

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL8754**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Longmont**
5. Historic building name: **Cantonwine House**
6. Current building name: **Farmers Insurance Group Building**
7. Building address: **637 Kimbark Street**
8. Owner name: **Jack M. and Betty J. Cox**
Owner address: **6919 Hunter Place**
Boulder, CO 80301

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **2N** Range **69W**
SE¹/₄ of **SW¹/₄** of **NW¹/₄** of **NE¹/₄** of section **3**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **491420**
Northing: **4446480**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **21, 22** Block: **27**
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 **864 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1.5**
17. Primary external wall material
Metal / Aluminum
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

21. General Architectural Description

Presently used as an insurance office, the former residence at 637 Kimbark Street is a modest one-story wood frame building. Located at the southwest corner of Kimbark Street and Longs Peak Avenue, the building is set back approximately 38 feet from Kimbark, where the front sidewalk is separated from the curb by a wide strip of grass. The lot features a planted grass front yard with minimal landscaping, with a small concrete parking lot to the north and west of the building. Featuring a simple rectangular plan, the structure is supported by painted brown concrete foundation, with a bulkhead cellar entrance located on the west elevation. The exterior walls have been covered with gold color horizontal aluminum siding, and the moderately-pitched hipped roof has brown asphalt shingles and boxed eaves. One red brick chimney is located on the ridge. The former house's windows, for the most part, have been altered from their original configurations. Two large non-historic fixed-pane "picture windows" penetrate the façade wall on the east elevation; four non-historic 1/1 double-hung sash windows, with multi-pane inserts, and with decorative wood shutters, appear on the north elevation; one similar window appears on the west (rear) elevation; there are presently no windows on the south elevation. A non-historic glass-sin-wood-frame door opens onto a carpeted 4-step concrete porch, covered by a shed roof, on the building's east elevation. A secondary entrance is located on the west elevation, where a painted brown wood-paneled door, with a brown metal storm door opens onto a non-historic 5-step wood porch at the south end of the west elevation.

22. Architectural style / building type:

Please see front page.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This building is located on the west side of Kimbark Street and 6th Avenue in Longmont's oldest core residential neighborhood. This area is now home to a mixture of single-family residences, small retail shops, professional offices, and a few small apartment buildings.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects

n/a

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction:
Estimate **ca. 1890**
Actual

Source of information:
Sanborn Insurance maps, 1895, 1900; Longmont City Directories; "Water Ledger City of Longmont."

26. Architect:
n/a

Source of information:
n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

28. Original owner:
Alden and Lina Cantonwine

Source of information:
"Water Ledger City of Longmont; Longmont City Directory, 1892.

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

Boulder County Assessor records indicate that this building was constructed in 1910. Sanborn Insurance maps, however, document that the structure was actually in existence by 1900, and Longmont City Directories provide further evidence that it was built prior to 1892. By 1906, a shed had been built to the west of the house, and between 1906 and 1911, the dwelling was enlarged to the rear (west elevation). In the years between 1918 and 1930, another addition was built onto the house's west elevation, and also during these years, a house and garage were constructed between this building and the alley to the west, at 511 7th Avenue (Longs Peak Avenue). This building's configuration has apparently not changed since 1930 however its exterior appearance was significantly changed – presumably in the early 1970s, when it was converted from residential use into an insurance office.

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): **Commerce and Trade / Professional**
34. Site type(s): **Insurance Office; Former Residence**

35. Historical Background

Constructed circa 1890, the building at 637 Kimbark Street served as a single family dwelling until the early 1970s when it was converted into a Farmers Insurance Office. The home's original owners were Alden and Lina Cantonwine, who lived here from circa 1890 until the early 1910s. Mr. and Mrs. Cantonwine were married in Longmont in September 1887, and by 1892 they were residing here at 637 Kimbark. They had one son, born in 1899. Mr. Cantonwine enjoyed a long and stellar career in law enforcement, serving as a marshall, and for many years as a Longmont policeman. Mrs. Cantonwine died suddenly in February 1911, at just 41 years of age, leaving her husband and twelve year old son. Mr. Cantonwine, though, lived well into his retirement years, finally passing away in April 1940.

