



## DISCOVERING DENVER: BRICK BY BRICK



A publication of Historic Denver Inc. Written by Marilyn Lindenbaum

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# Natty's Story

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.

## NATTY'S TREASURE BOX





# Oscar's Stone Tool

12,000 B.C. – 1858



## “Natty’s Story

This isn’t just an old rock. It’s a stone tool. Take a close look. Someone has carefully shaped its edges to make a sharp blade on one side of the stone. You can feel it with your fingers. It’s a knife, just like knives we have today. You wouldn’t imagine people moved through here thousands of years ago, but they did.

**We Look Carefully** My brother and I looked at the piece of stone. You could see how the edges were evenly chipped away to make a cutting tool. It was still sharp! I never thought about who was here before Denver existed, especially that long ago.



## 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



## 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.

WE **DIG** DEEPER ...



## THE SOUTH PLATTE VALLEY

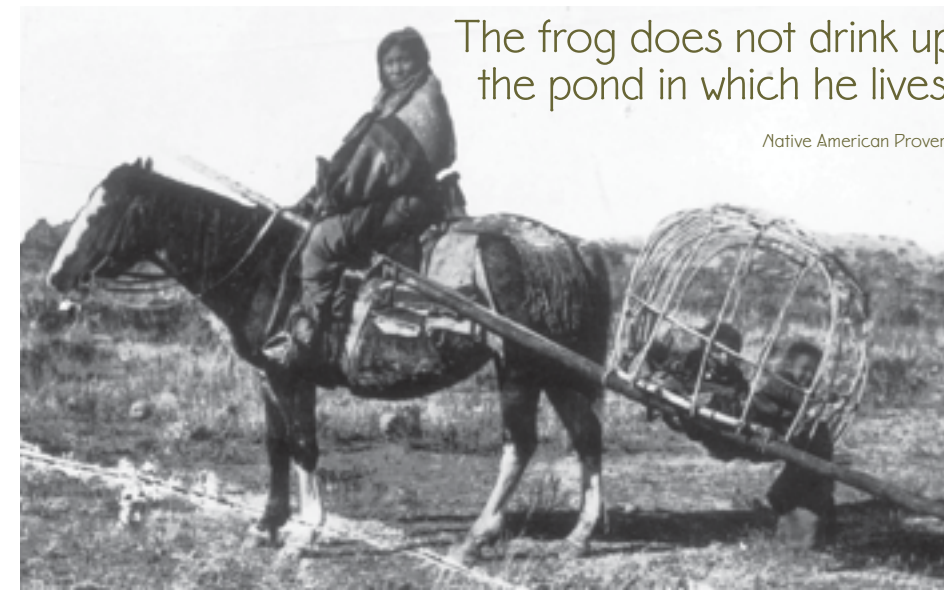
Denver sits where the eastern plains dip down just a little before turning upward to the mountains. This dip creates a **basin**, or valley. The Rocky Mountains protect this valley from severe weather. The melting snows fill the river and creeks, and trees grow by the banks. Animals came here for water 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.

## 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.



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

/Native American Proverb

## Curiosity Corner

Can any kind of stone be made into a stone tool?



## POLE BY POLE

## A MOVABLE HOME

Most of the Plains Indian tribes did not build permanent homes. They took their houses with them whenever they moved their camp. A tipi is a portable shelter, built to resist the wind and weather. Three poles form a strong three-legged base, or **tripod**. Other poles are added to make a cone-shaped frame. The tipi cover is attached to a single pole, which is placed against the others. The cover is pulled around the frame, just like closing a curtain. A **travois**, or sled, was used to move heavy loads around the prairie. It was pulled by a horse, and could carry the tipi poles and cover, hides, clothing and even people.



## “Natty Asks

Take a look in the box. What do you think comes next?





## Alexander's Map

1858 – 1859



### “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.



### 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.

“A great many people here and on the way...wandering all directions hardly knowing what to take hold of, and not a few of them are on their way home...!”

Alex Rooney Letter  
Rooney Collection WH/DPL

## WE DIG DEEPER...



### 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.



Market Street in Denver

## Curiosity Corner

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



### LOG BY LOG

#### THE EL DORADO HOTEL

Count Henri and Countess Katrina Murat were a European couple that opened the first hotel in Denver City, the El Dorado. It was a log cabin on the east side of Cherry Creek. It’s not there today. The Count earned money as a barber, and the Countess did laundry. She wanted to greet the first stagecoach arrival by flying an American flag, but she didn’t have any cloth. The Countess made the flag out of her fancy French underwear!

### 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 **go backers** and headed home.

### “Natty Asks

Ready for the next piece of the puzzle?



# Emaline's Rocky Mountain News

1859 – 1864



## “Natty’s Story

Take a look at this newspaper – the *Rocky Mountain News*. My great great grandmother Emaline saved this copy. It’s the first paper ever printed in Colorado. William Byers, the paper’s editor, brought his printing press across the prairie by oxcart, and got the paper out in just a few days. Byers worked with Larimer and the other boosters building up the town.

**We Look Carefully** The paper didn’t have a big headline or pictures across the top, but lots of columns with tiny writing. We were surprised to see advertisements for lawyers and doctors, stores, and a bakery. The newspaper encouraged newcomers to be patient and come prepared to work hard.



Delivery wagons on Larimer Street

## 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.

Painting of early Denver



**Were there still Arapaho people** living here? The land of the South Platte Valley including Denver City belonged to the Arapahos and Cheyenne through a **treaty** with the U.S. Town promoters wanted the government to break the treaty and take the land back. In 1861, the U.S. Congress created Colorado **Territory**. This gave Denver U.S. laws to follow and the protection of the U.S. Army. The Arapaho and Cheyenne people were moved off their land.

## WE DIG DEEPER...



### 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.



1864 Flood

### 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.



Larimer Street

### 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.

### WELLS FARGO STAGECOACH PASSENGERS RULES

☞ BUFFALO ROBES ARE PROVIDED FOR YOUR COMFORT IN COLD WEATHER. HOGGING ROBES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

☞ DON'T SNORE LOUDLY WHILE SLEEPING OR USE YOUR FELLOW PASSENGER'S SHOULDER FOR A PILLOW

☞ IN THE EVENT OF RUNAWAY HORSES REMAIN CALM. LEAPING FROM THE COACH IN PANIC WILL LEAVE YOU INJURED, AND AT THE MERCY OF...HUNGRY COYOTES

☞ GENTS GUILTY OF UNCHIVALROUS BEHAVIOR TOWARD LADY PASSENGERS WILL BE PUT OFF THE STAGE. IT'S A LONG WALK BACK. A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT

## 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

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?



