

INVENTORY TABLE - EAST SEVENTH AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT B-STEELE STREET EXTENSION





Address: 602 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by Merritt. According to Discover Denver alterations include an enclosed porch that appears historic.

Original Owner: 1920 Gordon V Comer Occupation Conway-Bogue Reality investment. Mrs. John Elsinger and Miss Marg Elsinger, employees of Denver Dry Goods. In1924 Mina Scott is listed as owner, she was likely a school teacher. In 1927 several people are living here; John C Collins is a clerk at S Outwater, Edwin J Denning is a Floorman at Denver Dry Goods and his wife Bessie is also working there as a clerk. There is also Edwin J Denning Jr, wife Kathleen, he also works at S Outwater as a salesman. By 1928, Lester Weinschienk and his wife Rose were living at 602 Steele. He was a watchmaker. Lester and Rose appear to be there through 1930.







Address: 610 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1919	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by John K McBride. According to Discover Denver alterations are minor with some windows replaced.

Morris and Rose Polse were the first owners at 610 N Steele St. in 1920. He was born in Russia July 1887. His application for naturalization says he immigrated to the US from Bremen Germany, July 1904, arrived in NY, August 1904. He declared his intent to be a citizen March 8th 1916 at Denver District Court. He lists his occupation as a furniture upholsterer, working at 1819 Welton. In 1922 their household has Mamie Bernstein, household help, living there. In 1926 Eugene (Frank) Klipfel and wife Augustine are residing at 610. They are there into the 1930s. Both were from France; they immigrated to the US in 1882 and became citizens.







Address: 620 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1916	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by Swan Johnson. City records show 620 Steele was built in 1916 but no record of occupants until 1919; then Frank Briggs was living at 620 Steele, married to Nellie with his occupation in the 1920 Census being listed as Banker, Investment banking. He is President of Midwest Investment Company. He had been a private in the war during 1917-1918. In 1920 a Miss Rose M Miller, a nurse was boarding at 620 Steele. In 1927 Max and Bessie Schwartz are listed as owners, associated with a real estate office at 504 Colorado Blvd.

Alterations: Discover Denver describes a second floor with a new dormer facing the street that matches the original house in that the roof pitch, overhang dimension, facia boards and brackets are the same. The expression of half timbering in the gable ends is derived from the original construction of the house as well.



Garage (non-contributing)







Address: 624 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1918	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by Home Security Company. According to Discover Denver alterations are minor with all windows replaced.

Original owners Frederick and Edith R (Shaler) Sass. Occupation – He was an attorney in Private Practice in the Foster Building. Fred was born in 1878, Illinois of parents who immigrated from Germany. He registered for the draft, WWII in 1941, at 64 years of age. He returned to Colorado and was associated with the Industrial Commission and the Worker's Compensation Act of 1945.



Garage (non-contributing)









Address: 630 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1924	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Builder was Swan Johnson. Original owner-Cassius and Theresa Millisack. He was born in Ohio in 1859;1910 Census data shows them in Kansas with their 2 children. Theresa was born in Illinois of German immigrants. He was Manager of Farm Loans and Investing. He worked at the National Bank Building - Today this is the Bank Lofts apartment building. According to Discover Denver there are no alterations visible.







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Address: 640 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1919	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Built by Home Security Company. Owners Max S and Pauline Schayer. In the City Directory of 1923, Max describes his work as provider of "general insurance, rentals and care of property" working in the Empire Building. Max was born in Denver, 1894 to parents who immigrated from Germany. His parents were Charles M Schayer and Fredericke Saft Schay. Max had a brother Milton, 2 years younger. As adults, both were very active in the Jewish community. First Milton and then Max served on the board of the Denver Sheltering House for Jewish children. Max Schayer was an inventor. In 1903 Max married Pauline Dreyfuss, whose parents were also German-Jewish immigrants and he got a patent for a "Mosquito Bar Holder for Beds". Max got another patent in 1906 for a Jelly Press, "by which the juice from berries and other fruit may be expressed". Max was also very involved in the new Temple Congregation Emmanuel on Pearl St. According to the Inventory of Church Archives of Colorado: Jewish Bodies. Max Schayer served as the Financial Secretary. That building was dedicated in 1924. They likely had a connection to Denver University as the DU archives house a photo of Max, Milton and friends, with a description of a luncheon group they were in that met daily at the Edelweiss restaurant on California St. DU has a collection of Milton's writings.

According to Discover Denver alterations were minor with some windows replaced.







