MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO
AGENDA

Thursday, July 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Virtual HPAB Meeting

Due to COVID-19 concerns, this hearing will be held virtually. Information regarding how to participate will be available on the Historic Preservation Advisory Board webpage approximately one week prior to the hearing at www.boco.org/HPAB. To join the meeting by phone, dial 1-833-568-8864 (toll free) and enter the Meeting ID: 161 875 3270.

This agenda is subject to change. Please call ahead (303-441-3930) or check the Historic Preservation Advisory Board webpage to confirm an item of interest. For special assistance, contact our ADA Coordinator (303-441-3525) at least 72 hours in advance.

There will be opportunity to provide public comment remotely on the subject items during the respective virtual Public Hearing portion for each item. If you have comments regarding any of these items, you may mail comments to the Community Planning & Permitting Department (PO Box 471, Boulder, CO 80306) or email to historic@bouldercounty.org. Please reference the docket number of the subject item in your communication. Call 303-441-3930 or email historic@bouldercounty.org for more information.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   4.1. Approval of meeting minutes from May 5, 2022
5. BUILDING PERMIT REVIEWS FOR STRUCTURES 50 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER
6. LANDMARKS
   6.1. Docket HP-22-0004: John E Clark Farm
       Public testimony will be taken.
       Request: Boulder County Historic Landmark Designation of a site
       Location: 9511 Vermillion Road, in Section 16, T3N, R69W of the 6th Principal Meridian
       Zoning: Agricultural (A) Zoning District
       Owner/Applicant: Boulder County
       Website: www.boco.org/HP-22-0004
       Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC
7. OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADJOURNMENT
MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Virtual HPAB Meeting

Board Members Present: Mark Gerwing
                      Jason Emery
                      Marissa Ferreira
                      Elizabeth Gehring
                      David Hawes
                      Larry Powers

Board Members Excused: Chuck Gray
                      Don Burd
                      Terry Walters

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:05 p.m. by Vice-Chair Mark Gerwing.

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**
None

5. **BUILDING PERMIT REVIEWS FOR STRUCTURES 50 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER**
None

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**
6.1 **Discussion on the History and Future of the Pillars at Nine Mile Corner (Hwy 287 & Arapahoe Rd)**

Bill Meyer of the Rotary Club gave a presentation on the history of the pillars at Nine Mile Corner located at the intersection of Arapahoe Road and Highway 287. The expansion of the road in this area has threatened the preservation of these pillars. The Board discussed different options available to repair and preserve the pillars and possible alternative locations for the pillars should they need to be moved, and expressed their desire to work more with CDOT, the City of Lafayette, and others on this issue. HPAB members Jason Emery, Liz Gehring, and Larry Powers volunteered to participate in further discussions regarding the pillars.

David Hawes joined the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Elizabeth Gehring joined the meeting at 7:09 pm.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

4.1 **Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2022**

   **MOTION:** Marissa Ferreira MOVED that the Boulder County Historic Preservation Advisory Board APPROVE the meeting minutes from April 7, 2022.
   **SECOND:** Larry Powers
   **VOTE:** Motion PASSED {6:0}

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Denise Grimm discussed the agenda for the upcoming awards ceremony in honor of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month taking place on May 9 at Chautauqua Community House.

The Boulder County Historic Preservation Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:47 p.m.
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, July 7, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19, Public Hearing to be Held Virtually

PUBLIC HEARING

STAFF PLANNER: Denise Grimm

STAFF RECOMMENDATION RE:

Docket HP-22-0004: John E. Clark Farm
Request: Boulder County Historic Landmark Designation
Location: 9511 Vermillion Road, in Section 16, T3N, R69W of the 6th Principal Meridian
Zoning: Agricultural (A) Zoning District
Owner: Boulder County

PURPOSE

To determine if the nominated property qualifies for landmark designation, determine if the landmark application is complete, and formulate recommendations for the Board of County Commissioners.

BACKGROUND

An application for landmark designation of the site has been submitted by Boulder County Parks and Open Space. The landmark site is a .90-acre area of a 96-acre parcel. The site includes seven (7) contributing resources which are the house, garage, privy, barn, silo, machine shed, and granary. The site includes one (1) non-contributing resource which is the metal sided shed.

The property is historically associated with John E. Clark and his family who purchased the property in 1916. Clark became a prominent farmer during the early 20th century development of agriculture in the Longmont area. Clark’s contributions and adaptations to new farming methods during a period of rapidly evolving agriculture practices, and his leadership role growing and representing sugar beet growers, establishes Clark as a significant local individual in the area of agriculture.

The property retains the key farm buildings of the house, garage, privy, barn, silo, machine shed, and granary. Viewed together, the farm buildings are historically significant as an intact example of family farm property type that retains sufficient historic physical integrity from their period of significance with regard to their location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and design. The property retains a rural setting with pasture or open fields surrounding the property.
Although the ages of the buildings are unknown, historic research suggests the buildings date to the early 20th century between 1910-1916.

On October 29, 2018, the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation determined that the Clark Farm “appears to meet the criteria for evaluation and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places” under Criterion A for Agriculture, and Criterion C for Architecture. Subsequently, on December 6, 2018, HPAB found the Clark Farm eligible for landmark status with Boulder County. Landmarking was not pursued at that time.