# Faces and Places



## 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.



Rocky Mountain News 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.



## 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 H. 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.



Barney Ford's Inter-Ocean Hotel

## 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



The Denver Mint today



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.



# Sand Creek Massacre

## November 29, 1864



### THE GOLD RUSH 1858 - 1864

The Pikes Peak Gold Rush brought thousands of people across land that belonged to the Arapaho and Cheyenne people. The Treaty of Fort Laramie in 1851 gave them this land, including the South Platte Valley where Denver is today. When prospectors and settlers came, the U.S. government broke its treaty, and forced the Native Americans off their own land. Since their traditional hunting and camping grounds were destroyed, they were promised food, payment, and peace. Those promises were broken. This led to conflicts and violence.

### 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.



Meeting with Army leaders at Camp Weld, September, 1864

### SUMMER, 1864

John Evans was the Governor of Colorado Territory. He asked John Chivington to lead an army of volunteers to protect settlers and travelers. Chief Little Raven and other tribal leaders wanted peace. They met with Evans and army leaders to ask for protection and help. They were told to camp near Fort Lyon at **Sand Creek** where they would be safe.



“...the truth is that he (Colonel Chivington) surprised and murdered, in cold blood, the unsuspecting men, women, and children on Sand Creek, who had every reason to believe they were under the protection of the United States authorities, and then returned to Denver and boasted of the brave deeds he and the men under his command had performed.”

B. F. Wade, Chairman, U.S. Congress Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, 1865

### AFTER SAND CREEK

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 - SILENCED HERO



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 SPIRITUAL HEALING RUN

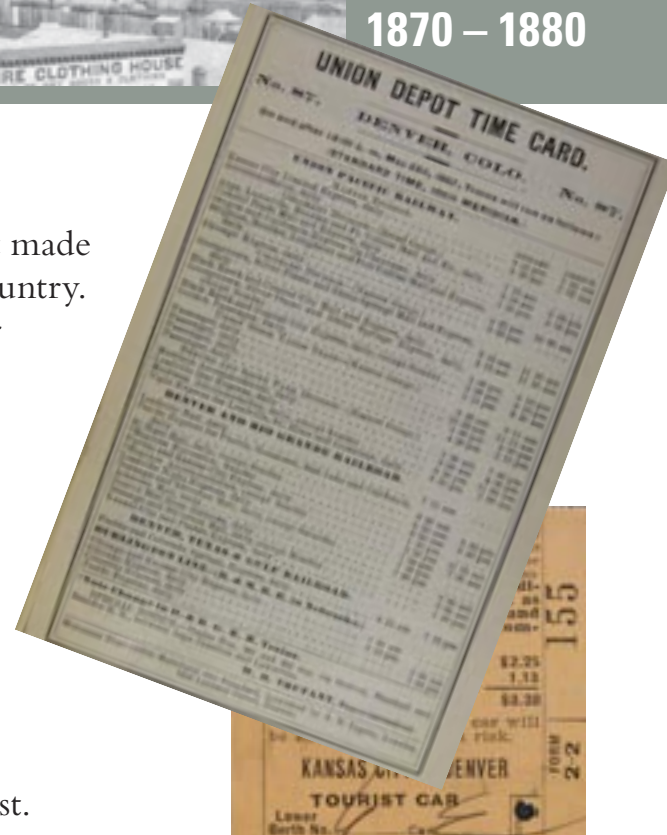
Each year in November, tribal members take part in a special 160-mile relay run. The three-day event begins at the Sand Creek National Historic Site and ends at the Colorado State Capitol. The run is done as a remembrance of those who died in the massacre, and as a spiritual healing of bitter feelings over past events.





## Beth's Timetable

### 1870 – 1880



### “Natty's Story

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.

**We Look Carefully** The schedule showed trains leaving from Denver and traveling to Chicago and other cities. There were also railroads to many places in the mountains like Georgetown and Leadville. Times for the mail trains were listed, too.

### 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.



### 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.

### 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.

## WE DIG DEEPER...



### 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.

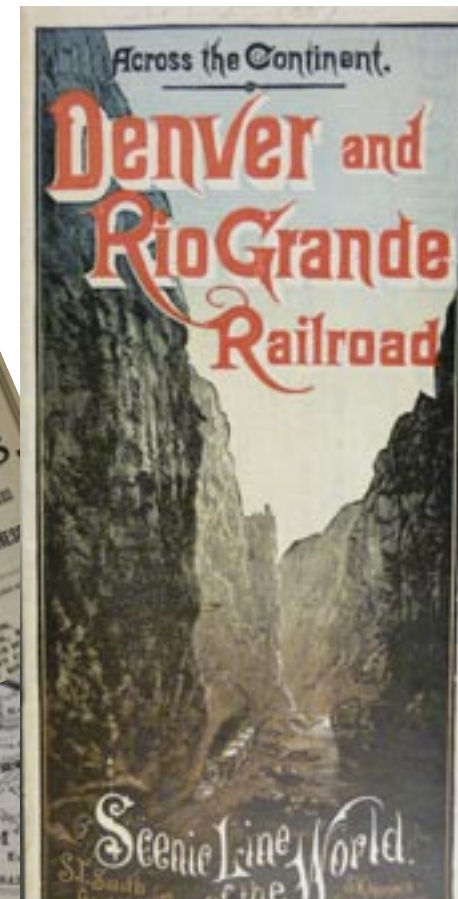
### HOMESTEADING

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.



## Curiosity Corner

What does the name **Colorado** mean?



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### UNION STATION

In 1875, Denver had four train stations. This made it hard for travelers to change trains and make connections. A plan was developed for a single station, to serve as a hub for all of the train lines. **Union Station** was built in 1881 at 17th and Wynkoop. It cost \$525,000, and had a large clock tower that was lit by electricity. The center section was rebuilt in 1914. The original Denver Pacific station was located where **Coors Field** is today.



### ALL BOOM AND NO BUST

The railroads saved Denver. The small town became a city with hotels, **warehouses**, and factories. Tourists came, businesses opened, and the population grew quickly. In 1870, there were 4,759 people in Denver. By 1880, the city had grown to 35,629 citizens.