Address: 658 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1918	Accessory structures: Garage (Non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by Orria (and Daniel) Stevens. The earliest known residents are Morris Lehmann and wife Kate who own the home 1924. He is registered as a hotel proprietor. In 1929, the city directory shows John H Nicholson and wife Eva L. living at 658 Steele. Nicholson gets attention in the Western History Subject Index as Founder of the Society of Gideons, recognized for placing half a million Bibles in Colorado since 1917. He is listed in the Colorado Portrait and Biography Index as Head of the Society of Gideons.

According to Discover Denver alterations were minor with some windows replaced.



Garage (non-contributing)







Address: 660 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1919	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)
CONTINUED BELOW	

Additional Information: The builder is unknown. Original owners were John and Lydia Fitzell. John was President and manager of Ideal Laundry (1920 Corbett & Ballenger's 48th Annual Denver City Directory). John T. Fitzell, was born in Ireland with ancestry going back to William the Conqueror. In the late 1800s, his parents and 13 siblings moved to Canada where they farmed before moving to Colorado. By 1920, John was learning the laundry trade, working in Denver with two different companies. He moved to Cripple Creek to manage a laundry and try out mining but after four years returned to Denver to purchase an interest in what became known as the Ideal Laundry at 2500 Curtis Street. With various partners and consolidations, the business grew substantially. Fitzell was active in the National Laundrymen's Association, the Civic and Commercial Association, the Elks, and Woodmen of the World, as well as the Motor and Lions Clubs. In 1926 Fitzell built a house at 2900 East 7th Avenue.

By 1927 H G Macomber and wife Marion K. are living at 660. He is a physician. The practice was at 1415 Welton Street. He and his wife are listed as Tammen Society donors to Denver's Children's Hospital.

1975-1990 Augusta Virginia Walsen was the designated home-owner of 660 Steele in 1977-1991 when her brother, Fred became the official owner. He was a third generation Coloradan. His grandfather, Gen. Fred Walsen, founded Walsenburg in southern Colorado in the late 1800s. He was an accountant until retiring in 1976 and then spent his time as a history and etymology buff.

According to an article from The Colorado Sun. Nov 2019 Fred Walsen, a graduate of the University of Colorado read a story about a fellow alumnus, Lucile B.Jones, the first black woman graduate from CU. Fred learned she'd died 1989 and was buried in a family plot at Fairmount Cemetery, but without recognition on the tombstone. He felt that was an injustice and wanted her properly memorialized. He was responsible for the stone carved with "LUCILE B. JONES, JUNE 13, 1884-NOV.10 1989-FIRST BLACK WOMAN GRADUATE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO".



According to Discover Denver alterations were minor, the porch was enclosed but appears historic.









Address: 674 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1919	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by H.W Weisner. Original owner is J Warner and in 1923 Daniel Bank is listed as owner (whose occupation was furniture sales). Mr Bank's business was located at 1455 Larimer. Mr. Bank was born in Russia, Sept 25,1878, came to New York City with his mother as a youngster and to Colorado in 1903. He married Lillie Levin in 1904. Lillian was also a native of Russia and came to Denver as a 5 year- old girl. Bank owned and operated a retail furniture store on Larimer St until he retired in 1931. He was a member of the board of the ex-Patients Tubercular Home and a member of B'nai B'rith. Mrs. Bank was also active in many Jewish communal and charitable organizations. They had three sons and a daughter. Two of their sons served in the armed forces, one taken as a prisoner of war in Germany, did survive. Maynard L and Minnie A Meek were living in the house in 1931 and J.W. Finley is listed as owner in 1937.

Anne Garrett was owner in the 1980's. With a Masters' degree, she worked at the now defunct Bethesda Psych Health Hospital as a nurse on both the Adolescent and Child programs. She then started a company that advocated for patients regarding insurance coverage for mental health related issues and performing case management services.

According to Discover Denver, there have been no alterations to this house.



Garage (Non-contributing)



Address: 716 Steele St.	Contributing: ☐ Yes X No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow with contemporary elements
Construction Date: 1914	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: <u>1915-1930</u>: Built by C.H. Ekman, Buirman Company. In the 1920 Federal Census, 716 Steele was owned and occupied by Eugene J. Sullivan. He owned the house free and clear and lived with his wife, daughter, and a maid. He was an attorney working with an oil company. In 1923, 716 was occupied by James Leonidas Calhoun and his wife Clara Cheley. James was the advertising manager for the Neusteter Company. James was born in Tennessee in 1887; James married Clara Cheley on February 2, 1915 in Colorado Springs. Clara was born on October 13, 1885 in Ontario, Canada. Her parents were Robert A. Cheley and Agnes Scott, her brother was Frank Howbert Cheley, founder of the Cheley Camps, a sleep-away camp that attracted campers from around the nation and the world.

