## Photo of Anthony Arnett, c. 1900.



1919 flyer advertising lots for sale

at University Place.

## University Place Historic District Designated in 2006

The University Place Historic District is an example of a residential neighborhood developed during the first half of the twentieth century. The two block historic district extends along 14<sup>th</sup> Street from Baseline Road at the south to Aurora Avenue at the north. The district is significant for its association with the growth and development of the University of Colorado, since the neighborhood has been a popular area for professors and staff to buy houses. The district's period of significance is from 1890 to 1941 and it was designated a historic district in 2006.

In 1865, Anthony Arnett purchased 200 acres of land in southwest Boulder. His acreage extended from Columbia cemetery, east into the present-day University campus, south to Baseline Road and west to Gregory Canyon. A portion of this land was donated to the University of Colorado. By 1890, Arnett's land was platted and subdivided by the Denver and Boulder Land and Investment Company, who saw the potential value of the location. Early photographs of the area show an isolated, undeveloped area containing a few log cabins and pasture lands for local farmers. However, three years later the Silver Crash occurred, causing a great economic depression in the Rocky Mountain region. This prevented the initial growth and development of the area. Fortunately, the depression did not last and enrollment at the University began to increase. By 1898 The Colorado Chautauqua opened, bringing many people to Boulder. At this time, 14<sup>th</sup> Street was widened in order to accommodate a streetcar line linking downtown Boulder to the Chautaugua. The streetcar tracks were removed in the midcentury, but 14th Street still retains its wide dimensions that harkens back to the city's early public transportation system.





## **Historic District Highlights**

- The architecture of the district contains several exuberant examples of the Tudor Revival, English/Norman Cottage Revival, Craftsman Bungalow, Italian Renaissance Revival, Foursquare, and Colonial Revival styles.
- Several houses in the district are considered to be of exceptionally high architectural and artistic merit. These include the 1924 Italian Renaissance Revival house at 707 14<sup>th</sup> Street and the 1917 Craftsman style house at 851 14<sup>th</sup> Street.
- In 1935 Boulder architect Glen Huntington designed a Colonial Revival house at 1403 Baseline Road. It was landmarked in 1989 as the Henrietta Somers House, who owned Somers Sunken Garden Restaurant (The Sink). He also designed the house at 765 14<sup>th</sup> Street in the Norman Cottage style in 1937. It was the home of University of Colorado Biologist Gordon Alexander and his wife, Marion.



Changes to designated properties including individual landmarks and those located within a historic district require review and approval through a Landmark Alteration Certificate. The alterations must meet the City of Boulder's *General Design Guidelines* and district-specific guidelines, if applicable. For more information please visit our website at <a href="https://www.boudercolorado.gov/historic-preservation">www.boudercolorado.gov/historic-preservation</a>, or contact:

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