### “Natty Asks

Ready for the next treasure?



# Joseph's Square

## 1880 – 1892

### “Natty's Story

My great grandfather Joseph read about Denver in a Nebraska newspaper. He was a **carpenter** and needed work. The railroads and new silver discoveries in Leadville were causing a building boom in Denver. Joseph came alone at first, and got a job right away. Then, he sent for his family. This tool was his square. He used it to build things that needed an exact right angle, like doorways and stairs.

**We Look Carefully** The square was made of two pieces of wood, put together in an L-shape. It looked like Joseph must have used it a lot. We could imagine him carrying his heavy toolbox and going to work every day, building the booming city of Denver.



Larimer and 16th Streets

### What kinds of buildings were going up?

Rich people wanted large houses or **mansions**. Joseph helped build some of those like the Byers-Evans House. He helped build grand hotels, too, like the Oxford Hotel. It had elevators and fancy bathrooms. I think Joseph also worked on some of the warehouses right by the train station on Wynkoop Street.

### Who was doing all of that building?

Many of the people who built the railroads needed other jobs when they were finished. Workers came to Denver and took jobs with builders, businesses, and factories. People like Joseph came here from other cities where jobs were hard to find.

Streetcar Ticket



Curtis Park

### Were all of the new buildings in the city?

There was lots of building going on in town, but it wasn't long before streetcar lines connected to areas just outside the busy city. The streetcars were pulled along a track by horses. **Streetcar suburbs** grew along the route, where houses were built and neighborhoods were formed. People could easily take the streetcar into town for work, but live in a neighborhood that was less crowded and busy. Joseph worked on many of the homes in **Curtis Park**, Denver's first streetcar suburb.

### Curiosity Corner

Why are the students of Denver's East High School called Angels?

### WE DIG DEEPER...



### 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



Oxford Hotel



Arapahoe School



### BRICK BY BRICK

### CURTIS PARK

**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.



The Tabor Block was an office building built by Horace Tabor. It was five stories high, two floors higher than most other buildings in Denver.

### 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

### “Natty Asks

It's a big story – there's a lot to tell. What's next?



# 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.



Locomotive inside the Moffat Tunnel

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 CHERRELYN HORSECAR

The Cherrylyn 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 Cherrylyn Horsecar ran until 1910 when it was replaced by the electric streetcar.



## 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. He also suggested a railroad tunnel for safer passage through the



The Brown Palace Hotel

## 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.

## WILLIAM GRAY EVANS 1855-1924

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.



Augusta Tabor  
1833-1905



Horace Tabor  
1830-1899

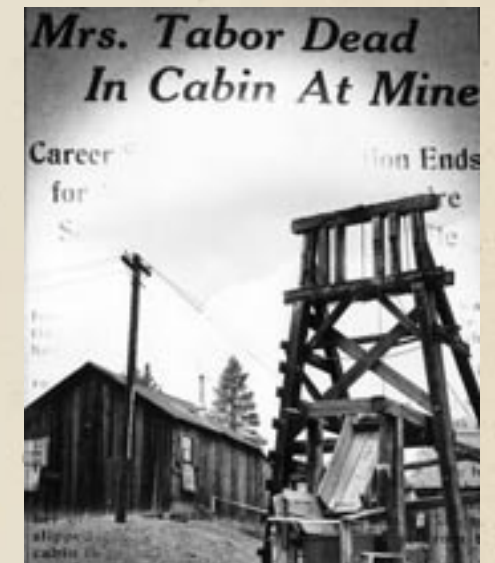


Baby Doe Tabor  
1854-1935

## THE TABOR STORY

Horace Tabor and his wife Augusta came to Leadville, Colorado from a farm in Kansas. They opened a store that sold supplies to prospectors working in the mines. Sometimes, the prospectors did not have enough money to pay for the goods. The Tabors were willing to trade supplies for shares in the mines instead of money. In 1878, one of the prospectors found silver, and the Tabors' shares made them rich. They went on to make a huge fortune in silver mining in Leadville. Horace and Augusta disagreed about how to manage their money. She wanted to make sensible investments, while Horace wanted to spend it on more mines, mansions and fancy buildings.

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.



The Tabor Grand Opera House

## 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.



## Statehood - August 1, 1876



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.

## Colorado State Capitol

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.



We shape our  
buildings; thereafter  
our buildings shape us."

Winston Churchill



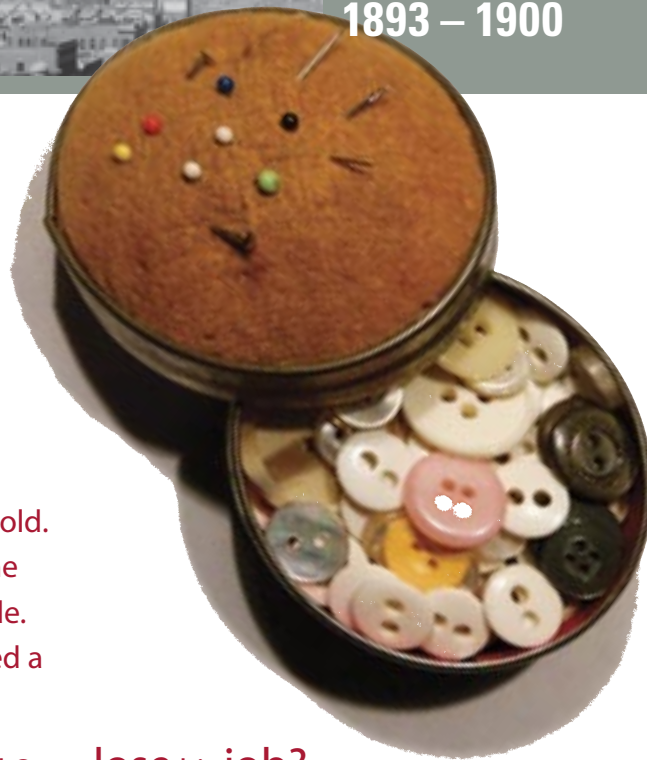
The original dome was made of lead. In 1908, Colorado miners donated enough gold to cover the dome, giving it its special look. Outside, on one of the steps facing west, there is a brass marker showing Denver's mile high altitude – 5,280 feet. "One Mile Above Sea Level" is engraved on a step below.