SIGNIFICANCE

The property qualifies for landmark designation under Criteria 1, 3, and 4.

Criterion 15-501(A)(1) The character, interest, or value of the proposed landmark as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the county;

The property is significant for its association with the development of early agriculture in Boulder County.

Criterion 15-501(A)(3) The identification of the proposed landmark with a person or persons significantly contributing to the local, county, state, or national history;

The property is significant for its association with John E. Clark, a prominent local farmer.

Criterion 15-501(A)(4) The proposed landmark is an embodiment of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or the use of indigenous materials;

The property is significant for the collection of various types of agricultural buildings and the exemplary double wing barn.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Advisory Board APPROVE and recommend that the BOCC approve Docket HP-22-0004: John E. Clark Farm under Criteria 1, 3, and 4 and subject to the following conditions:

1. Alteration of any exterior feature of the structures or construction within the site area will require review and approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness (CA) by Boulder County (note: applicable county review processes, including but not limited to Site Plan Review, may be required).

2. Regular maintenance which prolongs the life of the landmark, using original materials or materials that replicate the original materials, will not require review for a Certificate of Appropriateness, provided the Community Planning & Permitting Director has determined that the repair is minor in nature and will not damage any existing features. Emergency repairs, which are temporary in nature, will not require review (note: Depending on the type of work, a building permit may still be required.)
1. **Name of Property**

**Historic Names:** John E. Clark Farm, John Clark Farm, Clark Farm  
**Other Names:** N/A  
**Site Number:** 5BL.6791

2. **Historical Narrative**

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THEIR LAND**

Since time immemorial Indigenous people have lived in Colorado with their own unique cultures, relationships, and histories. Eastern Colorado was home to a variety of Indigenous tribes that include the Apache, Arapaho, Cheyenne, Comanche, Crow, Kiowa, Sioux, Pawnee, and Ute. Their presence on the land is known today through Indigenous oral tradition, recorded history, photos, writings and mapping of explorers, non-Native stories, and archaeological investigation.

Between the 1860s and early 1880s Indigenous people in eastern Colorado and the central mountains were forcibly removed by the United States government from their traditional homelands identified as belonging to them in the 1851 Treaty of Fort Laramie. In addition to the forced removal from their traditional homelands to unfamiliar and inferior lands far away, Indigenous people also suffered great trauma with the suppression of their language, history, beliefs, and culture through numerous measures and laws well into the 20th century.

The traumatic measures and laws established by the United States government that resulted in the forced removal of Indigenous people from their traditional homelands simultaneously set the stage for the great westward expansion. Domestic and foreign migrants, as well as railroad companies and states, utilized the various federal land acts to claim for themselves what was once Indigenous land.¹,²

**ALFRED CUSHMAN LEGAL NOTICE**

On April 20, 1871, Alfred Cushman, resident of Burlington, Boulder County, Territory of Colorado, filed a legal notice with Boulder County identifying that he has a “valid right” to the occupation of 160 acres in the Southwest ¼ of Section 16, Township 3 North, Range 69 West. This legal notice is the first recorded claim to the ownership of the property that was to later


become part of the land where the John E. Clark Farm currently is located.³

For reasons unknown, Alfred Cushman never started or completed the next step to acquire title to the 160 acres of land he claimed to have a “valid right” to occupy through any of the federal government’s various land acts designed to transfer legal title to individuals. An examination of the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder’s records show Cushman stayed in area and purchased other lands nearby.

As a result of Cushman’s delay to formalize his ownership of the 160 acres, when the Colorado Territory became a state on August 1, 1876, the newly created state received in a trust from the federal government, under the General Land Ordinance, all lands not previously acquired by individuals in sections 16 (the location of the John E. Clark Farm) and 36 in each township in the state, totaling approximately 4 million acres, for the benefit of public schools. Thus, the new state of Colorado became the legal owner to the 160 acres of land because it is located in section 16, and the 1871 legal notice Cushman declared voided.⁴

STATE OF COLORADO SELLS LAND TO CHARLES W. PACE

In order to begin managing the approximately 4 million acres it received from the federal government under the General Land Ordinance, the state of Colorado formed the Board of Land Commissioners. The Board of Land Commissioners held their first meeting on April 2, 1877, with the clear mandate established by the federal government’s state land trust system to generate revenue to support public schools through the sale of lands the state of Colorado received in sections 16 and 36.⁵

One of the Board of Land Commissioners land sales occurred on July 6, 1910, to Charles W. Pace. Pace purchased approximately 106.74 acres for $3,202.20 in the Northwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ and South ½ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 16, Township 3 North, Range 69 West. This sale was exclusive of 13.26 acres embraced in the right of way deed to the Pleasant Valley Reservoir Fish and Ditch Company and the mineral rights for the 106.74 acres that were reserved by the state of Colorado.⁶

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In 1910, when Pace purchased the property from the Board of Land Commissioners he was on his way to becoming a prominent local farmer and rancher.

Charles W. Pace was born in Adair County, Iowa, May 25, 1866. In 1887, he married Celia Emeline Dixon. On June 13, 1903, Charles W. Pace and his family arrived in Longmont by covered wagon from Kansas.

In 1907, Pace purchased his first forty acres of land south of the Great Western Sugar factory east of Longmont. Over the years, Pace steadily increased his landholdings around the area and diversified his interests to include small grains, corn, vegetables, cattle, and sheep. Pace also established the Pace Land and Live Stock Company.

As Pace’s prominence grew in the area, he became instrumental in assisting Great Western Sugar in land acquisitions in Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming for factory construction projects.

Being a leading member of the local community, Pace established a long social and community service record that included Boulder County Fair Association Director, Boulder County Fair Marshall, Boulder County Live Stock Growers President, Bonus Ditch Company President, and Longmont Parks Board member. Pace and his horse, Howdy, became traditional leaders of the Boulder County Fair and American Legion Rodeo. Pace is also credited in his obituary with assisting in the early establishment of the National Western Stock Show.7

The Charles W. Pace family resided in Longmont, not on the John E. Clark Farm, and it is unclear if he constructed any buildings on the property prior to selling to John E. Clark in July 1916 for $13,000.8

THE CLARK FAMILY’S ARRIVAL IN THE UNITED STATES

John Edward Clark was born on August 31, 1876 in Shropshire County, England, to Thomas and Clara Isabelle (Evans) Clark. In 1881, Thomas and Clara, along with their two children, Mary and John, immigrated to the United States and arrived in Longmont on June 4, 1881.9,10

7Carol Beam, Longfellow-Pace Farm local historic landmark nomination, on file with Boulder County Parks and Open Space, 2003.


10Clara Clark, Longmont Ledger, January 26, 1906, 1, Longmont Public Library.
By the time of the June 1885 Colorado state census, the Clark family is identified as Thomas, age 38, Clara Clark, age 38, and their now three children, Mary, age 11, John, age 9, and George, age 2, living in Enumeration District 1, Larimer County. There is no indication on the census record of a more specific location of Enumeration District 1. Thomas is listed as a farmer, Clara, keeping house, with Mary and John both attending school. Their youngest son, George, is listed as being born in the United States.\(^{11}\)

Thomas and Clara’s son, John, attended several different schools while growing up since his parents moved to different farm properties. John attended the Chapman School for a short time, then the Berthoud School, Pleasant Hill School, and finished at the Armstrong School.\(^{12}\) Interestingly, the Armstrong School is a short walk south across Vermillion Road from the present day location of the John E. Clark Farm.

By November 1890, Thomas and Clara Clark purchased their first property of 160 acres in Boulder County in the Northeast ¼ of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 69 West. This property is a few miles west of the present day location of the John E. Clark Farm.\(^{13}\)

On October 25, 1899, at the age of 23, John E. Clark married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Emma Feltham, age 22, in Boulder.\(^{14}\)

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Feltham was born August 11, 1877 in South Dakota. Clark family oral family history identifies that Lizzie’s family came to Colorado in October 1881 from Clay County, South Dakota after their family survived a flood and lost their belongings.\(^{15},^{16}\)


\(^{12}\)“Funeral for Pioneer Longmont Farmer to be Held Wednesday,” Longmont Times-Call, August 17, 1953, 1, Longmont Public Library.


\(^{15}\)Doreen Shumpert, interview with Carol Beam. November 2, 2021.

\(^{16}\)“Mr. and Mrs. John E. Clark Celebrate Golden Anniversary,” Longmont-Times Call, October 18, 1949, 4, Longmont Public Library.
Shortly after the couple were married, they moved to a rented farm seven miles north of Longmont and stayed there for four years.\textsuperscript{17} The 1900 United States federal census identifies the couple renting a farm in the 24\textsuperscript{th} Precinct, Enumeration District 156, in Boulder County. Enumeration District 156 is only vaguely identified as “Longmont, excluding Longmont Town” in the census sheet. John is also identified as a naturalized citizen.\textsuperscript{18}

Around 1903-1904, the Clarks moved to another farm and rented from the owner, John Townley, for the next 14 years.\textsuperscript{19} The John Townley farm is located a short distance directly south of the present day John E. Clark Farm.\textsuperscript{20}

In 1907, when John’s father, Thomas, passed away on a trip back to England, the Clark children inherited one-half interest in the Clark Reservoir (also known as Marshall Reservoir and before that Barney Lake) and the lands that the reservoir covers in the North ½ of the Northeast ¼ and the North ½ of the Northwest ¼ in Section 20, Township 3 North, Range 69 West, and one-half interest in all the water rights, water decrees, head gates, inlet and outlet ditches, and all other water rights belonging to the reservoir.\textsuperscript{21} In 1929, John E. Clark purchased the other one-half interest in the Clark Reservoir and water rights and the 80 acres of land surrounding the reservoir.\textsuperscript{22} This land is short distance directly southwest of the present day John E. Clark Farm.

\textsuperscript{17}Op Cit., “Mr. and Mrs. John E. Clark Celebrate Golden Anniversary.”


\textsuperscript{19}Op. Cit., “Mr. and Mrs. John E. Clark Celebrate Golden Anniversary.”

\textsuperscript{20}Freeze, Samuel, Boulder County Colorado Plat Map, 1880-1881. “Compiled in part from official data, and in part from actual surveys made for the purpose, by Samuel Freeze, in October, November, December and January AD 1880-81.”

\textsuperscript{21}Boulder County, Quit Claim Deed, Thomas Clark Estate to Mary Kraig, John Clark and George Clark, Book 323, Page 17, September 27, 1907, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Recording Division Online Service, https://recorder.bouldercounty.org, accessed February 9, 2022.

