Discovering Denver: Brick by Brick

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The old wooden floor creaked as my family stepped into the used furniture store. My parents were looking for a kitchen table. My brother and I just wanted to go home.

“If you can’t find it, just whistle!” a voice called out.

It was hard to see where it came from. Through the legs of an upside-down chair I spotted a small desk, and an older woman sitting there.

“Hello!” she called, “Say, aren’t you awfully young to be furniture shopping?”

“Oh, we’re not – that is, my brother and me. Our parents are back there somewhere, looking for a table. We just moved here, and I guess we need stuff.”

She squeezed around the piles to introduce herself. “Well, hi there. I’m Natty. Welcome to Denver. How do you like it? Have you been to see some interesting places?”

We didn’t want to tell her the truth; that we were homesick, and lonely, and bored. “Today we went to the Capitol,” my brother said. “It was interesting, I guess. Just seemed like a lot of marble and stairs.”

“Hmmm. Just marble and stairs. Wait here. I think I have something you’d like to see.” We heard her opening and closing drawers. “Ah, here it is. My treasure box.” My brother and I just looked at each other. Treasure box – what could it be?

Natty came back carrying a large, cardboard gift box that looked pretty old. She took off the lid and held the box so we could see.

“Doesn’t look like much, does it?” she said. We had to agree.

“Everything here belonged to someone in my family. All the treasures of Denver are in this box. You just have to look carefully.”

We all found a comfy place to sit, squeezed between some old rugs and a dark wood bookcase. A cat was lying on one of the shelves, flicking its tail. “Oh, don’t mind her,” Natty said. “That’s Molly Brown. We’ll get to her story in a bit,” and she pulled out her first treasure.
**Why Did People Move Around?**

Prehistoric people moved for some of the same reasons people do today. They moved to find a comfortable place to live with good supplies of food and water. They looked for new things to use or trade. Sometimes, they left to avoid battles with unfriendly neighbors.

**How do we know What happened long ago?**

Archaeologists and historians use many tools to understand life before history was written:
- **Artifacts** - objects, like stone tools
- **Sites** - old campsites, where burned wood, grinding stones or bits of pottery are found
- **Science** - methods of testing artifacts to discover their age and purpose
- **Oral Traditions** - stories of ancestors that have been passed down

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**Did the tool belong to someone in your family?**

This stone knife belonged to my great grandfather, Oscar. His best friend was an Arapaho boy. The boy’s grandmother gave the knife to Oscar as a gift. She told him many stories about her people.

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**Colorado’s Native Americans**

At the time of the **Louisiana Purchase** in 1803, the Arapaho and Cheyenne Indian tribes were sharing the resources in the South Platte Valley. The Utes lived in the mountains. Trappers started exploring the West, looking for valuable furs. Some Native Americans were helpful to these travelers, teaching them how to live off the land.

**Rendezvous**

Rendezvous, or trade meetings between trappers and tribes, were held in the summers. Native American families could trade for better weapons, metal tools, beads, and other goods not found in nature. The mountain men traded for leather clothing, food, and horses. The rendezvous was also a chance to share companionship and useful information. Both sides appreciated the balance of nature for survival.

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**The South Platte Valley**

Denver sits where the eastern plains dip down just a little before turning upward to the mountains. This dip creates a basin, or valley. The Rocky Mountains protect this valley from severe weather. The melting snows fill the river and creeks, and trees grow by the banks. Animals came here for water and grasses. People followed the animals for food. They also used the furs for warmth and bones for tools. They enjoyed the pleasant climate and natural beauty of the valley.

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**The frog does not drink up the pond in which he lives.**

*A Native American Proverb*
Why did people make this journey?
There were many young men like Alexander who had lots of good reasons to move. Some hoped to find jobs or farms of their own. Some dreamed of finding gold and getting rich quick. Others came to be safe from neighbors who were arguing over slavery and civil war. The journey was hard, and many turned back before they got here.

How Do We Know these things happened?
The best information comes from primary sources, or things from that time. Objects like Alexander’s map, journals, letters, and photographs help us step into the past. Historians use other sources too, like history books and newspapers. Those are secondary sources, written by people who weren’t there at the time, but use primary source materials to understand what actually happened.

Alexander’s Map
1858 – 1859

Who Found the Gold?
In 1858, William Green Russell traveled with a group from Georgia to check out stories about gold in the Rockies. As they panned along the streams, Russell saw some color, or specks of gold near the South Platte and Cherry Creek. Word of the gold discovery traveled back east. Soon, “Pikes Peak or Bust!” was the cry, and thousands of people were on their way out west to get rich.

Auraria and Denver City
The Russell party settled on the west side of Cherry Creek near the Platte. They called their town Auraria, after their home in Georgia. The east side was settled by William Larimer, who was a land developer. He named the town Denver City after James W. Denver, the governor of Kansas Territory. Larimer didn’t know that James Denver had resigned a few weeks earlier. Larimer was a booster, whose plan was to claim the land and sell pieces of it to the people moving to Denver. Larimer’s group laid out the streets and named them after themselves. Streets like Wynkoop, Curtis, and Larimer were named for city founders.

Why do some of Denver’s streets run straight north, south, east & west, while others are on a diagonal?

Boom and Bust
Denver has always been known as a “boom and bust” kind of place. A boom happens when many people come and the area grows. A bust happens when resources dry up and folks move away. Denver boomed as thousands flooded in to make their fortune. They found very little gold. Many became backers and headed home.

Natty’s Story
My great great grandfather Alexander came here during the gold rush of 1859. He was a cabinetmaker in Ohio. When gold was found near Cherry Creek and the Platte River, thousands of people started rushing west, including Alexander. He packed his tools and this map, and worked his way to Missouri. He joined a wagon train there. The map showed the routes to good campsites with creeks and grasses for grazing animals. People couldn’t set out across the prairie without really planning ahead.

We Look Carefully
The writing on the map was small, but we could see Cherry Creek where it joined the South Platte River. We could find Pikes Peak, too. Holding the actual map Alexander used made us feel like we were setting out on the journey with him. It must have been exciting and scary at the same time.

Natty Asks
Ready for the next piece of the puzzle?
**How do you build a town?**

Think of the things people need to live and feel at home. Free land was given to churches and businesses that serve families. Owen Goldrick started the first school, and a library opened. Denver City gave land to a stagecoach company, so that passengers and mail could arrive more quickly. A cemetery was set up where Cheesman Park is today. The land was an old Arapaho burial ground.

**Early Denver**

Denver City did not look like it does today. On both sides of the creek, cabins and shacks were everywhere. Trash was left in the streets. Animals roamed around eating whatever they could find. Prospectors came into town to get supplies and eat some good food. Women worked in stores, rented out rooms, washed clothes, and cooked meals.

**Fire and Bricks**

The wooden buildings of Denver City were destroyed on April 19, 1863, in a terrible fire. This led to the Brick Ordinance, a law that required new buildings to be built of brick or stone. Many of these beautiful brick buildings have been preserved in downtown Denver today.

**Flood and Rebuilding**

On May 19, 1864, Cherry Creek flooded because of heavy rains. The water came rushing down the creek and into the Platte, carrying buildings, livestock, and trash. Denver had to rebuild itself again. Cherry Creek would flood several more times until the Cherry Creek Dam was built in the 1950s.

**Curiosity Corner**

Usually, the streets in the old part of any city are very narrow. Why are downtown Denver’s streets so wide?

**Brick by Brick**

The Four Mile House was built in 1859 on the banks of Cherry Creek. Mary Cawker bought the house in 1860 and ran it as a stagecoach stop on the Smoky Hill Trail. Travelers knew they were almost in Denver when they reached the stop, just four miles from town. The Four Mile House is the oldest standing structure in Denver today.

