

# COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Official eligibility determination  
(OAHP use only)

_____	Determined Eligible- NR
_____	Determined Not Eligible- NR
_____	Determined Eligible- SR
_____	Determined Not Eligible- SR
_____	Need Data
_____	Contributes to eligible NR District
_____	Noncontributing to eligible NR District

1.	Resource number:	5LR.6688	Parcel number(s):
2.	Temporary resource no.:	N/A	9513414923
3.	County:	Larimer	
4.	City:	Loveland	
5.	Historic building name:	Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church	
6.	Current building name:	Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation	
7.	Building address:	745 E. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	
8.	Owner name and address:	Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation P. O. Box 772 Loveland, CO 80539	



Not Individually Eligible  
Not Individually Eligible  
Eligible  
Contributing

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**II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

9. P.M. **6th** Township **5N** Range **69W**  
**SW ¼ of SW ¼ of NW ¼ of SE ¼ of section 13**
10. UTM reference (NAD 27)  
Zone **13: 494318 mE 4471575 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Loveland, Colorado**  
Year: **1962; Photorevised 1984** Map scale: **7.5**
12. Legal Description: **"LOTS 23 & 24, BLK 2, AMD PLAT OF GIFFORD-GOSS ADD"**  
Addition: **Gifford-Goss** Year of Addition: **1906**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land historically associated with this property.**

**III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **2537 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood / Horizontal Siding**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof / Front Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof**
20. Special features: **Tower, Porch**
21. General architectural description:  
**This building consists of a 1½-story, Carpenter Gothic style church (built in 1915); a formerly detached Sunday School building (also built in 1915); and a connecting element addition (erected in 2008). The original church building measures 52' N-S x 31' E-W; an enclosed vestibule topped by a bell tower centered on the south-facing façade measures 10' N-S x 10' E-W; the former Sunday School building measures 24' N-S x 36' E-W; the connecting addition measures approximately 28' N-S x 26' E-W.**

**1915 Church**

**Built in 1915 as St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, this rectangular-shaped, 1½-story, building is supported by a painted white concrete foundation, with a beveled wood water table above the foundation at two feet above grade. There are no basement windows. The exterior walls are clad with painted white horizontal wood siding with 1" x 4" corner boards. A cornerstone at the lower east end of the south-facing (façade) wall is inscribed:**

**EV. LUTH.  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH  
ERECTED 1915**

The building is covered by a steeply-pitched front gable roof with returns. The roof is covered with grey asphalt composition shingles, and the eaves are boxed with painted white wood trim. There are no chimneys. Windows are symmetrically arranged and are primarily five-over-four double-hung sash. The windows feature Gothic arches and tracery, and have painted white wood frames and painted blue wood surrounds. Four such windows are in the east-facing wall, three are in the west-facing wall, and two are in the south-facing façade wall. A set of paired, stained dark brown, wood-paneled doors, with a distinctive Gothic arch transom, enter into the vestibule beneath the bell tower from a 4-step sandstone porch centered on the symmetrical facade. The porch is covered by a gable hood, and is flanked by low stone knee walls. A secondary entrance enters the original church building at the east end of the north-facing wall. Here, a brown metal security door leads into a small hipped-roof enclosed rear vestibule from a 5-step wood stoop with a wood railing. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with two upper sash light, enters the south end of the west-facing wall from a concrete porch and handicap-accessible ramp with a painted white metal railing.

#### 1915 Sunday School

The formerly detached Sunday School building displays some elements of the Bungalow-style of architecture. It features a rectangular-shaped plan, is one-story in height, and is of wood frame construction. It is supported by a painted white concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with narrow painted white horizontal wood siding, with painted dark grey 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, with grey asphalt composition shingles, and with exposed rafter ends covered by a fascia board. Decorative stepped purlins or knee braces appear beneath the eaves, at the corners in each upper gable end. Windows are entirely single (ribbon style) five-over-one double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and painted blue wood surrounds. A brown metal door is centered in the symmetrical east-facing façade wall. This door enters the building from a wood porch and handicap-accessible ramp with a painted white wood railing.

