

- A. 401 E. Baseline, Weiler House. Larger miner's home, added to city Register of Historic Properties, 2000
- B. 409 E. Baseline, moved hipped-roof miners' cabin
- C. 503 E. Baseline, boarding house moved from Gladstone Mine
- D. 400 E. Oak St., moved hipped-roof miners' cabin
- E. 402 E. Oak St., moved home
- F. 404 E. Oak St., moved home
- G. 406 E. Oak St., former Lewis Dairy and Icehouse
- H. 410 E. Oak St., moved from Superior
- I. 500 E. Oak St., hipped-roof box, Moon home
- J. 508 E. Oak St., Kellett Family home
- K. 510 E. Oak St., side-gabled miners' cabin
- L. 307 E. Oak St., expanded log cabin
- M. 309 E. Oak St., converted mail car
- N. 311 E. Oak St., moved hipped-roof miners' cabin
- O. 401 E. Oak St., moved from Arvada.

- P. 403 E. Oak St., back part of house moved from Simpson Mine where it was the weigh house.
- Q. 405 E. Oak St., moved from Firestone
- R. 409 E. Oak St., former Lewis Creamery
- S. 411 E. Oak St., former Monarch Steam Laundry
- T. 507 E. Oak St., moved home
- U. Corner of North Michigan and East Elm original dairy farm house
- V. 504 E. Elm St., side-gabled miners' cabin with addition
- W. 506 E. Elm St., side-gabled miner's cabin
- X. 507 E. Elm St., Waneka House, moved from the intersection of U.S. 287 and South Boulder Road
- Y. 509 E. Elm St., Cernich House, moved from northwest corner of 111th Street and Baseline Road
- Z. 513 E. Elm St., Thomas House, moved from Waneka Pointe, added to city Register, 2000.

FIRST UNION



Gus Waneka's farmhouse enroute to its new home in First Union

That the tiny First Union Addition includes a large stock of homes that began their useful lives elsewhere should come as no surprise: This is a neighborhood in which transportation roots run deep. Deeded to the Town of Lafayette by the Union Pacific Railroad Co. on June 24, 1904 and accepted by Mayor D.V. Stanley and councilmen Matthew Stobs and William Padfield four months later, the First Union neighborhood was the city's first subdivision outside the original town boundaries. It covers eight city blocks and wraps around a school site deeded to the city in 1891.

Residents quickly set to work, building a creamery, steam laundry and dairy and populating the neighborhood north of Baseline Road with classic hipped-roof homes and side-gabled cabins—and the occasional train car—that had completed their service at mines in the area. The practice of moving homes to First Union continued throughout the century; the last house arriving from the original Waneka Farm on South Boulder Road in 2001.

The neighborhood remains largely unaltered today and boasts a deep inventory of homes significant for their architecture and for the people who lived in them. Commercial buildings have been reused as dwellings and the spartan miners' homes stand as one of Lafayette's last visible links to its rich coal mining heritage.

Neighborhood on the Move

Homes were moved to Lafayette well before there was a First Union neighborhood. The first arrived in 1898 from Louisville. As mine operations shut down, coal camp houses—often two and four room wood-frame homes—were sold. When the Columbine Mine began to slow operations in 1937, Rocky Mountain Fuel sold houses for \$80 for a two-room dwelling and \$180 for a four-room house. Prices jumped to \$100 for a 20x22' house and \$400 for a 26x26' house when the Columbine Mine closed in 1946. In First Union, hipped-roof homes are the most common moved structures.

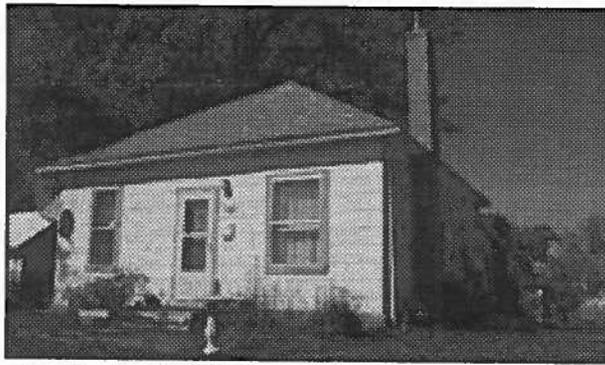
Many, including the largely unaltered structure at 311 E. Oak, had narrow front windows and a small porch or no porch at all because of dusty conditions at the coal camps.