“"At last, four miles from the town, we reached a neat little tavern...”
Bayard Taylor, 1866.

**Transportation**

The stagecoach was an important step in bringing more people across the prairie. Twelve passengers could fit into the soft seats. They could relax at the rest stops, where a warm meal was served. The stagecoach also carried small packages and mail back and forth.

“Natty Asks”

Denver was a small, bustling town, but certainly not booming. Something was needed to help it grow. What do you think it was?
The Rocky Mountain News

William Byers put his newspaper office in the middle of Cherry Creek. He wanted the people in both Denver City and Auraria to support him. Even though the creek was dry, he was warned that it sometimes flooded. On May 19, 1864, a wall of water washed away everything in its path.

“The sound awoke me…I saw the rush of water…we got out on the platform as quickly as we could…some parties threw a rope to us…I got the others out ahead – got what books we could, and what cash there was. I got out just in time to see the building go – The flood washed our printing presses clear into the Platte River. We recovered a bookcase three miles down, lodged in a tree.”

John L. Dailey, General Manager
Rocky Mountain News

Byers quickly bought another newspaper and used its presses to continue the Rocky Mountain News. Not one single issue was missed because of the flood.

Faces and Places

Clara Brown 1800-1885
Clara Brown was a freed slave when she came out west in 1859. Her daughter, Eliza Jane, had been sold away from her. Clara worked at a bakery in Denver before she moved to the mining town of Central City. She made a good living doing laundry and cooking for the miners. Clara was kind to families who needed food or a place to stay. Eventually, she earned enough money to search for Eliza Jane. She found her at last, in 1882. Eliza Jane came to Colorado and cared for her mother until Clara’s death.

William Larimer, Jr 1809 – 1875
William H. Larimer, Jr was a land developer who came west during the Pikes Peak Gold Rush. He named the town Denver City, and sold land to the newcomers. Larimer worked to bring in families and businesses. He helped Colorado become its own territory in 1861. Larimer later returned to his home in Kansas and was a state senator there. Larimer Street in Denver and Colorado’s Larimer County are named for him.

The U.S. Mint in Denver
In 1859, Emanuel Gruber and the Clark brothers started a gold exchange in Denver. They bought gold dust and nuggets from prospectors and minted, or stamped it into coins. In 1863, the U.S. bought Clark, Gruber & Co., and created its own exchange. This is why there is a United States Mint in Denver today. It can produce over 50 million coins daily. The current Mint was built in 1904.

Barney Ford 1822-1902
Barney Ford escaped slavery through the Underground Railroad. Barney and his wife Julia came out west and tried many businesses. They ran barbershops, restaurants, a saloon, and hotels. Some burned down and some were successful. The Fords worked for equal voting rights for African Americans, and fair treatment in places like restaurants and hotels. Barney’s stained glass portrait hangs in the State Capitol Building.

William Byers 1831-1905
William N. Byers came to Denver to boost the town, and spent his life here, pushing for its growth and success. The newspaper was his voice in supporting the railroads, streetcars, education, and statehood.

“Fondly looking forward to a long and pleasant acquaintance with our readers…”

Byers Editorial, Vol 1, No 1

The last issue of the Rocky Mountain News was published on February 27, 2009, just 55 days short of the paper’s 150th birthday.
The bitterness of the Sand Creek Massacre turned the Arapaho and Cheyenne against the U.S. Army and the settlers. The Cheyenne Dog Soldiers were a brave fighting part of the Cheyenne tribe. These warriors tried to defend their lands, but did not have the resources to fight the U.S. Government for very long. Still working for peace, Cheyenne and Arapaho leaders signed a treaty with the U.S. government in 1865. The Treaty of the Little Arkansas was supposed to give them land, legal rights, and repayment for property and lives lost at Sand Creek. The agreement was not followed, and the tribes never received what they were promised.

Silas Soule was one of the witnesses against Chivington in the investigation. He described the murder of innocent women, children and babies. A friend of Chivington's later shot Soule on the street in Denver. The murderer escaped and went unpunished.

Today, a bronze marker has been placed at Arapahoe and 15th Street to mark the place where he was killed. Silas Soule is buried in Denver's Riverside Cemetery.

Northern Cheyenne, Northern Arapaho, and Cheyenne and Arapaho of Oklahoma tribal members stop there every November as part of the Sand Creek Spiritual Healing Run. They pause at his grave to honor a man who lost his life by doing the right thing.

Sand Creek Massacre, November 29, 1864

At dawn, Chivington marched his men to Sand Creek and ordered a brutal attack on the Native Americans camped there – men, women, and children. Denver newspapers called it a great battle and victory over the “savage Indians.” But in the days after the attack, witnesses stepped forward to tell a different story. They described an attack on a sleeping village of peaceful people. Silas Soule was a soldier who refused to follow orders that morning. Soule spoke out against Chivington's actions. George Bent and other traders from the camp also described the murders they had seen. In Washington, Congress called for an investigation. Even though Sand Creek was seen as a massacre, no one was punished for participating. Chivington lost his command but did not go to jail. John Evans was asked to resign as Territorial Governor.

Sand Creek Spiritual Healing Run

Each year in November, tribal members take part in a special 160-mile relay run. The three-day event begins at the Sand Creek National Historic Site and ends at the Colorado State Capitol. The run is done as a remembrance of those who died in the massacre, and as a spiritual healing of bitter feelings over past events.
The citizens of Denver helped raise money to build the Denver Pacific Railway to Cheyenne, Wyoming. That made it possible to connect with trains traveling across the country. My great grandmother Beth used this train schedule, or timetable from Union Station.

Why didn’t the train come through Denver?
The Union Pacific and Central Pacific were building a railroad to connect the West to the train lines in the East. This created a transcontinental route that went all the way across the country. They chose to build through Wyoming because the mountains there were easier to cross than Colorado’s. People in Denver were very upset with this decision. They were determined to connect with the train line, even if they had to build it themselves.

Why was the railroad so important?
A railroad connected Denver to the rest of the country and the world. Town boosters knew that transportation was key to making Denver a successful city. It would create jobs and bring more people and businesses to the area. Trains could haul large, heavy loads of building supplies, cattle, or mining equipment. Their steam engines ran on coal fires. That made coal mining big business in Colorado too.

Who built the railroads?
Most of the people who worked on the railroads were immigrants, people who had come here from other countries, like China, Italy, and Ireland. Many had come to farm or mine, but had been disappointed and needed jobs.

Good Leadership
When railroad builders chose Wyoming for their route through the Rockies, the leaders of Denver acted quickly. Citizens helped raise money to start building their own railroad. The 106-mile route was finished on June 24, 1870. Soon after, a second line to Kansas City and St. Louis was finished.

Homesteading
In 1862, the U. S. passed the Homestead Act. It said that any adult over 21 who lived and worked on the land could receive 160 acres. This brought many people out west to farm, and raise cattle. Small towns grew along the railroad lines, where settlers could send and receive goods.

Mountain Railroads
The mountain railroads were narrow gauge trains, meaning that their tracks were closer together than those on a regular standard gauge line. They could make tighter turns in small places and climb steeper hills. Mines shipped trainloads of ore to Denver for processing. Tourists came to visit the same wonderful mountains that people come to see today.
Curtis Park, Denver’s first public park, was central to the new suburb created by the streetcar. Many of the brick houses were built with high ceilings, long windows, and flat roofs. A small yard could be used for a garden or family gatherings. In the 1970s, Historic Denver, Inc., worked to preserve the area and helped to restore homes and structures that were part of the city’s first neighborhood.