The 1910 United States federal census identifies the John and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Clark renting a farm in Precinct 40, Highland, Boulder County, and their first two children, Inez Blanche, born on November 29, 1900, and Evelyne Irene, born on December 19, 1907, are listed as living with them. The Highland area is generally identified on historic maps as the area to the northeast of the John E. Clark Farm.

On March 10, 1911, the Clarks welcomed their third child, John Clifford Clark, and their fourth child, Mildred, on September 13, 1913. The couple’s last child, Kenneth Edward, was born on February 16, 1915. The following year, the Clarks purchased the approximately 106.74 acres in the Northwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼, and the South ½ of the Southwest ¼, in Section 16, Township 3 North, Range 69 West, from Charles W. Pace for $13,000. John and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Clark raised their five children on the farm property.

The farm property purchased by the Clarks is ideally located just a short distance northeast of the Clark Reservoir that the Thomas Clark children inherited in 1907 after their father’s death. As was the case in the previous sale of the property to Pace from the Board of Land Commissioners, the sale to John E. Clark was exclusive of 13.26 acres embraced in the right of way deed to the Pleasant Valley Reservoir Fish and Ditch Company and the mineral rights for the 106.74 acres that were reserved by the state of Colorado.

VERMILLION ROAD

The John E. Clark Farm is located at the northeast corner of North 95th Street and Vermillion Road. At the time the Clark’s purchased the property, North 95th Street was called Road No. 230 and Vermillion Road was called Road No. 125. Clark family oral history indicates that Elizabeth (Lizzie) Clark renamed Road No. 125 to Vermillion Road after the town of Vermillion, South Dakota, where her family resided before moving to Colorado.

FARMING EVOLUTION

John E. Clark, like many other farmers of his generation, experienced major agricultural developments occurring in a relatively compressed time period in the early 20th century. Over Clarks career, Boulder County went from a relatively sparsely populated and small scale
agricultural area, to a much larger scale and commercial enterprise focused region with the increase in irrigation capabilities, crop specialization, new farming methods, better fertilizers, pesticides, enhanced mechanization, and access to larger markets for their products.

As a result of the increasing agricultural prosperity, and the introduction of hard winter wheat that produced such high yields in the area, the Longmont area became the center of the wheat production in the early 20th century, had six flour mills, and called itself the “Minneapolis of the Rockies.”

In addition to wheat, other agricultural enterprises like the Kuner Empson cannery in Longmont, that contracted with local farmers for fruits and vegetables like asparagus, green beans, peas and pumpkins, a new crop emerged in the area that would become a powerhouse cash crop for farmers - sugar beets.

**SUGAR BEETS**

Although sugar beets had been grown in northern Colorado since the 1890s, it wasn’t until the turn of the 20th century that they became one of the most predominantly irrigated crops grown in the region. Sugar beets were easy to grow, well suited for the northern Colorado climate, and minimally affected by adverse weather. The downside of the crop is that they are labor intensive to grow, harvest, and require irrigation.

Sugar companies heavily and successfully promoted sugar beets and persuaded Boulder County farmers, like John E. Clark, to switch from wheat to sugar beets. By 1903, there were enough sugar beet farmers in the area to justify the construction of a refinery for the Longmont Sugar Company, which was acquired a year later by the Great Western Sugar Company.

In 1901, John E. Clark began growing sugar beets with a contract for the Loveland sugar beet refinery. Clark started out farming with only one horse on his rented farm. When the Longmont refinery was built in 1903, Clark switched to a 50-acre contract with this refinery and produced sugar beets for the next 4 decades.

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29 Deon Wolfenbarger, Agricultural Resources of Boulder County, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, prepared for Boulder County Parks and Open Space, 2008, 19-22.


31 Longmont Man’s Story of Beet Industry History is Published,” Longmont Times Call, May 13, 1948, 1, Longmont Public Library.
When Clark first started growing sugar beets he had to cut the tops of the beets by hand, weed the crop by hand, load the beets by hand onto the wagon, haul the crop 5 miles with a horse team and wagon, and unload by hand into railroad box cars. Eventually, the mechanization of the labor intensive tasks resulted in increased efficiency and higher yields for Clark and other sugar beet farmers.

Over the years, Clark successfully grew sugar beets on his farm to become one of the area’s top producers in tonnage and sugar content. In 1944, the same year he purchased an additional 160 acres just to the west of North 95th Street, Clark produced a high tonnage with 18.5 percent sugar content that resulted in the most valuable crop he produced in 44 years.32,33

As a local sugar beet grower leader, Clark became an active member of the Mountain States Beet Growers Association and president of the local association. Clark attended the organization’s yearly meetings throughout the country, and twice represented the association in Washington, D.C. In 1948, Clark wrote a short history of the sugar beet industry for the Mountain States Beet Growers Association. He was also a member of the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologies.34

Clark was publicly credited in the newspaper for his good farming practices with proper crop rotation, use of fertilization, proper seed bed preparation, irrigation, and proper crop supervision.35 In addition to sugar beets, Clark grew alfalfa and hay on the property. He raised cattle and had a life-long passion for horses. Historic photos also show that sheep were also later raised on the property.36

THE BUILDINGS

Boulder County Assessor records identify all the buildings within the proposed local historic landmark boundary with a 1910 construction date. Due to the lack of building permit requirements at that time, it is difficult to determine when the buildings were actually built and who built them. An examination of the historic tax rolls at the Boulder County Treasurer’s Office did not clearly indicate when the buildings were constructed. As a result, a circa 1910 construction date was chosen for the local historic landmark nomination as the best speculation of the approximate timeframe when the buildings were constructed.