Following the Cantonwines, in the 1910s, this property was home to S.P. Brosnan and R.C. Hoffman families, before it was acquired in the early 1920s by Delbert and Estella Hawley. The Hawleys, with their daughters Harriett and Geneva, lived here through the end of the 1930s. Born in Hebron, Illinois in July 1875, Mr. Hawley came to Colorado in 1905, and was united in marriage to Miss Estella C. Hendren of Boulder in 1910. The family came to Longmont a few years later, and were living here at 637 Kimbark by the early 1920s. Mr. and Mrs. Hawley both enjoyed long careers with the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

During the war years of the early 1940s, the home at 637 Kimbark was occupied by John and Della Whitney, followed by the N. Eugene Minick family. The property was vacant in 1946, according to that year's Longmont City Directory, but by 1949, William Peters was owning and living here.

In about 1953, the property was acquired by Mrs. Katherine Lenhart, who subsequently lived and owned here through the end of the 1960s. Among the region-s Germans from Russia population, Mrs. Lenhart was born in Brunenthal, Russia in 1878, and came to American with her family when she was eleven years old. The family settled with other Germans from Russia at McCook, Nebraska, where Katherine was married to Fred Lenhart in 1895. The Lenharts farmed near McCook for many years, before moving to the Longmont area in 1916, where they continued to farm. Mr. Lenhart passed away in 1934., but Katherine continued to stay on the farm until the early 1950s when she finally moved into this house in town. Katherine Lenhart passed away in February 1974 at the age of 95.

After Mrs. Lenhart moved to a nursing home in the early 1970s, this property became a rental for a few years, before it was converted into a Farmers Insurance Group office. The building has served as an insurance office since that time.

36. Sources of Information

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

"Cantonwine, Alden." (obituary) *Longmont Times-Call*, April 28, 1940, p. 1.

"Died." (Lina Caontine obituary) *Longmont Ledger*, March 3, 1911, p. 1.

"Former Resident Dies, rites Held in Boulder." (Delbert M. Hawley obituary) *Longmont Times-Call*, January 13-14, 1968, p. 3.

"Mrs. Katherine Lenhart." (obituary) *Longmont Times-Call*, February 18, 1974, p. 3.

Polk's Longmont City 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.

"Richart." (Reece Richart obituary) *Longmont Ledger*, October 1, 1926, p. 5.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated December 1890, September 1895, November 1900, April 1906, June 1911, March 1918, June 1930, and May 1956.

"Water Ledger City of Longmont, 1907-1910." On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Public Library.

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.

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 ; Ethnic Heritage / European

40. Period of Significance: **ca. 1890-1951**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **XX**

42. Statement of Significance

This property was historically significant for its association with Longmont's residential development, from the time of its construction circa 1890, until the middle of the twentieth century. In particular, the property was notable for its association with at least three families all of whom made important contributions to Longmont's socioeconomic development. These were Alden and Lina Cantonwine, Delbert and Estella Hawley, and Mrs. Katherine Lenhart, who is significant for her Germans from Russia heritage. Unfortunately, though, due to a rather substantial loss of integrity, this property is no longer able to convey a sense of its historic past. As a result, it should be considered ineligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and ineligible for local landmark designation. The property would also be considered as a non-contributing resource within either a City of Longmont local landmark historic district, or a National Register historic district.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This property suffered a substantial loss of integrity when it was converted into an insurance office in the early 1970s. The home's historic front and back porches were removed, door and window openings, were altered, and the exterior walls were sided with garish gold color aluminum siding. A concrete parking lot, carved out beside and behind the house, also diminished the home's traditional residential character.

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:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **This property is located one block east of the East Side Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Properties in this area along Kimbark Street do have the potential to form a historic district of their own, or to be incorporated into the existing East Side Historic District.**

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

Contributing:

Noncontributing: **xx**

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-6**

Frame(s): **6-8**

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 2, 2001**

50. Recordors: **Carl McWilliams and Karen McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

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

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