#### 2008 Connecting Addition

This component of the overall building rests on a painted white concrete foundation. Its exterior walls are clad with painted white horizontal wood siding, and its moderately-pitched gable roof is covered with grey asphalt composition shingles. The east-facing wall contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows with painted blue wood surround. A burgundy color metal door, with one upper sash light, enters into the east-facing wall from a 4-step concrete porch with a white wrought iron railing.

22. Architectural style/building type: **Late Victorian / Carpenter Gothic**

23. Landscaping or special setting features:

**This well-maintained property is at the northwest corner of East 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Pierce Avenue in the residential neighborhood east of downtown Loveland. Concrete public sidewalks, and wide grass strips parallel the street and avenue. A gravel alley is behind the property to the north.**

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: **N/A**

#### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: Actual: **1915**  
Source of information: **Cornerstone; *Loveland Daily Herald*, May 15, 1915, p. 4.**

26. Architect: **Unknown**  
Source of information: **N/A**

27. Builder/Contractor: **Unknown**  
Source of information: **N/A**

28. Original owner: **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Source of information: **Cornerstone, Loveland city directories**

29. Construction history (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):  
**This building was erected in 1915 as St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Early in its history, it was also commonly referred to as St. Paul's German Lutheran Church. The *Loveland Daily Herald* briefly noted the church's construction on May 15, 1915 as under the "Personal Paragraphs" heading the paper noted: "The German Church on East Fifth Street is progressing rapidly and will soon be completed." A Sunday school building and a restrooms building were erected contemporaneously with the church, or shortly thereafter. The church, Sunday school, and restroom buildings are all depicted on Loveland's 1927 Sanborn Insurance map. They existed as originally built until 2008, when the restrooms building was removed and the church and Sunday School were connected by an addition between the two buildings. City of Loveland building permits reveal that Colorado Custom Homes erected the 2008 connecting addition for St. Spyridon Church the property's owner at that time. The handicap-accessible ramp and entry at the south end of the west-facing wall was installed at approximately the same time.**

**After acquiring the building in 2015, the Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation voted to remove the cross at the apex of the bell tower because they did not want it to symbolize that they were associated strictly with Christianity or any other specific faith. The cross was moved to an interior "honor wall" adjacent to the vestibule where it is displayed with information about the building's history and the congregations that have occupied it through the years.**

30. Original Location: **Yes** Date of move(s): **N/A**

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**V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

31. Original use(s): **Religion / Church**  
32. Intermediate use(s): **Religion / Church**  
33. Current use(s): **Religion (Unitarian Universalist Congregation)**  
34. Site Type **Building**

## 35. Historical background:

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was established in 1915 by parishioners who had split from Loveland's Evangelical Lutheran Zion Church. Located at 555 N. Adams Avenue (5LR.5720), the primarily German-speaking Evangelical Lutheran Zion congregation had been formally organized a decade earlier, with a written policy that morning services would be held in the German language, while evening services would be held in the English language. The policy became controversial during World War I, however, as church members disagreed over whether services should be conducted only in German, only in English, or should continue to be held in both languages. In early 1915, parishioners favoring only German-speaking services broke away to form St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The new congregation was initially led by Reverend W. F. G. Fleischmann, who was soon replaced, however, by Reverend Philip Schmidt.**

**The schism developed during World War I, within a broader national context whereby Evangelical Lutheran congregations sought to maintain elements of their cultural heritage while at the same time demonstrating a sense of patriotism and a willingness to assimilate into the dominate American culture. As the war in Europe intensified, and as America was gradually drawn into the conflict, traditionally German-speaking Evangelical Lutheran parishioners faced conflicting loyalties and pressures. Church leaders, thus, confronted the difficult challenge of honoring existing traditions while assuring their broader communities that Evangelical Lutherans were loyal American citizens. Amid an atmosphere of increasing anti-German sentiment, in June 1915, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New York and New England published the following statement:**

**Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod...though heart and soul with Germany in the European War, are, in the language of Synod president, the Rev. William Horn "Americans before we are German sympathizers; and if unhappily this nation should be drawn into the cataclysm, we would stand for our country even against the fatherland."**

**The statement probably changed few opinions among persons who viewed German-speaking congregations such as St. Paul's with a degree of suspicion. In Loveland, in October 1915, Reverend Schmidt stood accused of making "unpatriotic utterances in the pulpit and on the street" and faced revocation of his naturalized citizenship. Born in Bavaria circa 1885, Rev. Schmidt immigrated at an unknown date, and in early September 1915, he became a naturalized U. S. citizen. Just over month later, several unknown persons alleged that he had "uttered sentiments incompatible with the oath of allegiance to the United States" prompting an investigation by a government inspector to determine if his citizenship should be revoked. Reverend Schmidt issued the following statement in his defense:**

I have not said the things of which I have been accused. It is natural that I have sympathies for Germany, as that is the land of my birth, and I have five brothers fighting in the German army at the present time. But since I took the oath of allegiance to the United States a month ago, America has stood first with me. I have never said anything about the war in my pulpit except to deplore the sacrifice of human lives from every nation involved, on the grounds of Christianity and humanity. No reasonable person will hold that to be unpatriotic. I have never expressed sympathy for either side in my pulpit, and I have never said anything on the streets which can be construed as unpatriotic. I am proud of my American citizenship and am prepared to fight to the last court any attempt to take my papers from me."

The result of the investigation is unknown; however, Loveland city directories indicate that Reverend Schmidt remained St. Paul's pastor until at least 1922, while residing with his wife Amelia at 803 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, just across Pierce Avenue from the church. Subsequent St. Paul pastors included Reverend Leon Gehret in the mid-to-late-1920s, Reverend Ernest W. Lehne in the 1930s, and Reverend Henry Woelberg from the 1940s to the early 1960s. In all, the building at 745 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street served as St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church for nearly six decades, from its construction in 1915 until the early-to-mid-1970s.

In the late 1970s, this church building was briefly associated with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. It then became the Community Fellowship Baptist Church, under the leadership of Reverend Franklin White, followed by the Messiah Baptist Church through the mid-1980s. The Church at Loveland, led by Pastor Gary Nichols, was then located in the building from the late 1980s to the early 2000s. St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church next occupied the building until 2015 when it was acquired by the Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Led by Reverend Laurel Liefert, the Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation is presently composed of approximately 140 members.

36. Sources of information:

*A Guide to Historic Loveland* (Loveland Museum and Gallery, 1996).

Buchmeier, Pete. Oral interview with Carl McWilliams, October 9, 2019.

Larimer County Assessor Online Property Records: <https://www.larimer.org/assessor/search#/property/> (Larimer County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card." On file at the Loveland Museum Gallery.

City of Loveland building permit files, on file in the Development Services Department, Building Division, 410 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Loveland, CO.

Loveland City Directories.

*Loveland's Historic Downtown: A Guide to the Buildings* (Loveland Museum and Gallery, 2001).

McWilliams, Carl. *Historic Loveland Churches*, Loveland: Loveland Museum / Gallery, 2002.

Newspaper Articles (arranged chronologically)

"Personal Paragraphs." *Loveland Daily Herald*, May 15, 1915, p. 4.

"Aliens Naturalized." *Loveland Reporter*, September 10, 1915, p. 2.

"Rev. Schmidt Denies Unpatriotic Talk." *Loveland Reporter*, October 18, 1915, p. 1.

"Schmidt Case May Get Into Courts." *Loveland Reporter*, December 29, 1915, p. 1.

**Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Loveland, dated June 1886, December 1890, September 1893, November 1900, March, 1906, May 1911, April 1918, August 1927, July 1937, and September 1946.**

## VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: **No** Date of designation: **N/A**

Designating authority: **N/A**

38. Applicable National Register Criteria:

A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;

B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

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; or

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

### 38. A Loveland Standards for Designation

- |   |                          |  |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| ✓ | Architectural            | Exemplifies specific elements of an architectural style or period  |
|   | Architectural            | Is an example of the work of an architect or builder who is recognized for expertise nationally, statewide, regionally, or locally |
| ✓ | Architectural            | Demonstrates superior craftsmanship or high artistic value   |
|   | Architectural            | Represents an innovation in construction, materials, or design   |
|   | Architectural            | Represents a built environment of a group of people in an era of history   |
|   | Architectural            | Exhibits a pattern or grouping of elements representing at least one of the above criteria   |
|   | Architectural            | Is a significant historic remodel  |
|   | Social/cultural          | Is a site of an historic event that had an effect upon society   |
| ✓ | Social/cultural          | Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the community   |
|   | Social/cultural          | Is associated with a notable person(s) or the work of a notable person(s)  |
|   | Geographic/environmental | Enhances sense of identity of the community  |
|   | Geographic/environmental | Is an established and familiar natural setting or visual feature of the community  |

39. Area(s) of significance: **Architecture, Religion, Social History, Ethnic Heritage / European**  
40. Period of significance: **1915 - 1970**  
41. Level of significance: **Local**

42. Statement of significance:

**This building is architecturally significant for its Carpenter Gothic style of architecture, dating from just after the end of the Victorian era. Built in 1915, and used continuously as a church to the present day, the building is also historically significant in the areas of Religion, Social History, and Ethnic Heritage / European. Established as St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, its founders were first generation German-Americans who sought to maintain traditional ways of life including holding services in the German language. Due to some loss of integrity, the property is evaluated as ineligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places or in the State Register of Historic Properties. The property, however, retains sufficient integrity to qualify for local landmark designation by the City of Loveland, and it would also qualify as a contributing resource within a National Register or locally-designated historic district.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**This property displays a somewhat less than ideal level of physical 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. The integrity of the original church and historically detached Sunday School building is diminished by the construction of a 2008 connecting addition. However, the addition is reasonably well-designed. It is to the rear of the original church, it is relatively modest in size, and its exterior materials are compatible with those of the original church and Sunday School.**

**VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

44. National Register eligibility assessment: **Not Individually Eligible**  
State Register eligibility assessment: **Not Individually Eligible**  
Local Landmark eligibility assessment: **Eligible**

45. Is there National Register district potential? **Yes**

**Discuss: Historic properties in this primarily residential neighborhood east of downtown Loveland have the potential to form a historic district.**

If there is N.R. district potential, is this building contributing or noncontributing? **Contributing**

46. If the building is in an existing N.R. district, is it contributing or noncontributing? **N/A**



**VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION**

47. Photograph numbers: **CD #1; Images 46-56**

CD filed at: **City of Loveland**

**Development Services Department**

**410 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Loveland, CO 80537**

48. Report title: **Germans from Russia and the Great Western Sugar Company: A Survey of Historical Properties (Loveland CLG project CO-19-10006)**