Building Boom
Denver’s leaders knew that beautiful buildings and homes would encourage people to want to live in Denver. During the boom years of 1870 – 1892, many buildings went up, including these:

- The Byers-Evans House was home for William Byers and his family. He eventually sold it to William G. Evans, the son of Byers’ good friend, John Evans
- The Oxford Hotel was built in 1891. Its location near Union Station made it an elegant and popular choice for travelers
- The Arapahoe School was Denver’s first school building. It opened in 1873, and combined all of the small classes that had been held in cabins and shacks. East High School started in this building, but moved to its own location in 1881
- The Chester S. Morey Building was a warehouse across the street from Union Station. Morey helped start Manual High School, and Morey Middle School is named for him

Technology
- Denver’s first telegraph system in 1863 sent messages over electrical wires
- Gas streetlights were lit at sundown each evening
- Denver’s telephone system was the first in the state in 1879
- Electric towers were built to light the city in 1887
- Modern buildings had elevators, plumbing, and steam heat
The Tabor Grand Opera House

When Silver King Horace Tabor came to Denver, he decided the city needed taller, fancier buildings. Frank E. Edbrooke had worked on the Tabor Block and began building the **Tabor Grand Opera House**. When it was finished, the huge gaslight chandeliers, silk curtains, velvet seats, and marble stairs impressed Denver’s richest residents. Its success was short-lived, though. When Tabor and many others lost their money in 1893, the theater lost much of its wealthy audience.

At the same time, Elizabeth Bonduel McCourt married Harvey Doe and moved to Central City, Colorado. Her pretty, childlike face earned her the nickname “Baby”. Harvey was not successful mining, and had many debts. They divorced in 1880, and Baby Doe moved to Leadville. Even though Horace was still married, he and Baby Doe met and fell in love. Horace and Augusta divorced in 1883. Augusta received a large portion of their fortune and moved to California. Horace married Baby Doe, and moved into an expensive mansion in Denver.

In 1893, the value of silver dropped, and the Tabors lost all their money. They had to sell their house and belongings. Horace died 6 years later. Baby Doe went back to Leadville. She died in a cabin near the Matchless Mine, a place she and Horace had once owned.

**Faces and Places**

**Frank E. Edbrooke 1840-1921**

Frank E. Edbrooke was an architect who came to Denver to help build the Tabor Block offices and the Tabor Grand Opera House. He settled in Denver and went on to design and build some of Denver’s most famous landmarks. These include the Brown Palace Hotel, the Oxford Hotel, and the Denver Dry Goods Company Building.

**David H. Moffat 1839-1911**

David H. Moffat was a banker before coming to Denver in 1860. He worked with other businessmen to get the railroads for Denver. He had an idea for a train line west over the mountains. The Moffat Tunnel was finished after his death. It is in Winter Park Colorado, and is still in use for train travel today. The Moffat Mansion in Denver was a grand house with a ballroom, Tiffany stained glass windows, and a chandelier with 4,000 crystals. It was torn down in 1972 and replaced by a bank building.

**The Brown Palace Hotel**

Henry C. Brown bought 160 acres of land on a hill overlooking young Denver City. The north-south streets met the diagonal roads at one corner of his property. This created a triangular lot. In the 1880s, Brown decided to build a luxury hotel on that spot. Frank E. Edbrooke was chosen as the architect, and the **Brown Palace Hotel** was opened in 1892. It was the first fireproof building in Colorado. Since its opening, the Brown Palace Hotel has never closed.

**The Cherrellyn Horsecar**

The Cherrellyn Horsecar was a unique streetcar that ran down Broadway Street in Englewood. The horse pulled the trolley up the hill, and then climbed on a special platform for the ride back down. Passengers said that the horse automatically stopped when he saw anyone waiting! The Cherrellyn Horsecar ran until 1910 when it was replaced by the electric streetcar.

**The Cherrellyn Horsecar**

William Gray Evans was the son of John Evans, Colorado Territory’s second Governor. He was President of the Denver Tramway Company. Evans developed electric streetcars that served Denver and its suburbs. After David Moffat’s death, Evans worked to see the Moffat Tunnel project through to its end.

**The Tabor Grand Opera House**

When it was finished, the huge gaslight chandeliers, silk curtains, velvet seats, and marble stairs impressed Denver’s richest residents. Its success was short-lived, though. When Tabor and many others lost their money in 1893, the theater lost much of its wealthy audience.
Henry C. Brown owned land on a hill overlooking Denver City. He donated ten acres to be used for a future State Capitol building. Brown called the area Capitol Hill. In time, many wealthy citizens built their mansions nearby.

Construction of the Colorado State Capitol building was started in 1886, and took more than 20 years to finish. On July 4, 1890, 20 mules hauled a cornerstone weighing 20 tons to the building site. In a grand ceremony, a copper box was filled with the American flag, a map of Colorado, copies of local newspapers, and other important keepsakes. Then, the box was placed into the corner of the Capitol and sealed there forever.

Most of the building materials came from Colorado: granite from Gunnison, sandstone from Ft. Collins, and the last known supply of Colorado rose onyx from Beulah. Around the grand staircase, eight large paintings show the history and importance of water to life in Colorado. Each has poetry written by Thomas Hornsby Ferril, a famous Colorado poet.

As the railroads brought more people to Denver and the city grew, territory leaders sent a request for statehood to Washington, D.C. They asked the U.S. Congress for an enabling act, or permission to become a state. In 1876, Coloradans agreed on a constitution, or list of basic rules and laws. President Ulysses S. Grant declared Colorado the 38th state on August 1, 1876.

The U.S. declared its independence and became its own country on July 4, 1776. Colorado became a state 100 years later. The word, centennial, means 100th anniversary. This is why Colorado is known as the Centennial State.

The original dome was made of lead. In 1908, Colorado miners donated enough gold to cover the dome, giving it its special look. Outside, on one of the steps facing west, there is a brass marker showing Denver’s mile high altitude – 5,280 feet. “One Mile Above Sea Level” is engraved on a step below.

There is a legend that a treasure is hidden in the tunnels beneath the Capitol. When it was first opened, a watchman guarded the building. According to the story, he changed his paychecks into silver dollars, and hid them somewhere beneath the Capitol, where he lived for thirty years. The watchman’s silver has never been found...
The city could not provide much help for so many jobless people. Instead, they offered them a way out of town. The city gave away wood for building flatboats so people could leave by the river. The railroads offered cheap tickets to move away. Hard times brought out the best and worst in Denver's citizens.

Immigrants had come to Denver during the boom of the 1870s and 1880s. They worked hard and settled into neighborhoods with people who shared their culture. Now, people who were out of work accused immigrants of taking all the jobs. Misunderstanding led to suspicion, fear, and sometimes riots or attacks.

Churches and clubs tried to care for the poor, providing meals, clothing, and shelter. People with tuberculosis, a lung disease, came to Denver because they thought dry air and sunshine might cure them. The Jewish community built a free hospital to treat any patient who needed help.

Why did Oscar lose his job?
In the 1880s, silver mines in Colorado were producing more silver than they could sell at a good price. The U.S. Government agreed to buy a large amount each month to make coins. When that agreement was canceled in 1893, the biggest customer for Colorado silver was gone. Mines closed and many people, including Oscar, lost their jobs.

What happened to all the workers?
Thousands of people came to Denver looking for work and shelter. Some folks lived in tents by the river. People were homeless and hungry. Julia worked at the dry goods store during the day and sewed clothing for other people at home. My grandfather, Edward, was a little boy then. He remembered her sewing long into the night, sitting next to a dim kerosene lamp.

What are “dry goods”?*
Dry goods are things made out of cloth, like shirts and tablecloths, along with needles and thread, and other household supplies. Goods were separated into different departments, like “Men’s Clothing” or “Ladies’ Hats”.

*“Dry goods” is a term that was used for clothing and household goods in the 19th century. Today, the term is often used to refer to items like towels, bathrobes, and linens.
At The Voting Polls

From Denver’s earliest days, women worked to improve life in very difficult conditions. They worked just as hard as the men, trying to keep clothes clean, feed families, run businesses and farms, start schools, and look after the poor, sick, and hungry.

