

**Architectural Inventory Form**

(Page 1 of 8)

**I. IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. Resource number: **5BL1341**
- 2. Temporary number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Boulder**
- 4. City: **Longmont**
- 5. Historic building name: **Lavidson House; Schaur House**
- 6. Current building name: **Nichols House**
- 7. Building address: **501 Baker Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Bruce A. and Viola M. Nichols**  
Owner address: **501 Baker Street**  
**Longmont, CO 80501**

**II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

- 9. P.M. **6<sup>th</sup>** Township **2N** Range **69W**  
**NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>** of **SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>** of **SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>** of **NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>** of section **3**
- 10. UTM reference  
Zone **13**  
Easting: **491972**  
Northing: **4446133**
- 11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**  
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
- 12. Lot(s): **S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 12** Block: **44**  
Addition: **Longmont Original Town** Year of Addition **1872**
- 13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

22. Architectural style /  
building type:

**No Style / Vernacular**  
**Wood Frame Gable-on-Hip**  
**Roof Dwelling**

**Official Eligibility Determination**

(OAH1403 use only)

- Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Determined Eligible - National Register
  - \_\_\_ Determined Not Eligible - National Register
  - \_\_\_ Determined Eligible - State Register
  - \_\_\_ Determined Not Eligible - State Register
  - \_\_\_ Needs Data
  - \_\_\_ Contributes to eligible National Register District
  - \_\_\_ Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

**III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

- 14. Building plan (footprint, shape):  
**Rectangular Plan**
- 15. Dimensions in feet: **1132 square feet**
- 16. Number of stories: **1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>**
- 17. Primary external wall material  
**Wood / Horizontal Siding**
- 18. Roof configuration (enter one):  
**Hipped Roof / Gable-on-Hip Roof**
- 19. Primary external roof material (enter one):  
**Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof**
- 20. Special features (enter all that apply):  
**Porch**  
**Chimney**  
**Decorative Shingles**

**21. General Architectural Description**

Located on the northwest corner of Baker Street and 5th Avenue, the rectangular house on this property is 1½-stories in height, and measures approximately 24' by 45'. The wood frame house rests on a coursed stone foundation that rises about 24" above the ground, and the exterior walls are finished with clapboard siding. The gable-on-hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles and finished along the perimeters with boxed eaves. Fishscale shingles are found on the gable end walls, and a brick chimney rises from the ridge line. The windows on the house are predominantly 1/1 double-hung sashes with wood frames and surrounds, except for seven casement windows on the southwest enclosed porch. Wrapped around the southeast corner of the house is a projecting porch characterized by its wood floor, closed rail, Tuscan columns, six storm windows, corner storm door set on an angle, shed roof with a gable above the doorway, and five concrete steps dropping down to the sidewalk. The main entry, leading from the porch into home's interior, has a modern door with latticed panes. The rear entry has a storm door and a wood-paneled door with a single light. Behind the house is an old 18' by 22' rectangular wood frame garage with clapboard siding, a gabled roof, and two pair of large wood swinging doors.

**22. Architectural style / building type:**

Please see front page.

**23. Landscape or setting special features:**

This house is located at the northwest corner of Baker Street and 5th Avenue, near the east end of Longmont's historic East Side neighborhood. Developed during the late 1800s and early 1900s, the East Side Neighborhood is an established area made up primarily of single-family homes.

**24. Associated buildings, features, or objects**

Garage

#### **IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY**

25. Date of Construction:  
Estimate  
Actual **1915**

Source of information:  
**"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections, 1907-1931."**

26. Architect:  
**unknown**

Source of information:  
**n/a**

27. Builder/ Contractor:  
**unknown**

Source of information:  
**n/a**

28. Original owner:  
**Thomas and Mary Lavidson**

Source of information:  
**"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections, 1907-1931."**

#### **29. Construction History (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions)::**

The house at 501 Baker Street was constructed in 1915, and has remained essentially the same through the present time. Designed by an unknown architect, the home is a simple but well-designed cottage, typical of working-class housing of the period in terms of its size, materials, and construction methods. The house and garage are generally in excellent condition, and do not appear to have undergone significant alterations other than the installation of some storm windows and doors.

30. Original location: **yes**  
Moved **no**  
Date of move(s) **n/a**

#### **V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

31. Original use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**  
32. Intermediate use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**  
33. Current use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**  
34. Site type(s): **Residence**

### **35. Historical Background**

The house at 501 Baker Street was constructed in 1915 and occupied through 1919 by Thomas and Mary Lavridson. Thomas was born in Esbjerg, Denmark in 1866, immigrated to Canada at the age of 16, and came to Longmont in 1884. Mary was born in Bornholm, Denmark in 1872 and came to Longmont in 1889. For a number of years, Thomas operated a stone quarry near Lyons and farmed north of Longmont. After moving into Longmont, he worked as a field man for the Kuner-Empson Packing Co. and then was employed as a street superintendent for the city during the mid-1920s. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, Thomas was said to have been responsible for a good deal of the stone construction in the city of Longmont. From 1919 through 1923, the house was occupied by Russell Schauer, who owned a grocery store (Schauer Bros., located in the Odd Fellows building) From 1932 through the 1940s, the house was occupied by James and Emma Fields, along with their children, Charles, Wayne, and Richard. James was born in 1887. Emma was born in 1888 in Sommerset, Pennsylvania. The couple met and married in Denver in 1911 and then moved to Longmont. James worked for over three decades as a letter carrier and was elected to serve several terms on the executive board of the State Association of Letter Carriers during the 1920s and 1930s. In 1929, James represented the state organization at the national convention in Memphis and then in 1935 he was elected vice president of the State Association of Letter Carriers. The Fields' son Richard became an industrial arts teacher and worked at Skinner Junior High School in Denver before his death in 1942 at the age of twenty five. Beginning around 1950, the house at 501 Baker Street was occupied by Andrew and Bertha Bashor, who lived there through the late 1950s. Andrew was born in 1894 in Longmont and Bertha was born in the Berthoud area in 1899. They were charter members of the Little Thompson Grange. Andrew worked as a farmer, a driver for McKee Transfer, and was employed by Boulder County. Finally, the house was occupied around 1960 by Charles and Angel Smith. Charles was born in 1926 in Galien Township, Michigan and moved to Longmont in 1948 after serving in the Navy during World War II. He first worked for the Montgomery Ward Company and then as a routeman for Valley Farm Dairy. In the early 1960s, Charles worked for Beech Aircraft and was reportedly involved in some way with the Apollo Project and the development of the Lunar Excursion Module. Between 1966 and 1968, he worked as a civilian engineer with Pacific Engineers and Architects, managing military construction projects in Thailand. Angel was born in 1926 in New Buffalo, Michigan, moved to Longmont in 1944, and attended Western State College in Gunnison prior to marrying Charles in 1949. During the 1950s, she worked as a secretary and bookkeeper for Libby, McNeil and Libby and for the Great Western Sugar Experiment Station. In 1961, she obtained her real estate license and worked in the field for fifteen years. Angel returned to school in 1977, obtained an associates degree, and then worked until her retirement in 1992 for the federal and city governments.

**36. Sources of Information**

(Boulder County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card - Urban Master." On file at the Boulder Carnegie Library.

City of Longmont Building Permit records for 447 Baker Street.

*Polk's Boulder County Directory* [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers.

*Polk's Longmont City Directory*, [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company, Publishers, 1966 - 1997.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated June 1930, and May 1956.

"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections." On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum.

**VI. SIGNIFICANCE**

37. Local landmark designation:  
Yes  
No **xx**  
Date of Designation: **n/a**

**38. Applicable National Register Criteria**

- xx**A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- xx**C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory;

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

**City of Longmont Standards for Designation**

- xx** 2.56.040-A (1) The structure or district has character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation.
- 2.56.040-A (2) The structure or district is the site of a historic event with an effect upon society.
- xx** 2.56.040-A (3) The structure or district is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society.
- 2.56.040-A (4) The structure or district exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.
- 2.56.040-B (1) The structure or district portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- xx** 2.56.040-B (2) The structure or district embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen.
- 2.56.040-B (3) The structure or district is the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Longmont.
- 2.56.040-C (1) The structure or district, because of being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif.
- 2.56.040-C (2) The structure or district, due to its unique location or singular physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the city.

Does not meet any of the above City of Longmont Standards for Designation.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

**Architecture; Community Planning and Development**

40. Period of Significance: **1915-1953**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **xx**

**42. Statement of Significance**

This property is historically significant relative to National Register Criterion A for its association with Longmont's residential development during the period of significance, 1915-1953. The house is also architecturally notable, under Criterion C, for its wood frame construction and representative vernacular gable-on-hipped roof architectural plan. The property's level of significance is probably not to the extent that it would qualify for individual listing in the State or National Registers of Historic Places. The property, though, could well qualify for individual listing as a local landmark by the City of Longmont. This property is located outside the boundaries of the Longmont East Side Historic District. If the district's boundaries were to be expanded this far east, this house would possibly qualify as a contributing resource within the district's newly-formed boundaries.

**43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:**

This property exhibits an above average degree of historic integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society, setting - location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. There have been no additions, and no notable exterior alterations, to either the house or garage following their original construction.

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**VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

City of Longmont Local Landmark eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **This property is located outside the boundaries of the East Side Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. If the district's boundaries were to be expanded, to include the entire neighborhood, this house would probably be considered a contributing resource.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building:

Contributing: **xx**

Noncontributing:

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district, is it:

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

**VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION**

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **LONG-30**

Frame(s): **13, 25**

Negatives filed at:

**City of Longmont  
Department of Community Development, Planning Division  
Civic Center Complex  
350 Kimbark Street  
Longmont, Colorado 80501**

48. Report title: **East Side Neighborhood: Historic Context and Survey Report**

49. Date: **February 21, 2003**

50. Recorders: **Ron Sladek**

51. Organization: **Tatanka Historical Associates**

52. Address: **P.O. Box 1909  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522**

53. Phone number: **970/229-9704**