49. Date(s): **February 1, 2020**

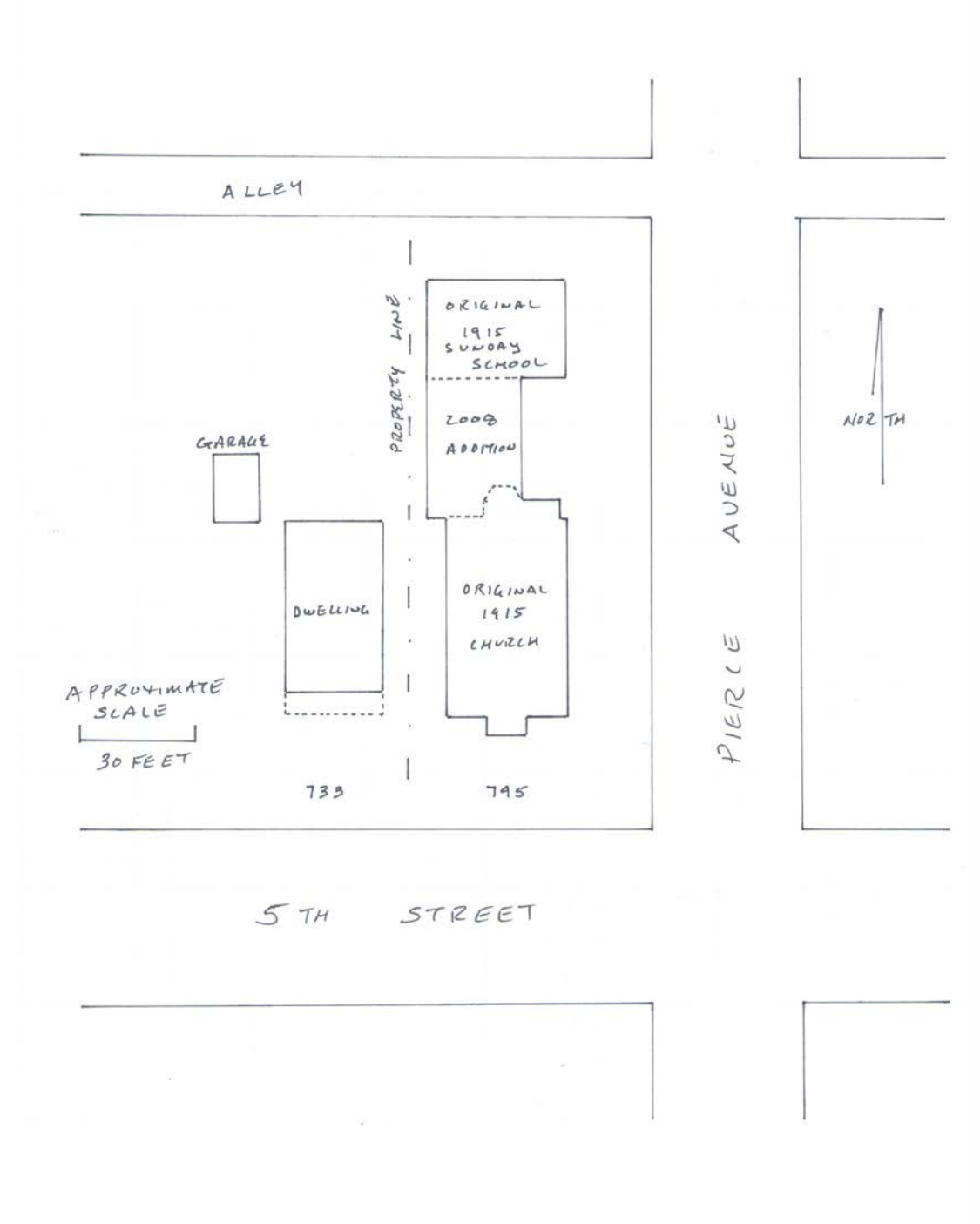
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