The Molly Brown House Museum

Margaret Brown’s nickname, Molly, was given to her after her death. A musical play called “The Unsinkable Molly Brown” was loosely based on her life and made the name famous. Her home at 1340 Pennsylvania Street in Denver is known as The Molly Brown House Museum. The house was sold after Margaret’s death, and different owners used the house until 1970. Ann Love, Governor John Love’s wife, and others started Historic Denver, Inc. This organization saved the home, and now preserves historic buildings that are part of Denver’s past. Today, The Molly Brown House Museum helps visitors step into the life and time of one of Denver’s most famous citizens.

The world knows her as Molly Brown, but her real name was Margaret Tobin Brown. She met and married J. J. Brown, who was a mine manager in Leadville, Colorado. They became very rich when gold was discovered in one of the mines he managed. The Browns moved to Denver, and bought a mansion on Capitol Hill. Margaret studied languages and traveled to see the world.

In 1912, Margaret was coming home on the Titanic, a big ship that was supposed to be unsinkable. The ship hit an iceberg, and sank into the freezing ocean. Some people were rescued, but 1,500 passengers died that night. Margaret was one of the lucky ones. Her knowledge of different languages helped her to calm and assist some of the survivors who didn’t speak English.

Back in Denver, she fought for a better juvenile court system for young people. She helped raise money for the Catholic Church, women’s rights, children’s care and for stray animals. Margaret also helped miners and worked to protect historical places. She甚至 ran for Congress at a time when most women in the U.S. couldn’t even vote!

“Society will never construct a government worthy of the respect [of its citizens]... until women form a part of its councils.”

Caroline Nichols Churchill, Denver Publisher

Young woman working as a house servant

Dirt-roofed and wooden cabin on the prairie

“I found many opportunities to be useful, and I was glad to be… The less you think of yourself... the better off you are.”

Margaret Brown during an interview at the Brown Palace Hotel

“Mother must have suffered agony from the very beginning... He was accustomed to all the comforts of a ten-room home... Papa had the usual one-room dirt-roofed cabin ready for us... Mother put her white, embroidered pillow shams (cases) and spreads on our beds, and then it rained. The dirt leaked through the roof onto the beds, but Mother did not give up... “I had a tarpaulin (waterproof sheet) stretched above the beds.”

Childhood Memories of Kittie Hall Fairfield

Colorado women worked with Governor John Routt for women’s suffrage, or a woman’s right to vote. In November of 1893, Colorado became the first state in the U.S. where men voted to give women this right.
Fountains, statues, artistic lights, music, playgrounds, parks… make people love the place in which they live.

Robert Speer came to Colorado in 1878 to cure his tuberculosis. When he was well, he settled in Denver. The city had grown so fast that basic needs like good roads and trash removal had not kept up. When Speer became mayor in 1904, he supported the national City Beautiful movement to improve cities for the enjoyment of their citizens. Mayor Speer’s plans for Denver included solving basic problems along with improving the city’s look and quality of life.

Other Structures and Parks

- The Carnegie Library, once the central location for the public library, was developed with funds from Andrew Carnegie. Eight smaller neighborhood libraries also opened
- City and County Building of Denver was planned to bring the State Capitol and other government buildings together in one efficient and elegant area
- Washington Park, City Park, and Civic Center Park were all completed with walkways, statues, and places for people to picnic and relax
- Over 100,000 trees were given away to anyone who would plant them

Is the arch still there today?
The arch was taken down in 1931. There were cars on the street then and some people thought the arch made a problem for traffic. The auditorium is still there though. It’s one of the theaters at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Why was the meeting so important?
Mayor Robert Speer wanted to change Denver from a frontier town to a more modern, cultured city. He hoped the auditorium would bring in lots of people for big conventions, or meetings. Visitors help the city’s economy by spending money in hotels, restaurants, and stores.

What is a “Welcome Arch”?
Most visitors arrived by train at Union Station. They walked through a large iron arch that said WELCOME across the top. City leaders wanted guests to be excited and have fun. Even though it was July, snow was brought down from the mountains by train. According to Marie’s journal, the snowball fights were the most popular activity!
Frances Wisebart Jacobs 1843 - 1892
Frances Wisebart Jacobs cared about the poor and homeless people in Denver. She helped start the Charity Organization Society, a group that collected donations, and divided the money between several charities in the city. This group became today’s United Way. Jacobs also persuaded the Jewish community to help her start a free hospital. Today, that hospital is called National Jewish Health, and is known all over the world for its treatment of tuberculosis and other lung diseases.

Charles Boettcher 1852 - 1948
Charles Boettcher came to Leadville, Colorado where he made a lot of money selling tools to miners. By 1890, he was very rich and moved his family to a mansion in Denver. Charles brought back sugar beet seeds from a visit to Germany and started the Great Western Sugar Company. He also started cement factories to help build the growing city of Denver. Today, the Boettcher Foundation gives money to support college scholarships, the arts, and many community organizations in Colorado. The Boettcher Mansion was donated to the state of Colorado and has been preserved as the Governor’s Mansion today.

Josephine Aspinwall Roche 1886 - 1976
Josephine Roche had a college education and an understanding of social work, or helping people with their problems. She was a policewoman for a time, and worked with Judge Benjamin Lindsey in his juvenile court system. In 1927, she inherited a share in a mining company. She changed the way miners were treated and increased their pay. Josephine encouraged other companies to treat their workers with understanding and respect. She also fought to protect children from working long hours in unsafe conditions. She is remembered as a kind and concerned person who worked to improve the lives of others.
Elitch Gardens
Mary Elitch and her husband John opened the Elitch Zoological Gardens in 1890. Denver citizens could spend time relaxing in the apple orchards. They could view bears, exotic snakes and other animals on display. When John Elitch died, Mary took over the management of the park. She added rides and a very successful summer theater. Eventually, Mary sold Elitch’s to new managers. In 1994, Elitch Gardens moved to Auraria, but some of the original structures remain.

Denver Arts
The Denver Art Museum began with the Denver Artist’s Club. Anne Evans, the daughter of Governor John Evans, spent her life supporting the arts and artists in Denver. The art collection got its own place on 14th Street after years of temporary displays. The museum moved into the current “castle” building in 1971 and opened the very modern Hamilton Building in 2006.

The National Western Stock Show
The first official National Western Stock Show was held in January 1906. It gave farmers and ranchers a place to buy and sell their farm animals. In 1906, the show lasted for six days, and had a crowd of 15,000. The 100th stock show in 2006 lasted for 16 days, and was visited by 726,972 people. The Grand Champion Steer is displayed in the lobby of the Brown Palace Hotel for a few hours each year. Visitors can have their pictures taken with him.

Bicycles
The first bicycle in Denver was called a penny farthing, or a high wheel model. The front wheel was very large, with a much smaller wheel in back. This changed with the safety bicycle that had front and back wheels of the same size. Women started wearing split skirts, and riding the bike for getting around. As cars became available, the bicycle was used more for fun and sports activities. Bicycling is still a very popular pastime in Denver today.

Play Ball!
Even back in 1862, the city had a baseball team called The Denvers. Later on, they were the Denver Bears. The team played at Merchants Park at 6th Avenue and Broadway until the Bears Stadium was built in 1948. The Denver Zephyrs were the next to play until the city was able to get a National League team. The Colorado Rockies were established in 1991, and began official play in 1993. The Denver Broncos got started in 1960. They played in the Denver Bears’ stadium, which was enlarged several times. The City of Denver bought the stadium and changed the name to Mile High Stadium in 1968. The Broncos’ first uniforms were yellow jerseys, brown pants, and striped socks!

