



Englewood Historic Preservation Society

Preserving Englewood Colorado History

NEWSLETTER VOL. 8 NO 1 SEPTEMBER 2019
EHPS ~ 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80110

Doug Cohn & Dave Paschal - Editors
Lindsey Runyan - Graphic Design

Fall EHPS Lectures

EHPS LECTURE SERIES:

All lectures, unless otherwise noted take place the last Monday of the month at 2:30 pm and again at 6:30 pm at the Englewood Public Library.

September 30th - Monday

Join Ida May Nicholl as she shares about unearthing historic glass bottles from Colorado's mining towns many from the 1800's. Some of these unique bottles will be on display for viewing and were all hand dug by the Nicholl family in the 1960's.

October 28th - Monday

Jack Ballard, famous local historian will share the story of Ivy Baldwin, one of America's premier aerialist, tightrope walker, aeronaut, and aviation pioneers. He was the principal pilot of hot air balloons at Ft. Logan the military base.

DUES Are Due!

Please RENEW your membership in our society!

You can use the form in this newsletter or go to our website.

We thank you for your continued contributions.

SPECIAL Thank You!

MARY ARCHER

Thank you for a really interesting presentation on places to visit around our area and for the work you do with people with dementia!

EHPS Office Hours

ENGLEWOOD LIBRARY

If you haven't been to our office yet feel free to stop in during office hours: Wednesdays from 1-3 PM!
We are looking for volunteers to help with archiving, contact Doug at 303.587.2407.

CORRECTION

In the last EHPS Newsletter: August 2019, volume 7, no. 12 the article featured on Page 3 entitled "Five Ways You Can Help EHPS Succeed" was written by Doug Cohn not Dave Paschal as previously printed.

Contact Us:

HistoricEnglewood.org
contact@historicenglewood.org

303-242-3257

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Englewood Historic Preservation Society Mission

*To Preserve and share
Englewood's history.*



Arapahoe Acres represented the first Mid-Century Modern Neighborhood in the country to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. The application and books “Arapahoe Acres: 1949-1957” and “The Arapahoe Acres Historic District” were all compiled, submitted, and published by Historic Preservationist and resident, Diane Wray Tomasso. Historic Denver, Inc. and a State Historical Fund grant from the Colorado Historical Society got the ball rolling. The neighborhood is an exceptional example of modern design principles inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright (“Usonian” style architecture) and the “International Style” modern architecture and design brought to the U.S. by immigrating professors and students of the Bauhaus in Germany. More than this, they also exhibit an impressive level of craftsmanship inside and out, much of which has been well preserved across the decades.

Development of Arapahoe Acres began in 1949 by developer/designer Edward B. Hawkins. The first homes in the neighborhood, built on the 3000 block of South Marion Street, were designed by Denver Architect Eugene Sternberg. Sternberg was a Czech immigrant,

trained in Prague, Czechoslovakia and Cambridge University in England, and was Dean of the short-lived Department of Architecture at the University of Denver.

The first homes were designed as part of the Revere Quality House Program, a promotion created by the Revere Copper Company (founded by Paul Revere in 1801), to challenge builders and architects to use copper in home design in exchange for national promotion of their neighborhoods and designs. This program motivated Hawkins to collaborate with Sternberg. Sternberg also laid out the original street plan for the neighborhood, whose traffic-calming layout was innovative in the 1940s.

Sternberg and Hawkins parted ways early in the project over philosophical differences, and following this exit, Hawkins designed many of the homes in the neighborhood himself. A recorded interview of Sternberg talks of Hawkins accepting a higher bid for one of Denver’s allegedly first bidding war on the 1st house at the corner of Bates and Marion. Sternberg stated that the purchase price should be what was determined originally. Another

disagreement included Hawkins removing the internal Open Space for additional homes.

For some homes, Hawkins employed Gerry Dion, a young architect who moonlighted with Hawkins to earn a down payment for a home for his own family in the neighborhood. Dion was also a student of the DU School of Architecture.

Home builder Clyde Mannon was in charge of construction in the neighborhood, and he setup a workshop on-site for the construction of all the beautiful custom woodwork that went into the homes. (Mannon later developed Arapaho Hills at Littleton’s S. Lowell Blvd. and W. Berry Ave.) The Acres workshop became a home itself when the neighborhood was completed. Of the 124 homes, there are a few that were designed and built by different architects and builders.