1975-1990: Owners Mike and Wynn Stahle moved here in 1985. Mike had his own firm, McGloin Davenport Severson and Snow. Wynn was employed by a Chicago firm, Kirkland and Ellis, that had a Denver office. Wynn and Mike acquired the house after a major fire in the early 1980's that started when the house was under renovation. This necessitated major alterations which include clipped gable roofs that were preserved, all windows are three part to match existing composition, transom windows used in place of solid gable form above windows, garage with roof deck added but secondary to original structure. The brick has been painted. All new work done sympathetically using their interpretation of the original architectural vocabulary.

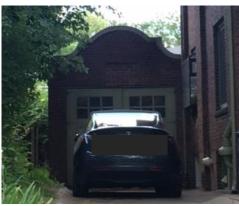




Address: 726 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Central Passage Double Pile
Construction Date: 1922	Accessory structures: Attached Garage (contributing)

Additional Information: <u>1922-1930</u>: Built by Orria Stevens. Milton and Jessica Dukes were the original owners in 1920. Milton was Secretary of the International Trust Company at 17th and California. In 1924 Edward Soderberg is listed as owner. Discover Denver reports minor alterations, some windows replaced, a rear addition exists. Attached garage set back on the north side.

<u>1975-1990:</u> Owners in the late 1980's are Christine Larocca and Mike Hanley. They are both physicians. Christine is a geriatrician and Mike is a pulmonologist who worked for Denver Health.



Contributing Attached Garage







Address: 730 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: 1920-1930 Built by Orria Stevens. Discover Denver reports minor alteration, some windows replaced, addition to the side. First owner was G.T. Hine. By 1920 owners were Arthur E and Caroline M Swensen. Arthur Swenson, after attending Denver public school and both The Modern School of Business and Barnes Business School, operated Swenson Motors and was described as "thoroughly reliable and progressive, reaching a most gratifying and credible position in the business circles of his native city." He and his brother established exclusive agency for Republic Truck at 1946 Champa. By 1924 Arthur owned Swenson Auto. He was a member of the Civic and Commercial Association of Denver. The following newspaper clip highlights his influence in Denver business activity.

Additional information 1975-1990 the house became a rental, owned by the current owner Richard Chavez.



Garage (non-contributing)









Address: 740 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: <u>1920-1930</u>: Builder is Orria (and Daniel) Stevens. In the1920's owners are William F and Emma F Shaw. Mr. Shaw was president of Shaw Dental Infirmary, located at 1454 Champa Street.

1975-1990: Owner is Jane Pritzl. Pritzl was Health Intervention Scientist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Adolescent and School Health to guide state departments of health and education in efforts to reduce teen tobacco use. She was involved as Field Director with Colorado's ASSIST project (The American Stop Smoking Intervention Study) where she specialized in clean indoor-air, worksite and school tobacco policies. According to Discover Denver, this house has not been altered.



740 Steele Garage (non-contributing)







Address: 748 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1914	Accessory structures: None

Additional Information: 1914-1930: Builder was George Singleton. Original owner was R.M. Howard. Clara Cowen purchased the home in 1920. In the 1920 Federal Census, Clara Cowan is living at 748 Steele, with her two sons, Ralph Dudley Cowan and Lester Augustas Cowan. Her maiden name was Clara Edna Lewis. Clara was born in Kansas in 1874 and she was the child of Lester Lewis and Anna Eugenie Stelzner. Lester died when Clara was only two years old, leaving Anna with three daughters. By 1900 Anna, Clara and Clara's two sisters were all in Denver. In 1899, Clara married Herbert Wheeler Cowan—he was 37, she was 25. He was a civil engineer for the Colorado & Southern Railway. Herbert died in 1915 (age 52) of heart failure. His obituary says he was a "well known railroad man." Clara's youngest would have been only six years old when his father died. In the 1920 census, Clara is a widow at age 44 with two young boys. She owns the house and it is not mortgaged. Her son, Ralph Dudley Cowan, went on to become a lawyer (according to the 1930 census) and her younger son had 5 years of college (according to the 1940 census).

<u>1975-1990</u>: Robert and Carol Mallett have purchased the home from his mother. Bob worked at Eagle Claw Fishhooks and Carol was a flight attendant for United Airlines.

Discover Denver describes an enclosed porch as the only alteration on this house.