32“John Clark Hangs Up a Beet Record,” Longmont Times Call, December 27, 1944, 1, Longmont Public Library.


34Op. Cit., “Funeral for Pioneer Longmont Farmer to be Held Wednesday.”

35Op Cit., “John Clark Hangs Up a Beet Record.”

36Doreen Shumpert text message with Carol Beam, February 17, 2022.
There is also indication in the Boulder County Parks and Open Space real estate acquisition files for the John E. Clark Farm property that the house might have been a former schoolhouse.

In a letter dated December 13, 1995, Arnold Turner, Evelyne Clark Cumming’s real estate agent for the property, states the main house on the John E. Clark property was the former schoolhouse for the area.\(^\text{37}\) This claim is plausible, since the Armstrong School (now a privately owned residence), is directly south across Vermillion Road from the John E. Clark Farm and was constructed around 1910-1915. The school district for this area, District #23, was formed in 1873 and most likely there was a previous schoolhouse before the current Armstrong School was constructed. Further research outside the scope of the local historic landmark nomination project would be required to determine the validity of the claim.

**THE CLARKS PASSING**

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Clark died on June 23, 1951 at the age of 74. She is buried at Mountain View Cemetery in Longmont.\(^\text{38}\) Two years later, John E. Clark died in his sleep at his home on Vermillion Road on August 15, 1953. His obituary states he was actively engaged in farming until his death at the age of 76 and was ill only a short time.\(^\text{39}\) Clark is buried next to his wife at Mountain View Cemetery in Longmont.

At the time of his death John E. Clark accumulated 346 acres of land, all the building improvements on the farm, the interest in the Clark Reservoir, as well as 3.5 shares of the Highland Ditch Company, and 1.5 shares of the Rough and Ready Ditch Company.\(^\text{40}\)

**THE NEXT GENERATION**

The Clark’s children, Inez, Evelyne, Mildred, John Clifford, and Kenneth, all were declared heirs to their father’s estate in 1954. Each child is identified as having a $\frac{1}{5}$ interest in the estate.\(^\text{41}\)

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\(^\text{37}\) Turner, Arnold. Letter to Boulder County Parks and Open Space concerning sale of the Mrs. Evelyne Cummings Farm. On file at Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department, Longmont, Colo, December 13, 1995.


\(^\text{39}\) Op. Cit., “Funeral for Pioneer Longmont Farmer to be Held Wednesday.”


The day before the decree of heirship to the Clark children was executed, an administrator’s deed sold the 160 acres to the west of the John E. Clark farm that John E. Clark purchased in 1944 to one of the Clark children, John Clifford Clark, for $24,000.\(^{42}\)

After the passing of his parents, Kenneth Clark, the youngest of the Clark children, continued to farm the remaining acres of the property. Ken, and his wife, Doris, lived in the secondary house on the property just to the east of the main house, while Ken’s parents were alive. After his parent’s passing, Ken and Doris, moved into the main house.

Like his father, Ken grew sugar beets, alfalfa, and hay. He also raised livestock that consisted of cattle and sheep. A passion for horses also passed from father to son. When Ken retired from farming in the mid 1960s, he and his wife, Doris, and their daughter, Marlene, moved to 1608 17th Street in Longmont. Ken went to work for the city’s water department, but still kept a few horses while living in town.\(^{43}\)

It is believed that after Ken and Doris moved to Longmont, the Clark family rented to the farm to Isaac and Dorothy Drieth. The Drieths were family friends of the Clarks, especially Evelyne Clark. The date the Drieths moved to the John Clark Farm is unknown.

**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE STEWARDSHIP**

On April 29, 1996, Boulder County purchased the John E. Clark Farm from John and Elizabeth’s daughter, Evelyne Clark Cummings, and their granddaughter, Jacqueline Anderson. Jacqueline is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Clark’s daughter, Mildred Clark.

As part of the purchase agreement Boulder County leased the property back to the previous owners beginning January 1, 1997, for 10 years, and provided for a life time estate for their farm tenants, Issac and Dorothy Drieth. The Drieth’s were allowed to continue to live on the property in the main house with use of the garage and outbuildings and until the death of the last surviving spouse. Issac Drieth farmed the property until his passing at the age of 87 on November 25, 2016 in a farming accident on the property.

Sally Westerfield, not related to the Clark family, leased the small secondary house on the property from the county on a month to month lease before the lease was terminated on March 31, 1997. In November 2000, Boulder County requested and received approval from the Boulder County Historic Preservation Advisory Board for the deconstruction of this house due to its poor condition.

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Since the property’s acquisition, the property has retained an active agricultural lease. Today, the property is leased by Boulder County to an agricultural tenant who farms the surrounding acreage and has use of the agricultural outbuildings, but not the house.