Theater
Theater has been a part of Denver since its earliest days. Music and live shows were welcome breaks in the miners’ hard, rough lives. By the early 1900s, Denver had a real theater area along Curtis Street. Thirteen theaters presented plays, operas, and variety or Vaudeville shows. At night, 10,000 electric lights lit up the street. Over time, most theaters closed and were torn down.

Denver Pastimes

Bicycle riders on Alameda Avenue in Denver
College football player
Entrance to the original Elitch Gardens

Theater Slogan of Elitch Gardens
“Not to see Elitch’s is not to see Denver”

The National Western Stock Show opening day parade on 17th Street

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Edward’s Pen
1916 – 1929

Denver in World War I
At home, farmers and ranchers provided wheat, meats, and dairy products needed for soldiers. Downtown warehouses on Wynkoop Street were busy shipping products out by train.

Discrimination and Bigotry
After World War I, there was an unhappy rise in suspicion and hatred of anyone who was considered different or “un-American”. This included immigrants from other countries, African Americans, and people of different religions. These unfriendly people had some power in the city government and newspapers. In time, people in Denver grew tired of their hateful messages. City leaders turned their attention to moving the city forward, not tearing it apart.

We Dig Deeper...

Denver Tramway workers on strike

Working People
People who worked in factories and mines depended on their bosses to treat them fairly. Poor pay, long hours, and unsafe working conditions caused workers to complain and rebel. In 1920, Denver Tramway workers went on strike. There were riots and violence, but the workers did not have the power to get what they wanted.

Transportation
Better roads were built for cars and meant a faster trip to market for farmers and their crops. Suburbs grew farther out from the city.

Denver got its first airport in 1929. The Denver Municipal Airport was a project of Mayor Benjamin Stapleton. It started out with four gravel runways and a small brick terminal building. It would later be called Stapleton Airport.

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Denver Tramway Company
Powerhouse
The Denver Tramway Company built this large brick building to hold boilers and engines. The equipment generated electricity to run the electric streetcars around Denver. It was built on the South Platte River at Cherry Creek to be near the railroad and downtown. Today, the preserved building is home to an outdoor equipment store. Confluence Park is a public area just across the river.

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The Rossonian Hotel was located in the Five Points neighborhood. Many African Americans settled in that area after 1900. Because of discrimination, African American performers were not allowed to stay in the hotels downtown. The Rossonian Hotel did not discriminate. Musicians of every race stayed together and played music at the hotel and clubs on Welton Street.

Entertainment
People wanted to enjoy something fun to take their minds off money troubles. Movies and theater were very popular. By 1930, theaters were built specifically for showing films and were called movie palaces. The Mayan Theater on Broadway was one of them. It was almost torn down in the 1980s, but was preserved with the help of Historic Denver, Inc.

At the same time that the U.S. was having its money problems, farmers on the Great Plains were having a terrible drought. The lack of water meant that crops couldn’t grow. People abandoned their farms and came to cities looking for help. Soup kitchens, churches, and other organizations did what they could.

Denver and The Great Depression

What’s a Denver Square?
It’s a style of house: a perfect square with four rooms on the first floor, and four rooms on the second. You could order plans for the house from a catalogue. There are still lots of these homes in the older neighborhoods of Denver today.

How long did the Great Depression last?
Franklin D. Roosevelt became President in 1933. He started programs that put people back to work. Some did construction, building roads and bridges. People like historians, artists, and teachers went to work for schools, libraries and museums. When the U.S. got into World War II in 1941, lots of people were put back to work as soldiers, and on the home front, helping the military with equipment and supplies.

Natty’s Story
My grandfather Jacob was a policeman in Denver. These were his keys to the offices in the City Jail. In the 1930s, the U.S. was going through the Great Depression, a time of very serious money problems. Many people lost their jobs and lived on the street. Some nights, my grandfather would let a family stay in one of the empty offices to get out of the cold.

We Look Carefully
There were many keys on a large metal ring. The bigger keys must have been for doors, and the smaller ones for desks or cabinets. There was one different looking key, hanging from a chain. My brother and I guessed it was Jacob’s house key.

My grandfather used to tell us how hard it was for homeless people to get a bed and a meal. Sometimes he would bring families home for the night. My cousins, my parents and I all lived with my grandparents, Jacob and Marie. I don’t know how we all squeezed everyone into our Denver Square.

We DIG Deeper...

Where did the name Five Points come from?
"Natty’s asks And then there were three...what do you think?"

At the soup kitchen

The Rossonian Hotel

All That Jazz
The Rossonian Hotel was located in the Five Points neighborhood. Many African Americans settled in that area after 1900. Because of discrimination, African American performers were not allowed to stay in the hotels downtown. The Rossonian Hotel did not discriminate. Musicians of every race stayed together and played music at the hotel and clubs on Welton Street.

People learning to pan for gold

The Paramount Theater
The Paramount Theater was built in 1930, and was designed by one of Denver’s most famous architects, Temple Buell. The design is art deco, a popular style of the time, using bold, geometric shapes and unusual materials. Its world-famous Wurlitzer organ is one of only two that still exist. The other one is in the Radio City Music Hall in New York City. The Paramount lost its customers when many folks moved into the suburbs. Historic Denver, Inc. bought and restored the building in the 1980s. It is preserved today as a concert hall.

Inside the Paramount Theater

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Amache

After Pearl Harbor, some people didn’t trust Japanese Americans living in our country. The U.S. government ruled that they had to move away from the West coast. Some were forced to live in official detention camps. One of those camps was in Colorado: Amache.

Governor Ralph L. Carr

Colorado’s Governor Ralph L. Carr criticized the relocation policy, and tried to protect Colorado’s Japanese American citizens. He insisted that they be treated with fairness and respect. He is remembered as a person who stood up for his beliefs, even when they were unpopular. To honor his courage, there is a plaque in the State Capitol, a statue in Denver’s Sakura Square, and the new Ralph L. Carr Justice Center.

All Boom and No Bust

After the war, places like Lowry and Fort Logan continued as military bases. Other buildings were changed for government use, like the archives at the Federal Center. Documents and information are stored and organized there. When big businesses saw the U.S. government choosing Denver, they followed.

Quigg Newton

A new young mayor, Quigg Newton, was elected in 1947. His vision was an updated Denver with new investors and modern buildings. He did away with the 12-story height restriction for buildings downtown, and worked to bring in big corporations. Ten years after World War II ended, the population of the city had doubled to over 400,000 people.

Frank’s Drugstore

1941 – 1960

My father Frank had a drugstore downtown, a few blocks from the Daniels and Fisher Tower. This pillbox is the only thing I have left from that old place. The pharmacy had a soda fountain, a long counter where customers could get a sandwich or a cold drink, and talk about what was happening in Denver and the country.

We Look Carefully
The small box was printed with the name of the store and the address on 16th Street. We guessed that Keystone 4811 was the phone number. The bottom of the box had a date – 1941.

What was happening in Denver in 1941?
That year there were wars going on in Europe and Asia. Many Americans wanted our country to stay out of them. In December, Japan bombed a U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Many sailors were killed, and the United States was suddenly at war. There was a lot of talk about this around the soda fountain in my father’s store.

Natty’s Story

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We live close to Lowry. Was that an Air Force Base?
Denver gave land to the government to set up an air corps-training base here. They called it Lowry, after a Colorado man Francis Lowry, who was killed in World War I. Many government workers and soldiers came to Denver. Military centers were built here for training and for making and storing weapons. Denver was full of soldiers who supported the local businesses, like Frank’s drugstore.

What happened to Frank’s Drugstore?
After the war, the government kept its centers here, and big businesses moved in. Folks wanted to live and shop away from the noise and traffic of the city. The stores downtown lost many of their customers. My father closed the drugstore in 1969.
Troubled Times
In a democracy, citizens use their votes and their voices to make changes. In the 1960s, people of all cultures worked together for equal rights. They marched, gave speeches and wrote books and songs. Eventually, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against segregated schools. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 guaranteed equal rights for everyone.