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...



## Julia's Button Tin

1893 – 1900



### “Natty's Story

Oscar's wife Julia was my great grandmother. She was a **seamstress**, a person who is very good at sewing. In 1893, Oscar lost his job. Julia helped feed the family by sewing clothes at the **Denver Dry Goods** Company. This is her button tin. The top is a velvet cushion for pins and sewing needles. Inside, Julia kept buttons of all different sizes, for shirts, dresses, and other clothes.

**We Look Carefully** Julia's button tin looked very old. The metal around the sides wasn't shiny anymore, and the velvet had a few bare spots. There were still buttons inside. It didn't seem like Julia could make enough money to feed a family by sewing.



Seamstresses of the Denver Dry Goods Company

### 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.



Inside the Denver Dry Goods Company

### 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”.

### 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.

## WE DIG DEEPER ...



### THE SILVER CRASH OF 1893

Men like Horace Tabor got rich during the silver mining boom and kept most of their money invested in those mines. When the prices dropped, their fortunes were gone instantly.



Homeless people in tents and shacks by the river

### HARD TIMES

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.



Flat boats

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.



## Curiosity Corner

What was The Denver's advertising motto?



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### THE DENVER DRY GOODS BUILDING

There were several dry goods stores in early Denver, selling clothes and supplies to miners and settlers. The Denver Dry Goods Company, or The Denver Dry, as it was known, got its start in 1879. By 1889, the department store moved into a new building at 16th and California Streets. In later years, it was known as The Denver.

### ALL BUST AND NO BOOM

Denver had put most of its energy into mining. The silver bust taught Denver's leaders to develop other kinds of businesses. In 1895, the city held its first Festival of Mountain and Plain. The fair brought excitement to a city that had struggled to survive.

### “Natty Asks

Before we see another treasure, it's time to tell you about our precious cat. We got her from a shelter after she was rescued on the street. She nearly drowned in a rainstorm, but somehow, she survived. That's how she got her name, *Molly Brown*. Do you know why?



# Margaret Tobin Brown

## 1867 – 1932



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 even ran for Congress at a time when most women in the U.S. couldn't even vote!

"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



## 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.



# Women's Stories

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.

## IN THE WORKPLACE

"I cook, wash, iron, bake, dust and sweep in a ten room house. I attend to the furnace, and carry in coal for five stoves and keep up the fires. The mistress got angry at me because I ate before I fed the dog."

Colorado Bureau of Labor Statistics



Young woman working as a house servant

## ON THE FRONTIER



Dirt-roofed and wooden cabin on the prairie

## AT THE VOTING POLLS

"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



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.

"Mother must have suffered agony from the very beginning. She 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. She had a tarpaulin (waterproof sheet) stretched above the beds."

Childhood Memories of Kittie Hall Fairfield



# Marie's Little Journal

## 1904 – 1916



### “Natty’s Story

This little journal belonged to my grandmother Marie. She was a teenager in Denver in July of 1908. **Democrats** came from all over the country to choose their **candidate** for President. They were meeting in the city’s brand new building, the **Denver Municipal Auditorium**. Marie was one of the volunteers who greeted visitors.

**We Look Carefully** The little book was wrapped inside a leather cover. Every page was filled with Marie’s fancy handwriting. We read about music and parades, snowballs and a “Welcome Arch”.



### 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!

### 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.

### 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**.



## WE DIG DEEPER...



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.



Above: The original **Denver Museum of Nature and Science**. Right: The **Pioneer Monument** by Civic Center Park marked the end of the Smoky Hill Trail



### 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

## Curiosity Corner

Who did the Democrats choose as their candidate for President in 1908?

Robert Speer



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### THE DANIELS AND FISHER TOWER

The popular **Daniels and Fisher Department Store** was a 5-story building on 16th Street. In 1911, a large clock tower was added next to the store. The design was a copy of a bell tower in Venice, Italy. At 330 feet, it was the tallest building in Denver for almost 50 years. The store was torn down in 1971, but citizens fought to save the tower. Today, it has been preserved and is still one of the most recognizable buildings in Denver.



City Park

### “Natty Asks

There aren’t many things left in the treasure box. Which one tells the next tale?



# Faces and Places



**JUSTINA FORD 1871 - 1952**

It wasn't easy to be African American, a woman, and a doctor in Alabama in 1900. Justina Ford decided that she might be accepted better in the new city of Denver. She arrived in 1902, but found that the same **prejudice** existed in the West. She was not accepted by the Colorado Medical Society, or by any local hospital. Justina Ford practiced medicine at her home, and at the homes of others. She specialized in women and children's medicine. Justina cared for immigrants and **minorities**, those cultures not accepted by the community or local hospitals. She delivered over 7,000 babies in her lifetime, and was often paid with food or other goods instead of money. Many of her patients called her "Lady Doctor".

## THE BLACK AMERICAN WEST MUSEUM

A barbershop is a great place to hear stories. Paul Stewart is a barber who found himself collecting family tales his customers told him. Hearing about his interest in black history, others gave him artifacts and photographs to add to his collection. After a time, he needed a larger space to display them.



Justina Ford's home on the move



Black American West Museum

Historic Denver, Inc. saved the home and office of Dr. Justina Ford from being torn down. The house was moved to 3901 California Street in 1984 and provided a fitting home for Paul Stewart's collections. The **Black American West Museum** celebrates the contributions of African American pioneers, cowboys, prospectors and businesspeople.

"Whatever color they show up, that's the way I take them."

Justina Ford



Cowboy Nat Love



**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.



Boettcher Home, today's Governor's Mansion

"None may enter who can pay;  
none can pay who enter"

Frances Jacobs Hospital Motto, 1899

**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.



# Denver Pastimes

## THE NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW



National Western Stock Show opening day parade on 17th Street

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.

“The cowboy has not ridden off into the sunset, he rides with us, into the future”

Louis L'Amour, *The Cowboy: Reflections of a Western Writer*

## 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!



College football player



Bicycle riders on Alameda Avenue in Denver



Entrance to the original Elitch Gardens

## 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 Aurora, but some of the original structures remain.

“Not to see Elitch's is not to see Denver”

—Logan of Elitch Gardens

## 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.



Theaters on Curtis Street



Hamilton Building of the Denver Art Museum

## 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.



## Edward's Pen

1916 – 1929



### “Natty’s Story

My grandfather Edward worked as a reporter for newspapers and magazines. He covered some of the most interesting times in Denver’s history. His first assignment was writing about Judge Benjamin Lindsey’s work to get a **juvenile court system** for young people. This is Edward’s fountain pen. He took all of his notes with it, and wrote stories that helped people understand what was happening in the city.