Unlike the design of today’s homes, and consistent with mid-century modern idea, the houses in Arapahoe Acres are meant to be experienced from all sides as a single cohesive design, front-to-back, outside-and-in. The area also has street signs designed by Hawkins approved with partial initial funding by the City of Englewood. Some houses have been modernized inside and some have been totally changed of its original design. EHPS President Matt Crabtree has recreated the house numbers that were also designed by Hawkins to replace some deteriorated or missing numbers.

The neighborhood has a newsletter, social events, garage sale, and participates in Englewood’s Neighborhood Night Out; however, there is no Homeowners Association nor covenants. This neighborhood is not protected even with its Historic Register designation.

Upcoming Fall Events

CEMETERY CRAWL

Saturday: September 7th, 11AM

Join the Gilpin County Historic Society for the 31st Annual Cemetery Crawl at Fairmount Cemetery, 430 S. Quebec St. Denver CO, 80247. Tickets are \$15 in advance through www.eventbrite.com or \$20 the day of the event. Kids 12 & Under are FREE. For more information visit www.gilpinhistory.org or call 303-582-5283.



Complimentary History Tea Parties

THURSDAY, September 19th
from 3:00-5:00 pm

1400 E. Dartmouth Ave.
(Barker Residence)

Sharing Englewood history
stories, snacks and tea.
Space is limited.

Please RSVP to 303.378.5540
or shar@oohlalaeventsco.com

ENGLEWOOD BLOCK PARTY September 28th - Saturday 3PM - 9PM

This annual street party brings together friends and families to celebrate the Englewood community. Featuring food trucks, concerts, a beer garden, kid's activities, local vendor booths, and much, much more. Admission is free!

JOSHUA SCHOOL TOUR

**October 5th - Saturday
9AM-NOON**

Join EHPS in collaboration with the Joshua School for a historic tour of the David W. Brown House located at 2303 E. Dartmouth Ave. The 18 Room Prairie Style Brown House is on the National and State Historic Registry. Participants are encouraged to dress comfortably as there will be staircases on the tour. The tour will also feature a continental breakfast and introduction of Joshua School's programming. A limited number of tickets are available for \$10 each and can be purchased at historicenglewood.com. Tour will proceed, come rain or shine.



CREEPY CRAWL TOUR

**October 18th, 19th, 25th & 26th
Fridays & Saturdays: 7PM- 9PM**

Get Your Ghost On! Join the Gilpin County Historic Society for the 11th Annual Creepy Crawl in Central City. This 60+ minute walking tour features storytellers recreating bone chilling murders, ghostly encounters, and other supernatural tales, all based on true events from Central City's colorful past. \$15 in advance through www.eventbrite.com or \$20 for walk-ups. For more information visit www.gilpinhistory.org or call 303-582-5283.

AA... CONTINUED



Photo By Lindsey Runyan

The stewardship of these homes is dependent upon the owners. Attempts to bring the neighbors together to protect the houses has happened over the decades without a sustaining effect. When I bought my home, there was a reference to such covenants in the title and deed but since no action had been continued from the 1960s, nothing is legally enforceable. Wray Tomasso's book with Technical Papers by resident David Steers offers information specific to these homes and guides owners. Protecting the facade of the homes and street lines are highly encouraged.

This 70th Anniversary celebrated with an Architectural Walking Tour, Home Tour, Street Festival, and the 3rd reprinting of the Arapahoe Acres: 1949-1957 books. Contact CJ Cullinan if interested in purchasing a book at cjcullinan@msn.com.

~ Atom Stevens of Denver Modernism Week and AA Resident, CJ Cullinan.

Join Us! IN A HISTORY MAKING ADVENTURE!

We have a broad-based mission, including the restoration and preservation of historic buildings, accepting, cataloging and displaying donated artifacts, recording, transcribing and publishing the oral history of Englewood and its residents, providing interesting and educational lectures each month on historical subjects, and reaching out to our local schools to assist with instilling a love of history in the students.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AS A MEMBER, A VOLUNTEER, AND AN ADVOCATE!

We welcome new members at all levels of involvement: positions of leadership, administration, committee chairs and volunteers, or simply furthering our mission by supporting us with your annual dues.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We are a 501c3 non-profit organization. Dues and other contributions are tax deductible.

Annual membership rates include: Individual \$20, Family \$35.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

New Member Renewing Member \$ _____ check enclosed to: