

**Architectural Inventory Form**

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**I. IDENTIFICATION**

1. Resource number: **5BL1334**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Longmont**
5. Historic building name: **Nichols House; Garner House**
6. Current building name: **Smith House**
7. Building address: **511 Atwood Street**
8. Owner name: **Craig Aaron Smith**  
Owner address: **511 Atwood 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 **SW<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: **491800**  
Northing: **4446164**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**  
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 11** Block: **43**  
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:

**Hipped Roof Box**

**Official Eligibility Determination**

(OAHP 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: **726 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material  
**Wood / Horizontal Siding**
18. Roof configuration (enter one):  
**Hipped Roof**
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):  
**Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof**
20. Special features (enter all that apply):  
**Porch**  
**Chimney**  
**Dormer**

**21. General Architectural Description**

This house is located on the west side of Atwood Street, the second property north of 5th Avenue. Built in 1920, the dwelling features a basic rectangular plan, measuring 24' N-S (across) by 39' E-W (deep), including an enclosed porch on the facade (east elevation). The house is 1½-story in height, is of wood frame construction, and is supported by a low concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with painted beige horizontal wood siding, and the hipped roof is finished with black asphalt shingles and boxed eaves. One red brick chimney is located on the ridge. A hipped-roof dormer, with two single-light windows, is centered on the east-facing roof slope. The home's windows are primarily single 1/1 double-hung sash, with painted white or grey wood frames and surrounds. The enclosed front porch extends across the full length of the facade, measuring 24' by 7', and it is recessed under the house's main hipped roof. A painted white wood-paneled front door, with one upper sash light, leads from the porch into the home's interior. A wood-paneled storm door opens from the exterior of the porch onto a flagstone stoop. A rear entry door is located on the west elevation.

A garage a short distance northwest of the house's northwest corner: one story rectangular plan; 12' by 16'; painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior walls, over wood frame construction; moderately-pitched front gable roof, with grey asphalt shingles over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. A set of paired horizontal weatherboard garage doors, side hinged with metal strap hinges, are located on the garage's east elevation. These doors open onto a gravel driveway which extends along the north side of the house to Atwood Street.

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

Please see front page.

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

This house is located on the west side of Atwood Street, near the south end of the 500 block, in 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 historic single-family homes. The Colorado and Southern Railroad tracks run down the center of Atwood Street, while the neighborhood overall features wide tree-lined streets, uniform house setbacks, and deep rectangular-shaped lots.

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

Garage

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

25. Date of Construction:  
Estimate  
Actual **1920**

Source of information:  
**City of Longmont Building Permit file for 511 Atwood Street; Town of Longmont Water Rent Collection records.**

26. Architect:  
**unknown**

Source of information:  
**n/a**

27. Builder/ Contractor:  
**unknown**

Source of information:  
**n/a**

28. Original owner:  
**Ed O. Nichols**

Source of information:  
**City of Longmont Building Permit file for 511 Atwood Street; Town of Longmont Water Rent Collection records. .**

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

The house at 511 Atwood Street was built in 1920. Ed O. Nichols was the original owner. The garage was probably built at the same time as the house, or not long afterwards. Both buildings are depicted on the 1930 Sanborn Insurance map. There have been no additions to either the house or garage following their original construction. The front porch may have originally had screens rather than glass-paned windows.

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**

City of Longmont Water Rent Collection Records indicate that a permit was issued on January 20, 1920 for a one-story, four-room dwelling, to be located on the north half of Lot 8, Block 43. The permit was issued to Edward O. Nichols, the first owner of record of the home at 511 Atwood Street. Ed Nichols, as he was known, was born in Nevada, Iowa on November 4, 1877. He moved to Longmont in 1902 with his parents, O.G. and Hannah M. Nichols. Soon after arriving in Longmont, Edward opened a bicycle store at 435 Main Street. IN addition to the bicycle shop, he also operated a furniture store for many years. Ed was keenly interested in city and county public affairs, and was well known through the county. Ed Nichols married Mintie A. Bartholomew and helped raise her three boys from a previous marriage. While Ed Nichols is the name listed on the water works application permit for 511 Atwood, the Rent Collection Records show that from June 1920 through 1926 the owner of the property was Josephine Nichols, who City Directories list as Edward's wife in 1910-11. City Directories also indicate that, apparently, neither Edward nor Josephine lived in the home. The directory for 1923 shows the occupant as J.F. Brown, followed in 1928 by Gordon A. and Etta L. Atherton. In the 1930s, Gordon worked as a salesman and clerk for Thomas W. Murphin's furniture store at 507 Main Street.

By 1932, this home on Atwood Street belonged to Elbert H. and Amy E. Garner. Elbert Garner was born in Alba, Missouri on December 15, 1904. His family moved to Idaho when he was a child, before settling in Longmont in 1919. Elbert married Amy E. Newton in Longmont on November 15, 1923. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Elbert.

The Garners had one son, Ralph. Elbert Garner was engaged in road construction for forty years. For eleven of those years, he owned and operated the Pendleton & Garner Construction Company with his partner Carl G. Pendleton, before retiring in 1957. He passed away on July 18, 1968 at the age of 63. The Garners owned this home through the middle 1940s. In the 1940s and 1950s the home was owned first by Paul and Laura F. Crouch, and then by M.J. Pellillo. During this period, 511 Atwood was apparently used as a rental. In 1949, the occupant was William Mulhall, and in 1955, Alvin J. and Eleanor Litzenberger were living here. Mr. Litzenberger worked as the head fieldman for the Libby, McNeill and Libby pickle factory at 129 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. George E. and Rose Beil had purchased the property by the mid-1960s. George was born June 21, 1892 in Belleville, Illinois, the son of Martin and Louisa Beil. He moved to Lyons in 1934 and married Rose M. (Belveal) on April 4, 1936 in Fort Morgan. The couple had two children, George Jr., born on January 23, 1939 in Brush and a second son Arthur. The Beils farmed near Brush for twelve years, before moving to Boulder County. George Beil, Sr. operated two service stations in the area before retiring in 1963. Arthur Beil moved to Stanford, Virginia. George Jr. never married, living in his parents' house at 51 Atwood. He met an untimely death in December 1976, at the age of 37. Newspaper accounts that Beil had been walking along the bank of the Oligarchy ditch and fell, cutting his head. He was discovered in the ditch the following morning. His parents remained in dwelling at 511 Atwood through the early 1980s. George Beil, Sr. lived to be 93, passing away in August of 1985. City directories show that in 1990, the home was owned by Stephen Albert, who according to the Boulder County Assessor's records likely purchased the property in November of 1989. Another property transfer occurred on November 6, 1992 when the house was likely acquired by Todd Huston. Huston made several repairs to the home and in 1997 upgraded the insulation through the Boulder County weatherization program. The current occupant of this property is Craig Aaron Smith who has lived here since purchasing the home in December 1999.

**36. Sources of Information**

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

City of Longmont Building Permit file for 517 Atwood Street.

"Elbert Garner Dies; Funeral Services Set." *Longmont Times-Call*, July 19, 1968, p. 3.

"George Beil Jr." *Longmont Times-Call*, December 24, 1976, p. 16.

"George Beil Sr." *Longmont Times-Call*, August 19, 1985, p. 9-A.

"Heart Ailment is Fatal for Ed O. Nichols." *Longmont Times-Call*, December 21, 1949, p. 1.

*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 June 1959.

"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.

2.56.040-A (3) The structure or district is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society.

**xx** 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: **1920-1953**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **XX**

**42. Statement of Significance**

This house is historically significant relative to National Register Criterion A for its association with Longmont's residential development during the period of significance, 1936-1953. The house is also architecturally notable, under Criterion C, for its representative vernacular hipped roof architectural plan. The property's significance in these regards is not to the extent that it would qualify for individual listing in the National or State Registers of Historic Places. However, because it displays above average integrity, the property may well qualify to be individually listed 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 house would qualify as a contributing resource within the district's newly expanded boundaries.

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

This property displays a relatively high level of 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 to 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, this house would 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-36**

Frame(s): **1-4**

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: **April 23, 2003**

50. Recorders: **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number: **970/493-5270**