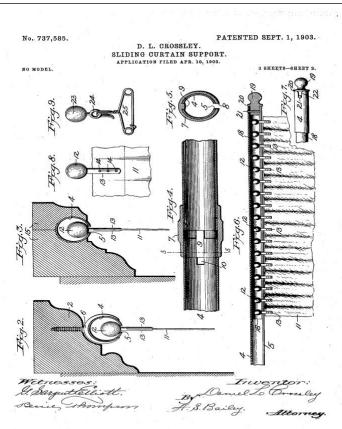


Address: 756 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Builder unknown. Original owners were Daniel and Gertrude Crossley. Mr. Crossley was floor manager at The Denver Dry Goods and had earlier patented a mechanism for the sliding curtain support to increase the efficiency of drapery management in the home. Discover Denver describes minor alterations, some windows and cladding replaced.







<u>1975-1992</u>: Owners were John Ladd and Liza Webster living at 756 Steele from April 1985 until August 1992. They moved to Denver in 1985 from Arizona where John had been doing mineral exploration and Liza had been getting a Masters degree in geology. The move to Denver found John working as a geologist for Mobil and for Snyder Oil. Liza taught at Rocky Mountain Hebrew Academy, Machebeuf Catholic High School and Eaglecrest High School.







Address: 760 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by John Ford, Inv & Bldg. The original owners were Orville H and Jane Evans. A 1918 record shows that Orville was manager of Silver State Plating Co, and a 1923 record shows he was president of the company. 1975-1990: Owners were Larry and Penny McKim. Larry worked at Petroleum Information and Penny worked at Electronic Data Systems which was later sold to Hewlitt Packard.

Discover Denver reports that all window openings were altered. This does not appear to change the character of the house.



Garage (non-contributing)







Address: 764 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1924	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: Built by John Oswald. Original owner Katherine Mulligan widow of Patrick J Mulligan, who worked at Beneficial Loan & Inv.

<u>1975-1990:</u> This house was a rental unit during this time, Judith Vappl was the owner during that time period. Minor alterations are reported by Discover Denver such as windows replaced or filled in.









Address: 770 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Craftsman Bungalow
Construction Date: 1914	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: No builder recorded. 1915-1930: Original owners were Arthur and Wilhelmina Malcom. He was a partner in Monson-Malcom Reality and she was a graduate of The University of Denver. 1975-1990: Owners were Paul and Deborah Jonas. Paul was a senior gift planning officer for the American Red Cross, and previously for Tennyson Center for Children and National Jewish Health. He also worked for Mile High United Way. The Paul Jonas' Emerging Leadership Award was established to support an emerging development professional with a strong desire to grow as a charitable gift planner and community leader.

Discover Denver reports no alterations on the house, garage post-dates construction of house.



770 Steele, Garage (non-contributing)







Address: 780 Steele St.	Contributing: X Yes □No
Name (if known):	Style: Four Square
Construction Date: 1912/1920	Accessory structures: Garage (non-contributing)

Additional Information: There is no builder on record. The Denver Assessor office lists the construction date of 780 Steele St. as 1920 but building permit #1972 dates construction to 1912.

Oscar Monson and Wilhelmina Malcolm sold lot 4 and the north half of lot 5 to Arthur Lewis Patton. A few months later Patton hired Henry Burkgren to build the two-story, brick home at an estimated cost of \$4,000. A physics and chemistry teacher, Arthur taught at West Side High School. He brought his wife, Louise, and two young children. As early as 1914 the family began to rent out the house, advertising, "7 rooms, two sleeping porches, billiard room, hot water heat, six months or longer." Joel C. and Lulu Hancock lived in the home in 1915 and 1916. Joel Hancock was a salesman and worked in the commercial travel industry. The Pattons were also in the home in March 1915. Another boarder during this time was Meredith Davis, who self-reported that he worked as a writer for the Rocky Mountain News.

In 1919, the Pattons listed the Steele Street house for sale: "You can buy my home for less than it cost me to build it before the war; the first floor is beautifully finished in quartered oak, bungalow style, colonnade effect with built in features; the second floor has three bedrooms with two dandy sleeping porches; full basement with billiard room; all newly decorated; hot water heat, garage; no better location in town; \$7,250." Maude Almeda Smith purchased the property in October of that year.

Owners in 1924 were William and Margaret Hammack. Mr. Hammack was head of the Denver Optical College Association in the 435 Commonwealth Building. He helped to support the Fifth Annual Western Congress of Optometry at Denver's Municipal Auditorium in 1923.

1975-2017 Owner was Judge Raymond Jones. Please see his complete information in the Designation Application under Significance: Criteria B and in the description of historical associations.



Discover Denver reports that the gable end has been altered with horizontal wood siding.



780 Steele St, Garage (non-contributing)