In 2017, Boulder County hired Benesch Engineers to complete a structural assessment of the house and geotechnical analysis. The structural assessment determined that many of the wood framing members are insufficient to support the code-mandated loads of the house and the foundation system has experienced significant settlement that is also affecting the structural integrity of the wood framing members. Benesch determined that the house requires extensive reinforcing in order to safely carry design loads required by the current building code and should have a new foundation, new or reinforced floor framing, and reinforced roof framing in order to make the house habitable. The geotechnical analysis performed by Benesch subconsultant, Cesare, Inc., found that the soil below the house consists of fill material on clay and sand layers above claystone bedrock. Groundwater was discovered approximately 10 to 13 feet below grade that probably also contributes to the foundation settlement. As a result of Benesch’s determination that the house is structural unsafe, Boulder County decided to leave the house unoccupied until future funding is allocated for the necessary structural repairs, asbestos mitigation, and other upgrades to be completed in order to provide a safe building for future agricultural tenant occupation. Currently, there is no funding to begin the costly house repairs.

3. Location

Address: 9511 Vermillion Road, Longmont CO 80504

4. Classification

Property Ownership: X Public ____ Private ____ Other

Category of Property: ____ Structure X Site ____ District

Number of Resources Within the Property:

____ 7 Contributing Resources ___ 1 Non-contributing Resource

The contributing resources are the house, garage, privy, barn, silo, machine shed, and granary. The contributing resources are directly related to the property’s agricultural and architectural significance from the periods of significance and retain their historic physical integrity. The metal sided shed is considered non-contributing due to the lack of information of the building’s age, historic background, and movement around the property.

Narrative Describing Classification of Resources:

The John E. Clark Farm is a tract of land owned by Boulder County and, therefore, meets the definition of public ownership. The property is also the location of an historic activity that possesses historic and cultural value and therefore meets the definition of a site.
5. Use

**Historic Use:** Agricultural Complex  
**Current Use:** Agricultural Complex

6. Resource Description

**Narrative Describing Resources:**

**House**

The house is an irregular plan, one story, front gabled roof building that faces south. The house foundation consists of a combination of an intermittent rock foundation, poured concrete segments or no foundation. The house features wood framing that is covered by white painted horizontal wood siding. The roof is covered with grey asphalt composition shingles. A red brick internal chimney is centered on the roof ridge.

The south elevation faces Vermillion Road and historically served as the front entrance. A front gabled roof screen porch extends three-fourths across the south elevation and provides the entrance into the house. Inside the screen porch is a main entrance door and two 1/1 windows. To the west of the screen porch is a 1/1 window and a nonfunctional solid wood entrance door.

The west elevation features one small sliding widow centered on building and one 1/1 window with wood pent roof located towards the north side of the building. Three-fourths of the lower section of the exterior is clad with solid metal siding sheets over the wood horizontal siding.

The north elevation features a hipped roof enclosed porch that extends across almost the entire width of the building. The enclosed porch is wood framed, with matching gray asphalt composition shingles and contains a ribbon of three 1/1 windows. One 4/4 wood window is also located on the north elevation in the east elevation addition section of the building.

The east elevation features the entrance into the north elevation enclosed porch flanked by two 1/1 windows. Two 4/4 windows are centered on the east elevation addition.

**Garage**

The garage is a rectangular plan, one-story, hipped roof building with flared eaves that faces south. The building features wood frame construction that is covered by white painted horizontal wood siding. The roof is covered with grey asphalt composition shingles. A double bay entrance opening is located on the south elevation without garage doors. The west elevation features a centered 4 pane fixed wood window. The north elevation features a centered 4 pane fixed wood window and half wall height shed roof extension. The east elevation features a centered 4 pane fixed wood window.
Privy

The privy is a rectangular plan, shed roof building, that faces south. The privy exhibits the characteristics of a 1930s Works Progress Administration (WPA) constructed privy with its 4’x 5’ size, wood frame construction, concrete foundation, overhanging shed roof, door positioned on the right side, square pot opening, 45 degree position pot on the interior left corner side, and square wood vent shaft behind the pot with T shaped vent design. The concrete foundation stamp “Ideal Portland Cement Laid By W.P.A.” is located at the entrance to the privy interior. Construction date is estimated to be 1935-1943.

Barn

The barn is a rectangular plan, 1 ½ story, front gabled roof building with side wings that faces west. The building features a wood frame construction that is covered by white painted horizontal wood siding. The name “JOHN E. CLARK” is painted in large capital black letters on the barn’s upper west elevation. The foundation is poured concrete. The roof is covered with wood shingles and features a wood frame gabled roof cupola centered on the roof ridge and a prominent large hay hood on the west elevation. The west elevation features four Dutch doors, a small rectangular solid wood door opening, and a large solid wood hay mow door flanked by two 4-lite fixed pane wood windows. The north elevation features a centered Dutch door and four 4-lite wood windows. The east elevation features three Dutch doors, a centered rectangular solid wood door opening above the center Dutch door, two 4-lite fixed pane wood windows and one 4-lite fixed pane wood window in the gable end.

Silo

The silo is a circular plan, concrete stave construction silo type, with a poured concrete foundation that is located in front of the barn’s west elevation. 33 metal bands that provide structural support around the circumference of the silo are equally spaced 15” apart the entire height of the 41’ silo.

