

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination
(OAHF use only)

OAHF1403
Rev. 9/98

- Date _____ Initials _____
- Determined Eligible – National Register
 - Determined Not Eligible – National Register
 - Determined Eligible – State Register
 - Determine Not Eligible – State Register
 - Need Data
 - Contributes to eligible National Register District
 - Noncontributing to eligible National Register District



I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5BL1209.117** Parcel number(s): **131503224002**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Boulder**
- 4. City: **Longmont**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Gilmore House; Billings House; Forrest House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Forrest House**
- 7. Building Address: **439 Terry Street**
- 8. Owner Name: **Forrest Florence L & Isabelle M**
- Owner Organization:
- Owner Address: **1837 Canosa Ct
Denver , CO 80219**

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:	Eligible
Local landmark eligibility field assessment:	Eligible

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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **2N** Range: **69W**
SE ¼ of SW ¼ of SE ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 03
10. UTM reference
 Zone: **13** **491011 mE** **4446306 mN** **(NAD83)**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont**
 Year: **1968 (photorevised 1979)** Map scale: **7.5**
12. Lot(s): **E 127 Ft of S 43 Ft Lot 7 Blk 54**
 Addition: **Old South Longmont** Year of addition: **Unknown**
13. Boundary description and justification:
This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.
 Metes and bounds?: Describe:

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **Length: 58 feet x Width: 30 feet**
16. Number of stories: **1 1/2**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Brick**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Side Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof/Composition Roof**
 Other roof materials:
20. Special features: **Porch**
Roof Treatment/Dormer
Chimney
21. General architectural description:
Constructed in 1918, the imposing brick masonry dwelling at 439 Terry Street is a notable local example of the Craftsman style of architecture. Its overall dimensions are 30' N-S (across) by 58' E-W (deep), including a 26' by 6' Craftsman style porch which extends across nearly the full length of the façade. The house is supported by a concrete foundation, which is faced with red brick. The foundation walls are penetrated by single-light and 2-light basement windows which provide light for the home's lower level. Above the foundation, the house's walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, although, painted white stucco with false half-timbering, appears in the upper gable ends on the north and south elevations. The main roof is a broadly-pitched side gable, with a swept gable extending over the Craftsman style front porch; however, there is also an intersecting hipped-roof section to the rear. The roof is covered with grey asphalt shingles, and the painted white rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A distinctive hipped-roof dormer, with a band of three 4-light windows, is centered above the porch on the east elevation. A red brick fireplace chimney is located on the north elevation, and there is also a tall brick chimney on the west-facing roof slope. A horizontally-oriented 5-light window, with Queen Anne lights, is located on the south elevation. A band of three single-light hopper windows, and a set of paired single-hung sash windows with transom lights, are also located on the south elevation. Above these windows, a band of three 1/1 double-hung sash windows are located in the upper gable end. Bands of 6/6 (probably casement style) windows extend across the west elevation, and at the west end of the north and south elevations. Windows on

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the north elevation include: a set of paired 1/1 double-hung sash window in the upper gable end; five single and one set of paired double-hung sash first story windows; and a set of distinctive vertically-oriented windows, with leaded glass panes, which flank the fireplace chimney. All of the home's windows feature painted white wood frames and surrounds, and red brick rowlock sills. The house features a symmetrical façade, where a set of four concrete steps, with flanking brick knee walls, approaches the 26' by 6' Craftsman-style front porch. The porch itself also features red brick knee walls and massive brick pillars which support the swept gable porch roof. A stained natural brown wood-paneled door, with three upper sash lights, flanking sidelights, and a wood screen door, leads from the porch into the house. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, with a metal storm door, leads into the rear of the house from a 6' by 6' shed-roof covered wood porch on the west elevation. Another painted white wood-paneled door, covered by a metal storm door, provides access to the basement level at the west end of the south elevation.