**We Look Carefully** I had never seen a fountain pen before. My brother held it up to the light. We could look right through the middle and see where the ink would be. When I held the pen, I could just imagine Edward in Judge Lindsey’s courtroom, writing his stories.



Judge Lindsey with a group of boys



Traffic control officer

### What other kinds of things did he write about?

When World War I started in Europe, silver prices went up again. Edward wrote about the mines that reopened, and the farmers who were growing more food for the soldiers. He also wrote about the **Opportunity School** that trained people for specific jobs.

“For all who wish to learn... and dare to dream”

Emily Griffith

### What’s an Opportunity School?

Emily Griffith was a teacher who saw that poor people and immigrants needed skills. She opened the Opportunity School for adults. The school was free and offered classes in English and other subjects like sewing and car repair. Emily fed hungry students, and gave streetcar money to those that needed it.

### When did people start driving cars?

The first car arrived in 1899. It scared the horses and amazed the people. It didn’t take long before Broadway was lined with car showrooms, tire stores, garages, and repair shops.

## WE DIG DEEPER...



### 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.



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.

### 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.

### TRANSPORTATION



Airplane in hangar at Denver Municipal Airport

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.

## Curiosity Corner

Is Emily Griffith’s Opportunity School still open?



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### 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.

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.



Car dealership

### “Natty Asks

Only 4 treasures left...which one shall I choose?



## Jacob's Keys

1930 – 1941

### “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**.

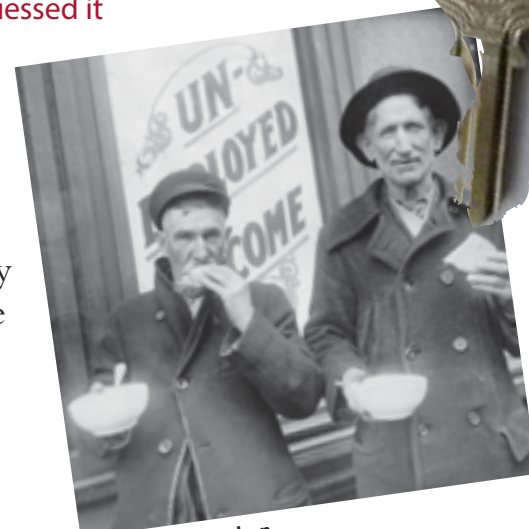
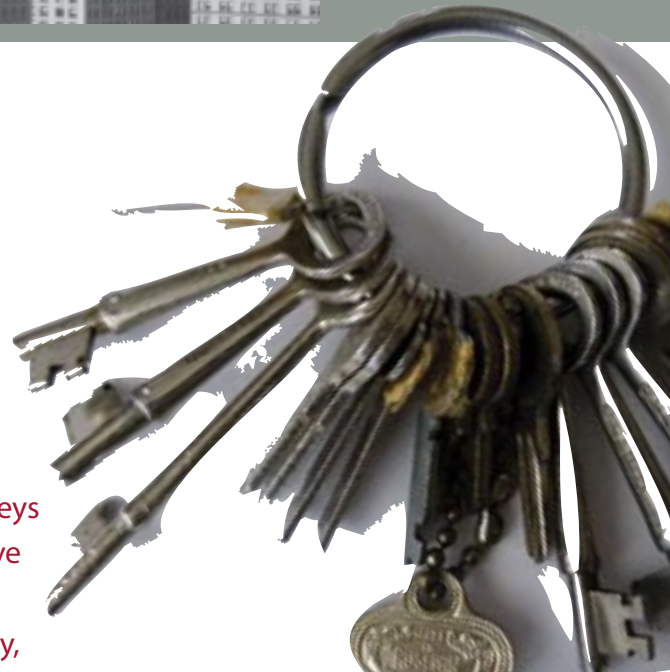
### What's a Denver Square?

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.



At the soup kitchen

## Curiosity Corner

Where did the name *Five Points* come from?

## WE DIG DEEPER ...



### DENVER AND THE GREAT DEPRESSION

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.



People learning to pan for gold



The Rossonian Hotel

### ALL THAT JAZZ

The **Rossionian 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.



The Mayan Theater



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### 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

### “Natty Asks

And then there were three...what do you think?



# Frank's Drugstore

1941 – 1960



Inside the drugstore

**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.



Soldiers at Lowry

## 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.



## WE DIG DEEPER ...



### AMACHE



Japanese Americans being moved away

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.



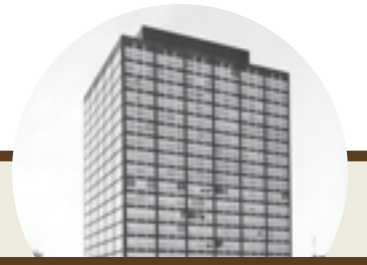
Denver in the 1950s

### 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.

## Curiosity Corner

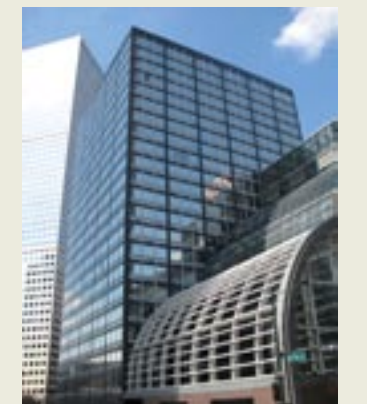
What is the tallest building in Denver today?



BRICK BY BRICK

### MILE HIGH CENTER

The **Mile High Center** was the first skyscraper in Denver. It was built in 1956. At 23 stories high, it was the first structure taller than the Daniels and Fisher Tower. I. M. Pei designed the glass structure to include other new ideas like open walkways under the building, with trees, benches, and fountains. The center still stands today, although part of it has been changed by the structure next door.



Mile High Center today

## Natty Asks

Only two left....the photograph or the gold...which story comes next?



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

## Rachel's Photograph

1960 – 1980

WE DIG DEEPER...

### “Natty's Story

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.