Denver Urban Renewal Authority (DURA)
In the 1960s, many American cities were having the same problems with old buildings and new challenges. DURA was set up to find answers to urban or inner city problems. Renewal plans turned toward preservation and reuse.

• Dana Crawford started the Larimer Square Association. The original buildings in the 1400 block of Larimer Street were saved. The success of this project helped start preservation work in other historic places.

• Historic Denver, Inc. began its first preservation project, the Molly Brown House Museum in 1970. Many other properties have been saved and restored since then.

• The Denver Landmark Preservation Commission protects historic buildings and neighborhoods from unwanted demolition or changes.

Who lives in the houses of the Ninth Street Historic Park today?

Is the school still there?
Today, Dora Moore is a busy, diverse Denver public school. It was saved, but some other Denver schools were torn down to make way for newer ones. The city was growing so much that many people moved to the suburbs. Businesses followed, leaving downtown buildings empty. Many of these were torn down and replaced by modern structures. Some people in Denver started thinking about saving the old places and reusing them in different ways.

“Dust in the air suspended, marks the place where a story ended”
T.S. Eliot

Is the school still there?
My mother Rachel was a teacher at the Dora Moore School in Denver. She used to tell us how much she loved the beautiful, old brick building. This photo was taken in her classroom. She kept it because it was very special to her.

Why was the photo so important?
There was a time in Denver, like a lot of cities, when African Americans could only live and go to school in their own neighborhoods. This separation is called segregation. Many people, including my mother, worked for integration so that all children could go to school together. To her, this photograph proved that things had changed.

Why was the photo so important?
We Look Carefully My brother and I looked at the picture. The books and clothes seemed sort old-fashioned. We guessed that the kids were some of her favorite students. It was nice, but we didn’t see anything really special about it.

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“Natty’s Story”
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“Dust in the air suspended, marks the place where a story ended”

The Cooper Building Collapsing The Cooper Building After the demolition of the Cooper Building

We Dig Deeper...
**Natty’s Gold**

1980–Present

**Natty’s Story**

When I bought this store in 1988, I found this gold nugget underneath some loose floorboards in the back room. I wasn’t sure what it was at first, but when I picked it up, I knew it was gold.

**We Look Carefully**

Even though the nugget was small, it was pretty heavy. My brother and I took turns holding it. We could just imagine how excited a prospector would be to find it in his gold pan.

**Who did it belong to?**

I don’t know who owned the store before me. Denver was having money troubles and many people lost their jobs and businesses. I bought the place from a bank. But I think that nugget had been there for a very long time.

**How old is the store?**

My shop is in the Baker Neighborhood, a historic district that is part of very early Denver. William Byers homesteaded in this area. Old maps show that this shop was a hardware store. Maybe the nugget fell through the floorboards when a miner bought his supplies. It’s too bad the gold can’t talk. I’m sure it’s story would be very interesting.

**Why didn’t you sell the gold for money?**

The gold made me feel connected to my family’s past. My great great grandfather Alexander came out here looking for gold. He never found much, so he made furniture for a living. Here I am, selling old furniture, and finding gold when I wasn’t even looking for it.

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**The Oil Bust**

In the 1970s, thousands of people came to Denver to work for oil companies and other new businesses. By the 1980s, oil prices and other events caused companies to close, leaving empty buildings and people without jobs.

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**Leadership**

**Federico Peña** was Denver’s first Latino mayor. He supported city improvements like a larger central library, a big convention center, and a new airport. Peña was Mayor from 1983 until 1991.

**Wellington Webb** served as the first African American mayor of Denver from 1991 until 2003. He worked on development of downtown areas, and finished the Denver International Airport (DIA) project. Webb and his wife Wilma helped create the Blair Caldwell African American Research Library in Five Points.

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**Transportation Developments**

The Transportation Expansion Project (T-Rex) widened Interstate 25 to support growing traffic. Light Rail systems were built for public transportation between the suburbs and Denver. DIA is the fifth busiest airport in the U.S. An average of 52,000,000 passengers pass through each year.

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**Bust and Boom**

Determination and planning helped bring new energy to Denver’s economy. The convention center, improved transportation, and preservation of the city’s unique history bring millions of visitors here every year.

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**Curiosity Corner**

Why is a triceratops the mascot of the Colorado Rockies?
16th Street Mall

As Denver grew, many stores moved away from 16th Street to new shopping centers in the suburbs. A plan was made to renew the area by making it a pedestrian, or walking, street. Trees and planters now line the center, and free shuttle buses carry people from one end to the other. Today, the 16th Street Mall is a popular shopping and dining area for visitors and local citizens.

Skyline Park

This urban park was originally built in 1974. The park is three blocks long, running along Arapahoe Street between 15th Street and 18th Street. Tucked in between office buildings and city traffic, the park is a place for visitors and workers to enjoy a quiet break in green surroundings. Skyline Park holds a number of community events like free outdoor movies in the summer, and ice-skating in the winter.

Denver International Airport

Denver International Airport (DIA) opened on February 28, 1995. The top of the building looks like both the snowy mountains, and the tipis that once filled the prairie. The white roof weighs 400 tons. A time capsule was placed inside and contains many objects, including coins from the Denver Mint, Colorado flags, Broncos tickets, Molly Brown House Museum information, and Mayor Wellington Webb’s tennis shoes!
Oscar’s Stone Tool - Can any kind of stone be made into a stone tool?
No. Chert, flint, slate and obsidian are some of the stones that work best. They are conchoidal rocks. This means that they break in rounded cone shaped pieces that look like conch or seashells. Those pieces are shaped into tools by chipping away with other stone, wood, or bone tools.

Alexander’s Map - Why do some of Denver’s streets run straight north, south, east & west, while others are on a diagonal?
The first streets of Denver were laid out parallel to Cherry Creek. When Larimer arrived, the new streets were set parallel to the South Platte River. In 1864, Henry C. Brown laid other streets out directly north, south, east and west.

Emaline’s Rocky Mountain News - Usually, the streets in the old part of any city are very narrow. Why are downtown Denver’s streets so wide?
Teams of oxen or horses pulled large supply wagons that came to early Denver. They needed room to pass each other, park side by side, or turn around.

Beth’s Timetable - What does the name Colorado mean?
The name Colorado is a Spanish word meaning colored red, from the red soil that colors the Colorado River.

Joseph’s Square - Why are the students of Denver’s East High School called Angels?
The entrance to the original East High School had a large arch with a center stone, or keystone, at the top. The keystone was carved with the face of an angel. When the building was demolished, the angel keystone was moved to a garden on the grounds of today’s East High School.

Julia’s Button Tin - What was The Denver’s advertising motto?
Where Colorado Shops with Confidence.

Marie’s Little Journal - Who did the Democrats choose as their candidate for President in 1908?
William Jennings Bryan was the candidate.

Edward’s Pen - Is Emily Griffith’s Opportunity School still open?
The Emily Griffith Technical College still offers classes for different job skills and English as a Second Language (ESL). The school has served over 1,500,000 students since it was started by Emily Griffith in 1916.

Jacob’s Keys - Where did the name Five Points come from?
One of Denver Tramway’s streetcar lines ended where several streets came together. All the street names wouldn’t fit on a sign, so the end-of-the-line stop was called Five Points.

Frank’s Drugstore - What is the tallest building in Denver today?
Republic Plaza has 56 stories and stands 714 feet high.

Rachel’s Photograph - Who lives in the houses of the Ninth Street Historic Park today?
No one lives in the houses. They are used as offices for the colleges on the Auraria Campus.