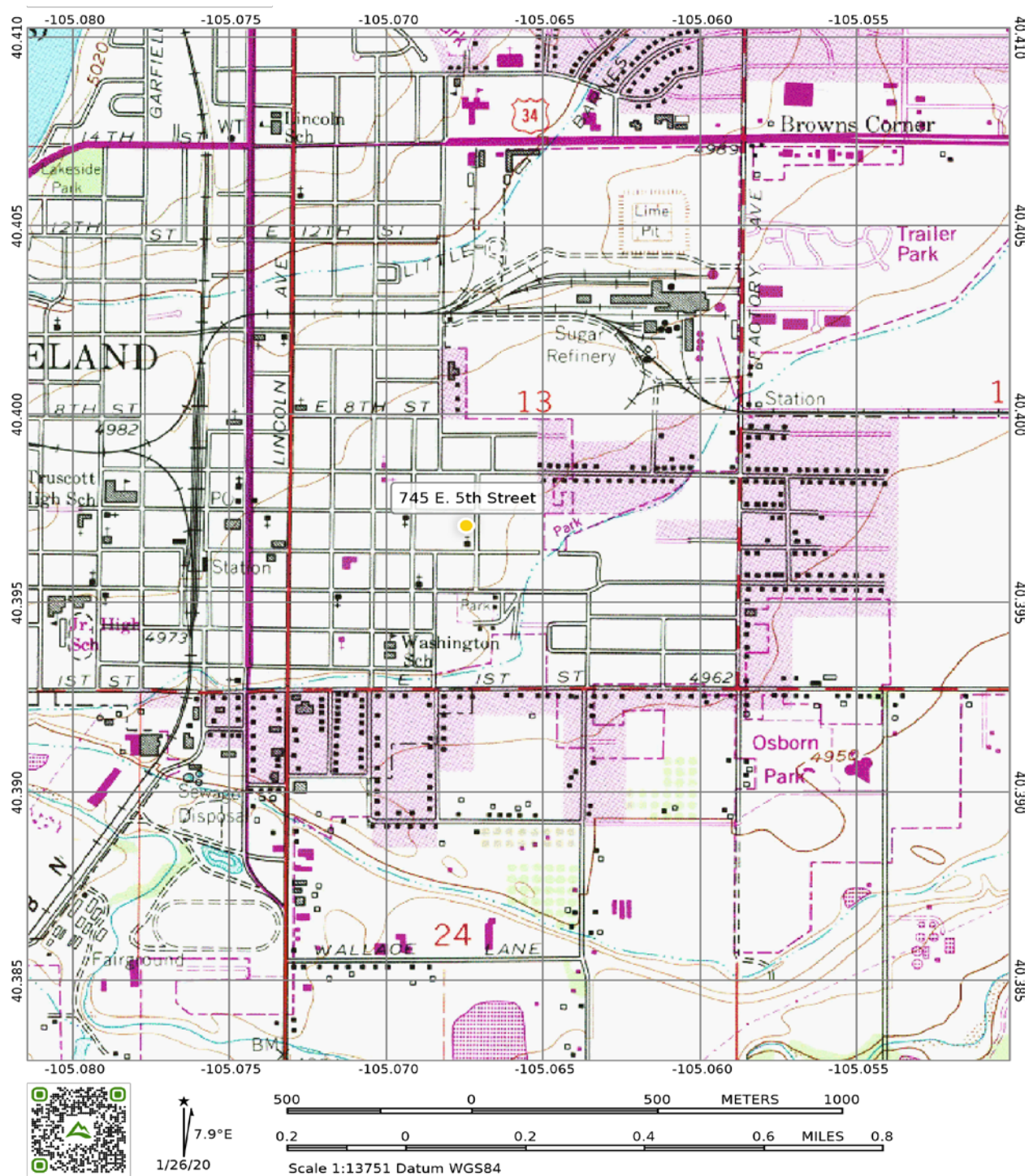
52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court, Fort Collins, CO 80525**

53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

## Sketch Map



## Location Map







*CD 1, Image 46, View to Northwest*



*CD 1, Image 47, View to Northeast*





*CD 1, Image 48, View to West*



*CD 1, Image 49, View to Southwest*





*CD 1, Image 51, View to Northwest*



*CD 1, Image 52, View to West*





*CD 1, Image 53, View to Southwest*



*CD 1, Image 54, View to Southeast*





CD 1, Image 55, View to Southeast



CD 1, Image 56, View to Northeast, of the sign near the front southeast corner of the property





*CD 1, Image 50, View to North*