**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.

### 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.

### 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

The Cooper Building



The Cooper Building collapsing



After the demolition of the Cooper Building



Marching for equal rights



Larimer Street 1879



Larimer Street 1901



Larimer Street 2012

### 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.



“...sometimes it's hard to let the future begin”

Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*

### 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 with 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.

### BRICK BY BRICK

#### NINTH STREET HISTORIC PARK

Auraria became part of Denver City in 1860. In 1966, the area was chosen by DURA and Denver for a city college campus. The construction forced a whole Latino community of families and businesses to move. Historic Denver, Inc. helped to preserve and restore one full block of the original homes. Today, the preserved area forms the **Ninth Street Historic Park**.



### “Natty Asks

I guess Denver's story starts and ends with gold!



# 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.



Homes in the Baker Neighborhood

### 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.



## Curiosity Corner

Why is a triceratops the mascot of the Colorado Rockies?

## WE DIG DEEPER ...



### 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.

### LEADERSHIP



Peña campaigning for Mayor

**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.

### TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENTS



Light Rail train

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.

### BUST AND BOOM

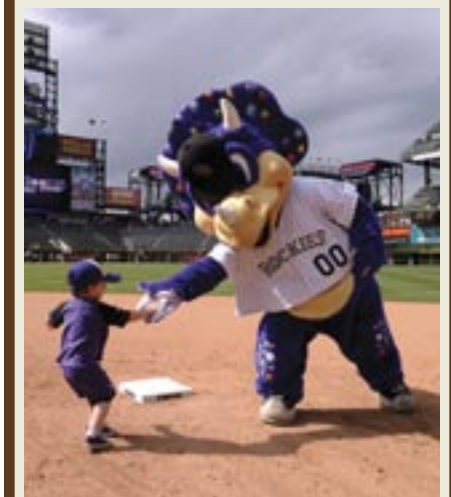
Determination and planning helped bring new energy to Denver’s economy. The convention center, improved transportation, and preservation of the city’s unique history bring millions of visitors here every year.



### BRICK BY BRICK

#### COORS FIELD

**Coors Field**, the home of the Colorado Rockies, is one of the treasures of LoDo. The playing field was lowered 21 feet below street level to keep the stadium walls from being too tall for the historic neighborhood. There are 1,400,000 bricks in Coors Field. At night, the field is lit by 528 lights that are 2,000 watts each.



### “Natty Asks

Thanks for sharing the treasures of my family. You’ve been good listeners. Feeling a little better about Denver now?



# Faces and Places

## RODOLFO "CORKY" GONZALES 1928 – 2005



The parents of Corky Gonzales were **migrant** farm workers, moving around for work at different seasons. Corky wanted a college education, but could not

afford to stay in school. He was a successful boxer and **activist**. Corky led protests for better treatment of farm workers and equal rights for Latinos. He started the **Escuela Tlatelolco**, where Latino students can get an education and appreciate their cultural heritage.



St. Cajetan during Auraria demolition

## ST. CAJETAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

When the Latino community lived in Auraria, the people asked their religious leaders for a church where they could worship in Spanish. **St. Cajetan** was built and quickly became the center of the community. When the neighborhoods were demolished to make way for the Auraria college campus, a new St. Cajetan was built. The old building has been preserved, and is used as an auditorium for the college campus.

## RACHEL B. NOEL 1918 – 2008

Rachel Noel lived in Five Points with her husband and children. In 1965, she was elected to the Denver Public Schools Board of Education. This made her the first African American woman elected to public office in Colorado. She is known for the Noel Resolution that called for a plan to **integrate** schools. The Resolution passed in 1970 and led to the integration of public schools in Denver.



Marching for the Noel resolution

"We must maintain critical elements of our historic buildings so future generations get the benefit of enjoying them and experiencing them just like we do."

John Hickenlooper

## JOHN HICKENLOOPER 1952 – PRESENT



John Hickenlooper came to Denver in 1981 as a **geologist** for an oil company, but lost his job when it closed. He decided to open a restaurant and **brewery**.

The **Wynkoop Brewing Company** opened in an old warehouse on Wynkoop Street. Hickenlooper and others worked to preserve other old buildings in LoDo. He went on to be Mayor of Denver from 2003 to 2011. John Hickenlooper was elected Governor of Colorado in 2010.



16th Street Mall

## 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.



Skyline Park

## 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!



## Denver with New Eyes

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”

Marcel Proust

Our parents thanked Natty for keeping us busy while they shopped. We played with Molly Brown while they paid for the table they found. We promised Natty we would come back and visit. On the way home, we told our parents about Natty’s family and all the treasures she showed us.

The next Saturday, we asked to go back to the Capitol. Although we had been there before, this time we really saw it. We looked for the wall paintings and the water poems. I found Barney Ford’s stained glass portrait. My brother spotted the plaque for Governor Ralph L. Carr. On the way out, our parents helped us find the “mile high” step.

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!

### A Treasure Box of our Own

My brother and I talked about Natty’s treasures. It was so much fun to hear about her family and to touch the things that had belonged to them. We decided to collect some treasures of our own.

We have a small cardboard box left over from our move. I’m putting in a little bell that used to hang in our old house. My brother is adding his first Pinewood Derby car from Cub Scouts. Our school pictures, a map, and a newspaper are going in, too. Our treasure box is on its way!



## Curiosity Corner Answers

### 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.



# Glossary

**Activist** – a person who works to bring about social or political change  
**Ancestor** – a family member who lived in past before you  
**Archeologist** – a person who studies the way humans lived a long time ago  
**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)  
**Keepsake** – 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  
**Penny Farthing** – a high wheel bicycle; the name comes from the English penny which is much larger than the farthing – like the front wheel is larger than the rear wheel  
**Prehistoric** – before written history  
**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  
**Rebel** – refuse to obey the rules or those in power  
**Rendezvous** – meeting at a certain place, chosen ahead of time  
**Reuse** – finding a new purpose or use for something  
**Seamstress** – a woman who sews for a living  
**Secondary Sources** – interpretations of primary sources, like history books or magazines

**Segregation** – the separation of groups of people by race, religion or culture  
**Science** – Organized study of the natural and physical world through careful observation, testing, and recording results  
**Site** – An area where something was or is located  
**Strike** – stopping work to make bosses listen to the demands of their workers  
**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  
**Territory** – 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  
**Triceratops** – a dinosaur with three horns (tri) used to protect itself  
**Tripod** – a three-legged structure or support  
**Treaty** – an official written agreement  
**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



# Site Glossary

Amache - 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 1881; 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 - 3091 California Street in the Five Points neighborhood; the former home of Justina 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 - 8th 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, & Broadway; popular hotel offering tours and historical programming

\*Byers – Evans House - 1310 Bannock Street, Denver; currently a house museum offering tours and programming through History Colorado

Capitol Hill – neighborhood around the State Capitol building, originally homesteaded by Henry C. Brown; the area is still known as Capitol Hill today

Carnegie Library – classical building located in Civic Center Park; eight neighborhood libraries were also funded by Andrew Carnegie; central library moved nearby to a new building at Broadway and 14th Street in 1956; large addition was built in 1990; all eight neighborhood library buildings still exist

\*Cheesman Park – originally Prospect Hill Cemetery; converted to a park in 1907; the family of Walter Cheesman donated money for the construction of a large pavilion in his memory. Cheesman worked on various water projects to expand and stabilize water resources for Denver

\*Chester S. Morey Building – 1528 16th Street in Denver; the original warehouse has been preserved; the Tattered Cover Bookstore occupies the building

\*City and County Building of Denver – 1437 Bannock Street in Denver; location of Denver’s City Hall and Courthouse

\*City Park – public park 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 Ave; 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

Coors Field – stadium at 20th and Blake Streets in Denver; home of the Colorado Rockies; tours and education materials available

\*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

\*Daniels and Fisher Department Store – 1101 16th Street; the store was demolished in the 1970s; the tower was saved and is used for offices and a theater

Denver Art Museum – 100 West 14th Avenue Parkway; the complex includes the Frederic 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; in use for shops, offices, and housing

Denver International Airport (DIA) – Denver’s airport replaced Stapleton Airport in 1995. It is currently the 11th busiest airport in the world, with over 50,000,000 passengers coming through each year.

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 – 2001 Colorado Boulevard in City Park; formerly 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 Municipal Auditorium – 1323 Champa Street; originally built for the 1908 Democratic convention, it is currently part of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts (Ellie Caulkins Opera House)

\*Denver Tramway Company Powerhouse – 1416 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

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

Escuela Tlatelolco – 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

Five Points – historic area northeast of downtown Denver; still a diverse active neighborhood; projects are underway to preserve and restore landmark structures

Fort Logan – A military fort originally built for the protection of Colorado’s citizens. Over the years, the fort and its land have been developed to include a state hospital and a national military cemetery.

\*Four Mile House – 715 South Forest Street in Denver; the oldest standing structure in Denver; the Four Mile Historic Park offers tours and programming

History Colorado Center – Broadway and 12th Street; museum and archive of the Colorado Historical Society, opened in 2012; tours and programming available

\*Larimer 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

LoDo – 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.

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

\*Mayan Theater – 110 Broadway; a popular theater showing films regularly

Mile High Center – 17th Street and Broadway in Denver; the building is still in use for offices

Mile High Stadium – originally built in 1948, 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 – 1400 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 – 4655 Humboldt Street; the complex includes the Denver Coliseum and other buildings; national stock show is held yearly in January

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

Opportunity School – 1250 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 – 1612 17th Street; the original building and its annex are a popular hotel with a restaurant and baron the ground floor

\*Paramount Theater – 1621 Glenarm Place in Denver; originally built as a movie palace in 1930; preserved and in use as a venue for concerts and performances

Ralph L Carr Justice Center – judicial complex occupying the entire block between Lincoln Street, Broadway, 13th and 14th Streets; scheduled for completion by 2013

\*Rossonian Hotel – 2650 Welton Street in the Five Points neighborhood; there are plans to preserve and restore the building as a restaurant and offices

\*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 – 19th and Larimer Streets; small park and Japanese garden at the base of the Tamai 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

16th Street Mall – 16 block pedestrian mall located between Broadway and Union Station at Wewatta Street; an active shopping district with stores, restaurants, offices, and free shuttle transportation

Skyline Park – urban park located on Arapahoe Street between 15th and 18th Streets

\*St. Cajetan Church – the building at 900 Auraria Parkway is used as an auditorium for the Auraria campus; a new St. Cajetan Church was built at 299 South Raleigh Street and still serves the Latino community

Tabor Block – located at 16th and Larimer Streets; demolished in 1972

Tabor Grand Opera House – located at 16th and Curtis Streets; demolished in 1964

\*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 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

Wynkoop Brewing Company – a restaurant and brewery opened in 1988. 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



# Denver Timeline

**12,000 B.C.**  
Prehistoric people occupy the South Platte Valley and the foothills, moving in a seasonal search for resources

**1803**  
Louisiana Purchase – Thomas Jefferson buys land from France, including the eastern plains of Colorado

**1806**  
Zebulon Pike explores Colorado, including the mountain later named for him, Pikes Peak

**1851**  
Treaty of Fort Wise gives land to the Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes, including the eastern plains of Colorado

**1858**  
William Green Russell and his party find gold in Cherry Creek near the confluence with the South Platte River

**1859**  
Pikes Peak Gold Rush  
The towns of Auraria and Denver City are established  
First edition of the Rocky Mountain News is published  
First stagecoach arrives from Kansas  
First school is established by O. J. Goldrick

**1860**  
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

**1861**  
U.S. Congress creates Colorado Territory, breaks the Treaty of Fort Wise  
First Territorial Governor, John Evans, is appointed

**1863**  
Denver is first in the territory to get the telegraph  
Fire destroys many wooden buildings in Denver City

**1864**  
Cherry Creek floods and washes away homes, farms and businesses  
Sand Creek Massacre

**1865**  
Silas Soule is murdered in Denver

**1868**  
Curtis Park is the first public park in Denver

**1870**  
Denver Pacific Railway connects with the transcontinental railroad in Cheyenne Wyoming

**1871**  
First horse drawn streetcars in Denver

**1873**  
The first school building, the Arapahoe School, opens in Denver

**1876**  
Colorado becomes the 38th state in the U.S.

**1879**  
Denver is the first city in Colorado to get a telephone system

**1881**  
Union Station is built

**1887**  
Electric light towers are installed to light large areas of Denver

**1889**  
The Denver Dry Goods Company opens on 16th Street

**1890**  
Elitch Zoological Gardens Opens

**1892**  
Brown Palace Hotel opens

**1893**  
Silver loses value – Denver economy crashes  
Men of Colorado approve women’s right to vote

**1894**  
State Capitol opens

**1895**  
First Festival of Mountain and Plain

**1899**  
First car arrives in Denver

**1904**  
Robert Speer is elected Mayor, introduces the City Beautiful program  
Welcome Arch at Union Station opens  
Current U.S. Mint building is completed