Natty’s Gold - Why is a triceratops the mascot of the Colorado Rockies?
When Coors Field was built, construction workers found the bones of a triceratops in the earth below.

In the weeks after that, we visited all the places Natty told us about. At the Four Mile House, we churned butter and panned for gold. We had tea and sat on the porch swing at The Molly Brown House Museum. One Saturday, we walked along the 16th Street Mall and found the Daniels and Fisher Tower and the Denver Dry Goods Building. Another time, we took the shuttle down to Larimer Square.

Next week, we’re going to the History Colorado Center. They have been saving things from Colorado’s past ever since 1879. Now that’s what I call a treasure box!
### Glossary

**Activist** – a person who works to bring about social or political change.

**Ancestor** – a family member who lived in past before you.

**Architect** – a person who designs buildings and often supervises the construction.

**Archives** – a place where records and documents are kept.

**Artifact** – an object made by a person (not nature).

**Basin** – a valley or naturally sunken land.

**Booster** – someone who helps support or promote something.

**Brewery** – a place where beer is made.

**Candidate** – a person who is running for public office.

**Carpenter** – a person who makes things out of wood.

**Centennial** – 100th anniversary of an event.

**Chandelier** – a ceiling light that has branches for many candles or bulbs.

**Churn** – shake or beat cream to make butter.

**City Beautiful** – a national movement to improve city life by adding pleasing structures.

**Civil Rights Act of 1964** – an act of Congress that gave equal rights to everyone, integrating schools and making discrimination illegal.

**Color** – a prospector’s term for gold.

**Constitution** – a list of basic rules or laws for governing.

**Convention** – a large meeting for a specific reason or purpose.

**Cornerstone** – a stone set into the corner of a building to celebrate its construction.

**Democrat** – a person who belongs to the Democratic party of the United States.

**Demolition** – destroying or tearing down.

**Denver Square** – a style of house known also as a foursquare.

**Detention** – punishment of being held or kept in a defined area.

**Discrimination** – treating people differently because of race, religion, culture or sex.

**Diverse** – mixed or a variety.

**Drought** – lack of rain.

**Dry Goods** – fabric and items made from cloth.

**Enabling Act** – an act of Congress to give permission for legal matters.

**Geologist** – a person who studies rocks and the Earth.

**Go Backers** – people who came west and turned back because of difficulties.

**Governor’s Mansion** – official home of the Governor of a state.

**Granite** – a type of hard rock.

**Great Depression** – a time of worldwide serious money troubles that lasted from 1929 to the early 1940s.

**High Wheel** – a bicycle style with a very large front wheel, and much smaller rear wheel.

**Historian** – a person who studies and interprets history.

**Historic District** – a group of buildings or properties that are historically important and identified for protection.

**Homestead Act of 1862** – an act of Congress that gave farmers free land in exchange for living and working on the property for at least five years.

**Immigrant** – someone who settles in a new country.

**Integrate/integration** – accepting all races and cultures together.

**Juvenile** – Child or young person.

**Juvenile Court System** – legal system specifically for young people (separate from adults).

**Keepekae** – a souvenir or object kept as a reminder or remembrance.

**Kerosene** – an oil-based fuel that was used for lamps before gas or electric light.

**Livestock** – farm animals.

**Louisiana Purchase** – large land purchase made by Thomas Jefferson in 1803.

**Mansion** – a very large, fancy house.

**Mascot** – a character or token that brings good luck.

**Massacre** – a cruel murder of a large number of people or animals.

**Migrant** – moving from place to place for work.

**Minorities** – groups of people who are treated differently because of race or religion.

**Mint/minted** – stamp or stamped by a press, like coins.

**Narrow Gauge** – a term for railroad tracks that are three feet apart.

**Oral Tradition** – information and stories passed down through spoken words.

**Ore** – rocks that are processed or treated to get valuable metals like gold or silver.

**Pedestrian** – a person who is walking.

**Peddler** – someone who sells things in public places.

**Prejudice** – unfair or unequal treatment of a person or group.

**Primary Sources** – authentic or original materials from a particular time.

**Prospector** – a person who searches for valuable minerals like gold or silver.

**Race** – a group of people with the same history, culture, and language.

**Religion** – a set of beliefs about the way humans lived a long time ago.

**Rendezvous** – meeting at a certain place, chosen ahead of time.

**Reusable** – something that can be used again.

**Rig** – a type of dinosaur with three horns (tri).

**Rustlers** – people who steal cattle.

**Science** – organized study of the natural and physical world through careful observation, testing, and recording results.

**Separation of church and state** – a legal system.

**Sequoyah** – a chief of the Cherokee Nation.

**Site** – An area where something was or is located.

**Social Work** – work done to protect and help those in need.

**Standard Gauge** – a measurement for railroad tracks that are four feet, eight and one half inches apart.

**Streetcar Suburbs** – neighborhoods that developed because of streetcar transportation.

**Suffrage** – the right to vote.

**Telegraph** – sending messages over electrical wires through a series of coded taps.

**Temporary** – lasting for just a short time.

**Territorial** – a part of a country that does not have the full rights of its official states.

**Time Capsule** – a container of objects that are from a specific time.

**Timetable** – a printed schedule.

**Transcontinental** – going all the way across a continent.

**Travois** – horse drawn sled used by Native Americans to carry things from place to place.

**Tripod** – a three-legged structure or support.

**Tuberculosis** – a serious lung disease.

**Underground Railroad** – a network of people and safe houses that helped slaves escape.

**Urban** – in the city.

**Vaudeville** – a style of variety show with comedians, jugglers, and other performers.

**Warehouse** – a building for storing goods before sale or shipment.

**Zoological** – about animals.
Amaroche - located in southeastern Colorado near the Arkansas River and the community of Granada; all that remains are cement foundations of buildings

Arapahoe School - Denver's first official school building was built in 1873; East High School was located on the fourth floor, but moved to its own location in 1938; the Arapahoe School was later demolished

*Baker Neighborhood - neighborhood originally homesteaded by William Byers; boundaries are 6th Ave. to the north, Mississippi Ave. to the south, Lincoln Ave. to the east, and the Platte River to the west. The area has been designated a Historic District.

*Black American West Museum - 5091 California Street in the Five Points neighborhood; the former home of Justinia Ford has been preserved; tours and programming are offered

Blair Caldwell African American Research Library - 2401 Welton Street in the Five Points neighborhood; part of the Denver Public Library system

*Boettcher Mansion - 6th Avenue and Logan Street; the mansion serves as the Governor's Mansion for the state of Colorado

*Brown Palace Hotel – 321 17th Street, at the corner of 17th Street, Tremont Street, & California Street; the hotel offers tours and historical programming

*Byers – Evans House - 1510 Bannock Street, Denver; currently a house museum offering tours and programming through History Colorado

*Civic Center – 1500 California Street; the mansion serves as the Governor's Mansion for the state of Colorado

*City and County Building of Denver – 1437 Broadway Street in Denver; location of Denver's City Hall and Courthouse

*City Park – public park located between York Street and Colorado Boulevard, from East 17th Avenue north to East 23rd Avenue

*Civic Center Park – public park located between the State Capitol Building and the City and County Building of Denver; used for community events and festivals; Denver's first National Historic Landmark

*Colorado State Capitol – 200 East Colfax Avenue; houses State offices and legislature; tours offered daily

Confluence Park – public park located at the meeting point of Cherry Creek and the South Platte River

*Curtis Park – park and historic district located around 33rd Street and Champa; a diverse community of residents and businesses; many original structures have been preserved

*Denver Art Museum - 100 17th Street; tours and programming are available

*Denver International Airport - 4655 Humboldt Street; Denver's first official school was held here; the original warehouses have been repurposed for use as apartments, shops, restaurants, and art galleries