Machine Shed

The machine shed is a rectangular plan, 1 story, side gabled roof building that faces south. The building features a wood frame construction that is covered by white painted horizontal wood siding. The poured concrete foundation extends around the west, north and east elevations. The south elevation is open to allow for farm equipment access and does not have any doors. The roof is covered with corrugated metal with exposed roof rafters. The south elevation features three open bays.
Granny

The granary is a rectangular plan, 1 story, side gabled roof building that faces west. The building features a wood frame construction that is covered by white painted horizontal wood siding. The foundation is poured concrete. The roof is covered with grey asphalt composition shingles with closed eaves. The west elevation features a centered side hinged solid wood door. The north elevation features one small side hinged solid wood door opening in the gable end. The east elevation does not have window or door openings. The south elevation mirrors the north elevation with one small side hinged solid wood door opening in the gable end.

7. Statement of Significance

Boulder County Criteria for Designation (check all that apply):

  _X_ the character, interest, or value of the proposed landmark as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the county;
  ____ the proposed landmark as a location of a significant local, county, state, or national event;
  _X_ the identification of the proposed landmark with a person or persons significantly contributing to the local, county, state, or national history;
  _X_ the proposed landmark as an embodiment of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or the use of indigenous materials;
  ____ the proposed landmark as identification of the work of an architect, landscape architect, or master builder whose work has influenced development in the county, state, or nation;
  ____ the proposed landmark's archaeological significance;
  ____ the proposed landmark as an example of either architectural or structural innovation; and
  ____ the relationship of the proposed landmark to other distinctive structures, districts, or sites which would also be determined to be of historic significance.

Areas of Significance: Agriculture, Architecture

Periods of Significance: 1916-1953 (agriculture); circa 1910 (architecture)

Significant Dates:

1916 – John Clark purchases property
1951 – Elizabeth (Lizzie) Clark death
1953 – John Clark’s death
1953-1960s – Kenneth Clark farms the property
1996 – John Clark’s daughter and granddaughter sells the property to Boulder County

Significant person associated with the property:

John E. Clark is considered a historically significant person associated with this property for his role in the development of early 20th century agriculture in the Longmont area.
**Statement of Significance:**

The property is associated with the early 20th century development of agriculture in the Longmont area and represents a family farm property type with a house and supporting agricultural outbuildings.

The property retains the key farm buildings of the house, garage, privy, barn, silo, machine shed, and granary. Viewed together, the farm buildings are historically significant as an intact example of an early 20th century family farm property type that retains sufficient historic physical integrity from its periods of significance with regard to their location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and design. The property retains a rural setting with pasture or open fields surrounding the property.

The layout of the farm complex with the large open spaces between the buildings along with the farmhouse’s front and back yard in relation to the rest of the agricultural outbuildings is indicative of a family farm operation. The visual center piece of the farm is not the house, but instead the large double wing barn, which signifies the important role this building played in the family farm operation. The barn served many daily needs from hay storage, animal shelter, equipment storage, tack house, to repair shop. In comparison, the house is modest in size and void of exterior decorative features. The house is visually subservient to the barn’s appearance. The outbuildings all served a specific need either for domestic use, like the garage or privy, or farm operation, like the machine shed and granary. Together, all the building’s in the farm complex captures the essence of a small scale family farm in early 20th century rural Boulder County.

During the lifespan of a family farm buildings were altered, repurposed, removed, moved, and new buildings constructed to suit the changing needs of the family and farm operation. The John E. Clark Farm exhibits many of these characteristics. Moderate alterations have been made to the house and outbuildings and were largely done simply, compatibly, and with like materials. The house has a moderate degree of alterations that include the east elevation addition, rear porch addition, and addition of a small window on the west elevation. The east elevation addition is visible in historic family photos from the early 1940s but could even be older. The rear porch addition is visible in historic family photos as early as 1939. The granary was moved to its current location at an unknown date from its most likely original location southeast of the house. The secondary house was deconstructed in 2000. Only one of the two privies remain. The railroad box car was removed in 2019 with the Historic Preservation Advisory Board approval. Overall the moderate alterations to the house and outbuildings, and the removal of several outbuildings, do not have a large enough visual impact to diminish the site’s overall character and ability to convey its historic physical integrity from its period of significance.

The property is also significant for its association with John E. Clark. Clark became a prominent farmer during the early 20th century development of agriculture in the Longmont area. Clark’s contributions and adaptations to new farming methods during a period of rapidly evolving agriculture practices, and his leadership role growing and representing sugar beet growers, establishes Clark as a significant local individual in the area of agriculture.
Since the property is retains its historic physical integrity from its periods of significance and therefore conveys its historic significance, the property is eligible as a Boulder County local historic landmark under Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A (1) for its association with the development of early agriculture in Boulder County, Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A (3) for its association with John E. Clark, a prominent local farmer, and Boulder County Criterion 1-501-A (4) for the collection of various types of agricultural buildings and the exemplary double wing barn.

8. Bibliographical References

Beam, Carol. Longfellow-Pace Farm local historic landmark nomination. 2003. On file with Boulder County Parks and Open Space.


Drumm, Henry A. Boulder County Map. 1914. On file with Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.

Freeze, Samuel. Boulder County Colorado Plat Map, 1880-1881. “Compiled in part from official data, and in part from actual surveys made for the purpose, by Samuel Freeze, in October, November, December and January AD 1880-81." On file with Boulder County Parks and Open Space.

“Funeral for Pioneer Longmont Farmer to be Held Wednesday,” Longmont Times-Call. August 17, 1953. Longmont Public Library.