**1906**  
First National Western Stock Show is held

**1908**  
Gold is applied to the dome of the State Capitol  
Democratic National Convention is held in the new Denver Municipal Auditorium

**1910**  
Daniels and Fisher Tower is built

**1912**  
Titanic sinks; passenger Margaret (Molly) Brown survives

**1914**  
Center section of Union Station is remodeled

**1916**  
Emily Griffith opens the Opportunity School

**1920**  
Denver Tramway Company workers strike

**1929**  
Denver Municipal Airport opens

**1930**  
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

**1931**  
Welcome Arch is taken down

**1941**  
U.S. enters World War II  
Air Corps builds Lowry Air Force Base

**1945**  
World War II ends

**1947**  
Quigg Newton elected mayor

**1956**  
Mile High Center completed

**1958**  
Denver Urban Renewal Authority is created

**1963**  
Dana Crawford forms Larimer Square Associates to preserve the buildings in the 1400 block of Larimer Street

**1964**  
Civil Rights Act of 1964 guarantees equal rights for everyone

**1970**  
The Noel Resolution passes and leads to the integration of Denver Public Schools  
Historic Denver, Inc. is founded and begins its first preservation project, The Molly Brown House Museum

**1973**  
Ninth Street Historic Park is established and preserved with the support of Historic Denver, Inc.

**1977**  
Auraria campus opens for University of Colorado at Denver, Metropolitan State College, and the Community College of Denver

**1980s**  
Oil businesses fail, hurting Denver’s economy

**1983 - 1991**  
Denver elects its first Latino mayor, Federico Pena

**1991 - 2003**  
Denver elects its first African American mayor, Wellington Webb

**1995**  
Home of the Colorado Rockies, Coors Field opens

**2000**  
Baker Neighborhood is established as an historic district  
Transportation Expansion Project (T-Rex) begins

**2001**  
Denver Bronco’s stadium, Sports Authority Field at Mile High, opens

**2003 - 2011**  
John Hickenlooper is mayor of Denver

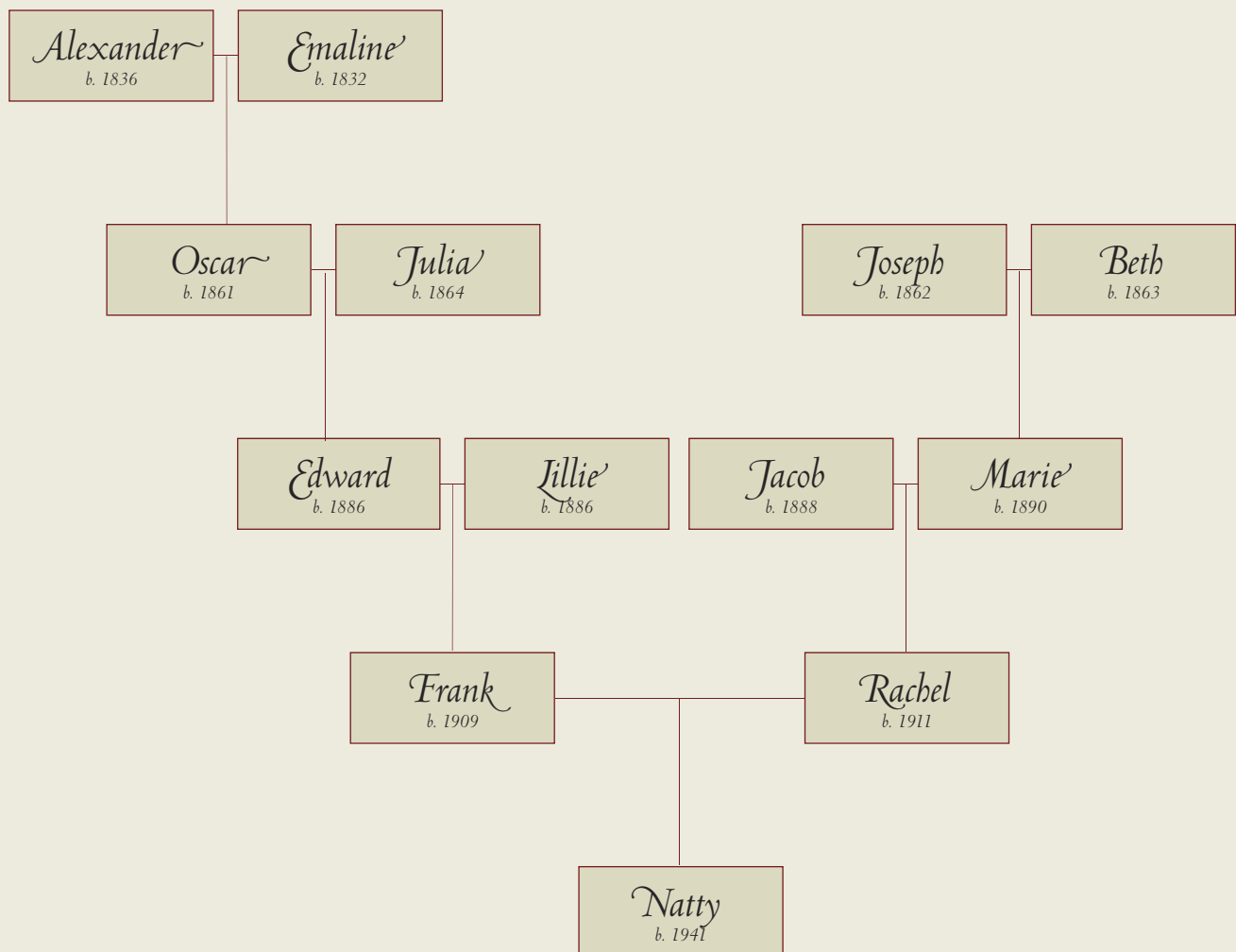
**2007**  
Rocktober – the Colorado Rockies make it to the World Series

**2011**  
John Hickenlooper becomes Governor of Colorado





## NATTY'S FAMILY TREE





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