Structures came to First Union from far and wide, including this more ornate home which was moved to town from Superior and its down-the-street neighbors, which came from Arvada and Firestone. And not all moved buildings began life as homes. The back house at 403 E. Oak St. was the assay office at the Simpson Mine.

Housemoving techniques have improved through the years. In early days, larger structures were moved on a sled that was placed atop large logs that served as wheels. The house was pushed or pulled along the line of logs; as one log was passed, it was moved to the front of the line. Smaller structures may have been placed on a flatbed truck.



The back part of this house was a weigh house at the Simpson Mine.



Though covered with asbestos siding, this is a largely unaltered example of a hipped-roof box miner's home.

One Lafayette elder reports he moved a barn by driving his truck inside and using timbers placed through the windows to lift the structure and support it as he crept along Baseline Road to the barn's new location.

Today, the process requires an equal amounts of inven-



Cernich house moved to make way for a turn lane from 111th Street onto Baseline.



Mail train car repurposed into a home at 309 E. Oak

tion and brawn. Homes are typically placed on pieces of steel, lifted using hydraulic jacks and pulled to their new location by a semi-tractor.

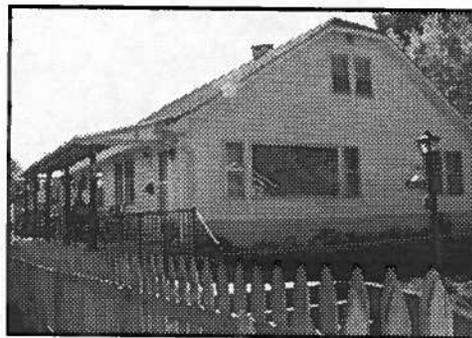
Wondering if a house may have been moved?

Most houses provide plenty of clues, beginning with the style and decoration. Larger homes, such as the Weiler House at 401 E. Baseline, and homes with decorative colored glass windows, like the home at 513 E. Baseline, probably were built in place. Certainly fancier homes may have been built for mine bosses, but photos of the coal camps typically show plainer two- and four-room houses with narrow front windows.

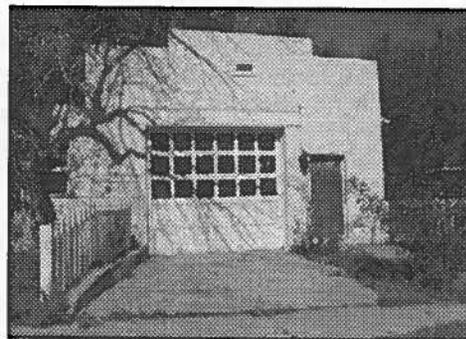
A stacked flagstone foundation suggests the house was built in place. A concrete or concrete block foundation under a turn of the 20th Century home is a strong indication that if the house was not moved, someone built a new foundation beneath it. A moved house, however, likely will have visible beam pockets that are filled in with a different material or that have been converted to basement windows.

Commerce!

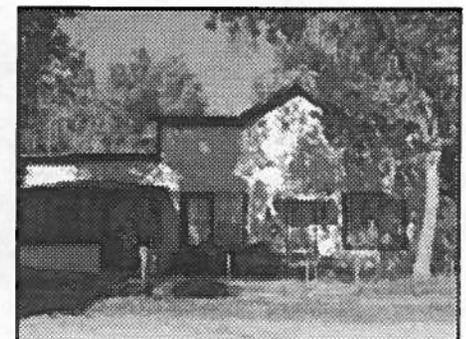
Dairy and farming operations were the principle commercial ventures in the First Union neighborhood and several business buildings stand there today. At 411 E. Oak, Jenny and Roy Crawford ran the Monarch Steam Laundry. In 1937, Dairymen John "Jack" and George "Nip" Lewis bought the laundry and built a creamery next door. Across the street, at 406 E. Oak, is a building that served as a dairy building and icehouse for the Lewis operation, known as the Home Dairy. All three buildings have since been converted to residential use.



Lewis Dairy and Icehouse at 406 E. Oak St.



The Lewis Creamery at 409 E. Oak



The Monarch Steam Laundry, 411 E. Oak