“Longmont Man’s Story of Beet Industry History is Published.” Longmont Times Call. May 13, 1948. Longmont Library.


“Mr. and Mrs. John E. Clark Celebrate Golden Anniversary.” Longmont-Times Call. October 18, 1949. Longmont Public Library.


Wolfenbarger, Deon. Agricultural Resources of Boulder County, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Prepared for Boulder County Parks and Open Space. 2008. On file with Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.
9. Geographical Data

Legal Description of Property: South ½ of the Southwest ¼ and the Northwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 16, Township 3 North, Range 69 West, of the 6th Principal Meridian

Boundary Description: The boundary is defined as an approximate 1.38 acre area as shown on the site map.

Boundary Justification: The local historic landmark boundary is drawn to encompass the extent of the historic building and structure surface features that retain their historic physical integrity from the periods of significance. The boundary does not include the corral area due to the loss of its historic physical integrity as a result of the major corral fencing alterations and the loafing shed fire that destroyed the wooden superstructure.

10. Property Owner

Name: Boulder County Parks and Open Space
Address: 5201 St. Vrain Rd., Longmont CO 80503

11. Form Prepared By

Name: Carol Beam
Address: Boulder County Parks and Open Space, 5201 St. Vrain Rd., Longmont CO 80503
Phone: 303-678.6272 E-Mail: cbeam@bouldercounty.org

12. Photos, Maps, and Site Plan

See attached photos, maps and site plan

For Office Use Only

Docket Number:
Assessor ID:
Parcel Number:
Application Date:
John Clark, undated, but estimated to be 1895
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John E. Clark and Elizabeth Emma Feltham, wedding photo
the couple were married October 25, 1899 in Boulder
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John E. Clark - August 1927
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Sugar beet harvest northeast of barn - October 1924
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John Clark in sugar beet field during harvest - October 1924
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Sugar beet harvest - October 1924
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John E. Clark with Tom and Billy in front of barn - March 1928
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Cliff and Ken Clark with Dolly outside the barn - April 1928
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Left to right, Elizabeth Clark, John E. Clark, Cliff Clark, and Ken Clark, in front of the barn
All 7 horse names are handwritten across the top of the photo - spring 1928
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Ken Clark and his 4H calf, next to garage early 1930s, photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Ken Clark with King in front of barn - mid 1930s, photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Ken Clark with Dolly and colt in front of barn - 1939
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Cliff Clark, left, Ken Clark, right, in the farm yard, late 1930s, photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Left to right, Keith Cummings, Inez Clark, Alberta Clark holding baby, Evelyne Clark Cummings, Ken Clark, and possibly Jerry Coates, who is partially out of the photo.

Photo in the farm yard with garage in the background - 1938. Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
The Clark children - left to right - Inez, Evelyne, Cliff, Mildred, and Ken standing in front of the garage, mid to late 1920s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John Clark, undated, but estimated to be 1930s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John and Elizabeth Clark outside the rear of their house April 17, 1939
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Cliff Clark, and his wife, Alberta, outside the rear of Cliff’s parent’s, John and Elizabeth’s house, April 17, 1939
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Ken Clark with Prince on east elevation of Clark house - 1940s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John Clark in chair, with his son, Cliff, standing behind - 1947, beards were grown for Centennial Days
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John Clark with his son, Cliff, garage and barn in background - 1947, beards were grown for Centennial Days
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Ken Clark with his daughter, Marlene, and Spot - circa 1950
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John E. Clark in sugar beet field - 1944
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John E. Clark farm field, most likely sugar beets - undated, but estimated to be 1940s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John and Elizabeth’s 50th wedding anniversary, inside the Clark farmhouse, October 1949
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Clark family meal on the house’s front porch, undated, but estimated to be late 1940s to early 1950s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Karen Kaye Clark, left, her mother, Doris Clark holding Marlene, and Doris’s husband, Ken Clark, right
Photo circa 1949. Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Marlene Clark, left, and her older sister, Karen Kaye Clark, right, in front of the Clark garage, 1952
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Muriel Hilton, left, holding daughter Diane Hilton, Doris Clark, right, holding daughter Karen Kaye Clark. Muriel is Doris’s sister. Photo circa 1944. Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

Grandpa Fletcher, left, Lulu Fletcher Thompson holding granddaughter Karen Kaye Clark, Doris Thompson Clark, Lulu’s daughter, right. 4 generations of the family with Clark house in background. Photo circa 1944 Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
Ken Clark and his daughter, Marlene, riding Sparky - circa 1953
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John E. Clark house front - undated, but estimated to be 1930s or 1940s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert
John E. Clark house rear - undated, but estimated to be 1930s or 1940s
Photo courtesy Doreen Shumpert

John E. Clark house - southwest elevation - Boulder County Assessor
circa 1949
John E. Clark barn and silo - view to the northeast - Boulder County Assessor
circa 1949

John E. Clark garage and privy, with now demolished secondary house in the background - view to the southeast
Boulder County Assessor – circa 1949
John E. Clark garage and privy far right photo - view to the southwest, Boulder County Assessor - circa 1949

John E. Clark machine shed at center, barn and silo right - southwest elevation
Boulder County Assessor - circa 1949
Privy interior WPA concrete floor stamp, March 14, 2022

Privy interior, March 14, 2022

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John E. Clark Farm Location Map

Parks & Open Space

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