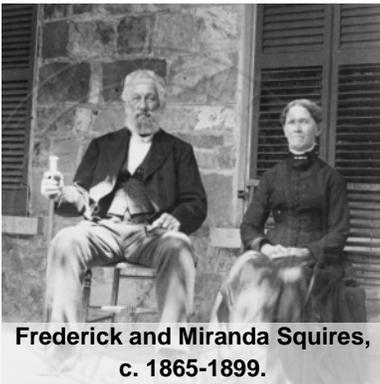
In 1982, Mapleton Hill was designated as Boulder's third and largest historic district. The district was expanded in 2002 and today it is generally bounded by Concord Street on the north, Spruce Street on the south, and from 4th Street on the west to Broadway on the east.

In the 1880s, the Boulder Land and Improvement Company purchased a tract of land extending approximately from 8th street to 11th Street, and from Pearl Street to Pine Street for \$5,500 from the Tourtellot and Squires family. When designing and platting the area, the developers (Andrew J. Macky and James P. Maxwell included) observed that the area was wind-swept and barren, hardly an attractive place to build houses. To help beautify the neighborhood, they planted over 200 Silver Maple and Cottonwood trees.

Boulder experienced major growth at the beginning of the twentieth century partly due to the discovery of silver and gold at the nearby mining camps and due to the establishment of the University of Colorado. Out of the five hundred homes located in Mapleton Hill, nearly 57% were constructed before 1910. Nearly 30% of the five hundred houses were built within a five-year period alone, from 1895-1900. The district's period of significance extends from 1865 through World War II in 1946. Mapleton Hill is an important place to be protected because of its rich architecture and history. The wide variety of architectural styles, elements, and motifs in the neighborhood harmonize to create a lively environment that tells the story of Boulder's past.

The area is associated with many of early Boulder's most prominent citizens and their houses. The area also includes one of the community's earliest schools, the city's first public library, and the region's first major hospital facility.

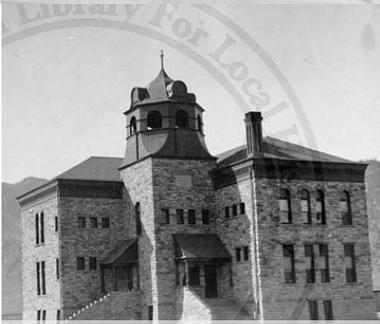
Whereas the southern end of the district attracted more wealthy residents, the working and middle class residents tended to settle at the northern end of Mapleton Hill along Concord and Maxwell Streets. These houses are typically smaller and more simply constructed, like 704 Concord Avenue. Some of the professions of middle-class Boulderites included salesmen, nurses, miners, carpenters, and brick masons.



Frederick and Miranda Squires,
c. 1865-1899.



The Squires-Tourtellot House
1019 Spruce St., 1877.



Mapleton School at
840 Mapleton Ave., 1889.



Mapleton Avenue newly paved,
1928.



Mapleton Hill, c. 1895.

Historic District Highlights



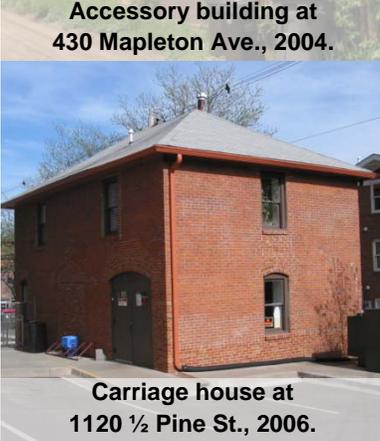
704 Concord Ave., 2014.



1020 Mapleton Ave., 2008



Accessory building at 430 Mapleton Ave., 2004.



Carriage house at 1120 1/2 Pine St., 2006.

- Mapleton Hill School was the fourth school built in Boulder in 1888. At that time, it was the first building on Mapleton Avenue. It was built in the Richardsonian Romanesque style and was the only school in Boulder built with stone instead of brick (pictured on page 1).
- The Mapleton Hill Historic District boasts some of Boulder's most elaborate houses. For example, the house at 1020 Mapleton Avenue is an impressive example of the residential Colonial Revival style. John McInnes, an early director of the First National Bank in Boulder, built the house in 1905. The building received the nickname "The Wedding Cake House" due to the three-dozen white columns found on the building's exterior.
- Accessory buildings in Mapleton Hill include barns, sheds, chicken coops, carriage houses, and garages. These buildings are typically located at the rear of the property along the alley. While not all accessory buildings are individually significant, together they emphasize the historic character of the district and convey a sense of the past.
- The Squires-Tourtellot house, constructed in 1865 at 1019 Spruce Street, is believed to be the oldest house in Boulder. It was owned by Frederick A. Squires and Jonathon A. Tourtellot, who were married to twin sisters Miranda and Maria Wade. The families operated a general store, hotel, and boarding house at 11th and Pearl Streets.



Changes to designated properties including individual landmarks and those located within a historic district require review and approval through a Landmark Alteration Certificate. The alterations must meet the City of Boulder's *General Design Guidelines* and district-specific guidelines, if applicable. For more information please visit our website at www.bouldercolorado.gov/historic-preservation, or contact:

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Information provided by Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board Memorandum of October 2, 2002, the Mapleton Hill Historic District Design Guidelines, the Boulder Carnegie Library for Public History, Boulder Survey of Historic Places: Mapleton Hill Accessory Building Survey 2004-2005, A Guide to Boulder's Heritage 1976, and Walking Tours of Boulder by Historic Boulder, Inc.