22. Architectural style: **Late 19th And Early 20th Century American Movements/Craftsman**
 Building type:
23. Landscape or special setting features: **This property is located on the west side of the 400 block of Terry Street in Longmont's historic Westside neighborhood. It is within the boundaries of the Westside Historic District. The property features well-cared for planted grass front and back yards with mature landscaping. Driveways flank the north and south sides of the house.**
24. Associated buildings, features or objects:
- 1: Type: **Garage**
 Describe: **A 20' by 12' brick masonry garage is located east of the house. The garage is supported by a concrete slab foundation, and its brick walls are laid in running bond, with decorative brickwork at the upper corners on the north elevation. The garage roof is flat, with brick parapet walls extending above the roof line on the north, east, and west elevations. Three distinctive 5-light hopper or fixed-pane windows, with painted white wood frames and surrounds, penetrate the garage's east wall. Access to the garage is via a concrete driveway which extends to 5th Avenue around the corner to the north. A painted white diagonal wood plank bi-fold garage door open onto the driveway on the north elevation. A single painted white wood-paneled door is located on the east elevation. The west wall of this garage abuts the east wall of the garage for 811 4th Avenue.**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1918**
 Source of information: **Town of Longmont Water Rent Collection Records. On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum; Sanborn Fire Insurance maps.**
26. Architect: **Unknown**
 Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder: **Unknown**
 Source of information: **N/A**

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28. Original owner: **John F. Gilmore or Harry Vyse**
 Source of information: **Town of Longmont Water Rent Collection Records. On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum.**
29. Construction history:
Longmont water rent collection records, and Longmont city directories, provide evidence that this house and garage were built in 1918. Harry Vyse and John F. Gilmore are listed in the water records as property's first two owners. There have been no additions, and no notable alterations, to either building following their original construction.
30. Original location: Moved: _____ Date of move(s): _____

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Residence**
35. Historical background:
The first known occupant of this home was Harry Vyse, who is listed at this address in the 1918 Longmont City Directory. In 1910, Harry F. Vyse and his wife Stella lived at 325 Emery Street. At the time, Vyse was in partnership with Ernest L. Kiteley in a clothing and furnishing establishment named The Famous. Harry Vyse did not remain at this address for long. By January 1919, John F. and Edwinnie Gilmore had replaced Vyse as this Terry Street home's residents. The Gilmores also lived here for only a few years. Circa 1927, the home was purchased by J. L. Carroll. James L. Carroll came to Longmont in the early 1920s, from Cambridge, Nebraska, with his wife, Lottie, and daughter Peggy. A druggist, Mr. Carroll opened Carroll Pharmacy at 357 Main Street in April 1924. In April 1938, the Carroll Pharmacy opened its new store at the corner of 4th and Main. Only a few months later, in October 1938, Carroll sold his pharmacy to H. C. Yeager. At about the same time, the Carroll's sold this home to Norton R. Billings. The Carroll family moved to Denver in January, 1945, where James Carroll operated a motel on Colfax Avenue for several years, and then later owned a trailer court. He died when he was 60, in October, 1956.
- Norton "Nort" R. Billings, the owner of this home for many years, was a Longmont celebrity. An Olympic athlete, he competed in the 1932 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, New York, in cross-country skiing. Despite the fact that he did not medal in the fifty kilometer race, just completing the course was an impressive accomplishment. Only about half of the field of 39 contestants finished. Billings struggled for five hours on a pair of broken skis. With little snow to dress the course, he broke a tip, and part of the edge on one ski was nearly sheared off. Billings' training was limited to what he could do on his own time. An avid outdoorsman, he did a lot of running and climbing to keep in condition. A favorite trek was to ski cross-country from Estes Park to Grand Lake and back, a journey he made many times. Americans were only supplied with \$160 for lodging and transportation on the way to the games. When Billings left for Lake Placid, he did not know if he would even make the United States team. Following the Olympics, Billings continued to compete in some national cross-country races, but in his words eventually had to "quit that foolishness to make a living."**