*Denver Museum of Nature and Science – 2000 Colorado Boulevard in City Park; the museum houses the Colorado Museum of Natural History; original building has been preserved within today's remodeled and much enlarged structure; tours and programming are available

*Denver Neighborhood Authority – 1532 Champa Street; originally built for the 1940 Democratic convention; it is currently part of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts (Ellie Caulkins Opera House)

*Denver Tramway Company Powerhouse – 1456 Platte Street; currently the home of Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI)

*Dora Moore School – East Ninth Ave at Corona Street; originally the Corona School; it has been in continuous use as part of the Denver Public School system

*Elijah Gardens – originally located at 38th Street and Tennyson in Highlands; the amusement park moved to Aurora in 1994. There are plans to preserve the original theatre as a community arts center

*Elitch Gardens – originally located at 38th Street and Tennyson in Highlands; the amusement park moved to Aurora in 1994. There are plans to preserve the original theatre as a community arts center

Escuela Tietacio – part of the Denver Public School system; the school offers academic programming while inspiring cultural pride and encouraging meaningful social change for young Latinos

Federal Center – West Sixth Avenue in Lakewood; over 600 acres of buildings that house federal offices, archives, and agencies

Federal Reserve Bank of Denver Art Museum – 100 17th Avenue Park; the complex includes the Frederick C. Hamilton Building, which opened in 2006; tours and visits are available

Denver Center for the Performing Arts – 14th and Curtis Streets; complex of theatres including the original Denver Municipal Auditorium

*Denver Dry Goods Building - 16th and California Streets; the building was built in 1873; it is over 265 feet tall and still a popular active building in the west. The building is still in use for offices and a theater

Denver Municipal Airport – part of the former Stapleton Airport complex; Stapleton is now a planned community of homes, businesses and offices

Denver Museum of Nature and Science – 2000 Colorado Boulevard in City Park; the museum houses the Colorado Museum of Natural History; original building has been preserved within today's remodeled and much enlarged structure; tours and programming are available

*LaMarre Square – 1400 Block of Larimer Street; Denver's first historic district and oldest street has been preserved and is home to shops, restaurants, and offices

LeDo - Area of Denver located in lower downtown. Many of the buildings in the area have been repurposed for use as apartments, shops, restaurants, and art galleries

Lowery – formerly Air Force base located in east Denver; repurposed into a planned community of neighborhoods, offices, and businesses

*Macy's Theater – 110 Broadway; a popular theater showing films regularly

*Mile High Center – 14th Street and Broadway: Denver; the building is still in use for offices

*Mile High Stadium – originally built in 1928, the stadium was closed in 2001, and demolished in 2002. A new stadium, Sports Authority Field at Mile High, was built next to the original, and is the current home of the Denver Broncos.

*Moffat Mansion - 8th and Grant Streets in Denver; the house was demolished in 1972

*Moffat Tunnel - a railroad tunnel cut through the Continental Divide; the east portal is located about 50 miles west of Denver; the west portal comes out in Winter Park Colorado. The railroad tunnel is still in use. A parallel tunnel carries water that serves the Denver metropolitan area

*Molly Brown House Museum – 1340 Pennsylvania Street; former home of Margaret Tobin Brown offers tours and programming

*National Jewish Health – 1440 Jackson Street; original buildings have been incorporated into a larger campus. The facility is the #1 respiratory hospital in the U.S.

*National Western Stock Show - 4693 Humbolt Street; the complex includes Denver Coliseum and other buildings; national stock show is held yearly

*National World's Fair – 2401 Welton Street in Denver; the preserved block of homes serves as offices for the surrounding metropolitan campus

*Ninth Street Historic Park – 900 Auraria Parkway; the preserved block of homes serves as offices for the surrounding metropolitan campus

*Oppportunity School – 1520 Welton Street; the school is now the Emily Griffith Technical College; still offering job skill education and English as a Second Language (ESL)

*Oxford Hotel – 1626 17th Street; the original building and its annex are a popular hotel with a restaurant and bar on the ground floor

*Pamolmud Theatre – 1626 Glenarm Place in Denver; originally built as a movie palace in 1930; preserved and in use as a venue for concerts and performances

*Pennsylvania Street; former home of Margaret Tabor and offices

*Roseman Hotel - 1621 Glenarm Place in Denver; the building is a restored hotel and ground floor

*Riverside Cemetery – 5201 Brighton Boulevard; many important people from Denver's past are buried there, including John Evans, Clara Brown, Silas Soule, and Augusta Tabor

*Sakura Square – 9th and Larimer Streets; small park and Japanese garden at the base of the Tami Apartment tower; annual Cherry Blossom Festival is held in June as a celebration of Japanese culture

*Sand Creek – located in Kiowa County in eastern Colorado; the National Park Service maintains the Sand Creek National Historic Site; open to the public

*Skyline Park – urban park located on Arapahoe Street between 15th and 16th Streets

*National Park Service – 2401 Welton Street in Denver; tours and programming are available

Stadiums

*Union Station – 17th Street at Wynkoop; currently undergoing remodeling as a hub for trains and light rail

United States Mint at Denver – 320 West Colfax Avenue in Denver; tours and programming are available

*Washington Park – public park located between South Franklin Street to the east, South Downing Street to the west, East Virginia to the north, and East Louisiana Street to the south

Wyknob Brewery Company – a restaurant and brewery opened in 1998. It's location in an historic warehouse on Wynkoop Street helped to boost the preservation and development of lower downtown Denver. It is still a popular Denver restaurant.

* Denotes sites currently designated historic at the local, state or national level

* Site Glossary
Prehistoric people occupy the South Platte Valley and the foothills, moving in a seasonal search for resources

Louisiana Purchase – Thomas Jefferson buys land from France, including the eastern plains of Colorado

Zebulon Pike explores Colorado, including the mountain later named for him, Pikes Peak

Treaty of Fort Wise gives land to the Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes, including the eastern plains of Colorado

William Green Russell and his party find gold in Cherry Creek near the confluence with the South Platte River

First Territorial Governor, John Evans, is appointed

Denver City and Auraria join together into one town

First public library opens

Mary Cawker buys the Four Mile House and runs it as a stagecoach stop

First Territorial Governor, John Evans, is appointed

Union Station is built

Electric light towers are installed to light large areas of Denver

The Denver Dry Goods Company opens on 16th Street

First car arrives in Denver

Robert Speer is elected Mayor, introduces the City Beautiful program

Welcome Arch at Union Station opens

Current U.S. Mint building is completed

First National Western Stock Show is held

Gold is applied to the dome of the State Capitol

Democratic National Convention is held in the new Denver Municipal Auditorium

Danes and Fisher Tower is built

Titanic sinks; passenger Margaret (Molly) Brown survives

Center section of Union Station is remodeled

Emily Griffith opens the Opportunity School

Denver Tramway Company workers strike

Denver Municipal Airport opens

Great Depression begins

Drought on the Great Plains causes farms to fail

Paramount Theatre and other movie palaces are built

Rossonian Hotel hosts famous jazz musicians

Welcome Arch is taken down

U.S. enters World War II

Air Corps builds Lowry Air Force Base

World War II ends

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Natty's Family Tree

Alexander  b. 1836

Emaline'  b. 1832

Oscar'  b. 1861

Julia'  b. 1864

Joseph  b. 1862

Beth  b. 1863

Edward  b. 1886

Jillie'  b. 1886

Jacob  b. 1888

Marie'  b. 1890

Frank  b. 1909

Rachel  b. 1911

Natty  b. 1941
Credits

Photo of the interior of Natty’s Store: courtesy of Corky’s Antique’s, 1449 South Broadway, Denver, p. 2 & 40

Photos courtesy of the Library of Congress: pp. 4-5, 8

Photo of the Map of the Gold Region: A Prairie Traveller: A Handbook for Overland Expeditions, by Randolph B. Marcy, p. 6

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