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Norton R. Billings was born on November 8, 1904, near Lyons, to Norman A. and Bessie McCall Billings. Both sets of grandparents were early area settlers. His mother's father was Thomas McCall, who, in 1860, homesteaded west of the area that later became Longmont, and built McCall Lake. His paternal grandfather, Norton H. Billings (for whom Nort was named), moved to the Lyons area in 1878, and homesteaded along the North St. Vrain River. Nort grew up in Lyons, Longmont and Estes Park, graduating from Estes Park High School in 1923, one of a class of four. It was in Estes Park that Nort learned to cross country ski, then a sport in its infancy. Nort Billings married Dorothy E. Wail in Longmont in 1928. The couple had one son, Norton A. "Cork" Billings.

Mr. Billings was very active in local business and civic affairs. From the 1920s through the 1940s he worked as an electrician. In addition to work in Longmont, his business, the Billings Electric Company, wired many area farms as the Rural Electrification program took hold. He sold his business in 1952, and helped organize the Mountain Savings and Loan Association (now a part of World Savings and Loan). He managed the Longmont office until he retired as vice president and director in 1965. He served as a Longmont city alderman from 1943 to 1945, and later helped write the city's Home Rule Charter. He was appointed a Building and Zoning inspector in 1951, and also served on the Planning Commission as its chairman in 1960. At the time of his death, on May 1, 1994, Nort had been a member of the Rotary Club for 54 years, was a 56 year member of the Elks Club, a 58 year member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, and a 60 year member of the First Congregational Church. Nort Billings lived to be 89 years old. His wife, Dorothy, died in 1989.

Nort Billings, along with his wife and son, lived in this Terry Street home until 1954, when they moved to a new home at 1044 Emery. At the time, Roy T. and Mildred C. Tidwell took up residence in this home. By 1966, the home had once again changed hands. In that year, Rolland C. and Isabelle M. Forrest were listed as the home's new owners. Isabelle Forrest was born in Butte, Montana on July 2, 1900, the daughter of Louis and Maria Tavelli. She moved to Colorado in 1933, and was married to Rolland Charles Forrest in 1935 in Golden. The couple moved to Longmont from Denver in 1965. Rolland and Isabelle raised five children: sons Francis Forrest, and Louis and Robert Eberharter, and daughters Ruth and Patricia. Rolland Forrest died on April 21, 1979 at age 75; Isabelle lived to be 94, passing away on February 16, 1995

36. Sources of information:

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated November 1900, April 1906, June 1911, March 1918, June 1930, and June 1956. On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum.

"Norton R. Billings." [obituary] Longmont Times-Call, May 2, 1994, p. A-11.

"Rolland Forrest." [obituary] Longmont Times-Call, April 23, 1979, p12.

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

Boulder County Assessor Property Records

They Came to Stay: Longmont, Colorado 1858-1920. Longmont, Colorado: St. Vrain Valley Historical Association, 1971.

"Town of Longmont – Water Rent Collections." On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum.

"Longmonter Nort Billings Knows What Bill Koch Went Through." Longmont Times-Call, February 14-15, 1976, p. 1.

"Former Local Druggist Dies." [J.L. Carroll obituary] Longmont Times-Call, October 10, 1956, p. 1.

"Isabelle M. Forrest." [obituary] Longmont Times-Call, February 17, 1995, p. A-11.

Polk's Boulder County Directories, and Polk's Longmont City Directories [generally published annually, 1892-2004], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers. On file at the Boulder Carnegie Library, and at the Longmont Public Library.

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VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No Date of designation:

Designating authority:

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 possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguished 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.

Longmont Standards for Designation:

- 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.
- 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-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-B (2) The structure or district embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen.
- 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.
- 2.56.040-A (4) The structure or district exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.
- 2.56.040-A (3) The structure or district is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society.
- 2.56.040-A (2) The structure or district is the site of a historic event with an effect upon society.
- 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.

39. Area(s) of significance: **Architecture**

40. Period of significance: **1918**

41. Level of significance: National: State: Local:

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Sketch Map



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Location Map

