

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

# Architectural Inventory Form

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- Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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



## I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5PE.4938**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **308EMesa**
- 3. County: **Pueblo**
- 4. City: **Pueblo**
- 5. Historic building name: **De Niro House**
- 6. Current building name: **Gilbert and Rose Garcia House**
- 7. Building address: **308 East Mesa Avenue**
- 8. Owner name: **Gilbert and Rose Garcia**
- Owner organization:
- Owner address: **308 E. Mesa Avenue  
Pueblo, CO 81006**

Parcel number: **1501422002**

- |   |  |  |                                     |  |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| 44. National Register eligibility field assessment: | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs data | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |
| State Register eligibility field assessment:        | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs data | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |
| Local landmark eligibility field assessment:        | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs data | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |

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## II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **21S** Range: **65W**  
**NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4** of section **1**
10. UTM Reference Zone: **13**  
 Easting: **534296** Northing: **4232959**
11. USGS quad name: **Southeast Pueblo** Scale: **7.5**  
 Year: **1994**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 3 and 4, Block 2**  
 Addition: **City Hall Place, Second Filing** Year of addition: **1889**
13. Boundary description and justification: **The boundary, as described above, contains but does not exceed the land historically associated with the property.**
- Metes and bounds exist

## III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building Plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**  
 Other building plan descriptions:
15. Dimensions in feet: **1269 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1.5**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Brick**  
 Other wall materials:
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Front Gabled Roof**  
 Other roof configuration:
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof/Composition Roof**  
 Other roof materials:
20. Special features: **Fence**  
**Porch**  
**Window/Glass Block**
21. General architectural description:  
**Oriented to the north, this one-and-one-half story Bungalow features a rectangular plan. The home is faced in red brick. The wooden trim is painted white. The window sills are light brown brick. The front-gabled roof has overhanging eaves and is covered in asphalt composition shingles.**
- The primary entry is centered on the façade underneath the recessed porch. The inside door is white wood with twelve, fixed-pane lites. The storm door has black metal security bars and decorative scrollwork. The front porch is reached via four concrete steps, painted gray. The porch railings, supports, and surround are black metal with decorative scrollwork. A number of concrete religious statues appear near the northeast corner of the porch. A curved iron arch frames the largest statue of Mary. Identical window units flank the front door. Each unit contains a pair of**

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rectangular, vertically oriented, five-over-one openings. Each front window is covered with black metal security bars. There is a metal mail slot west of the front door. The house number, "308," appears near the western window. A single course, dark brown, decorative brick band appears along the foundation. The home's gable face is covered in white stucco and features a centered, small, rectangular, horizontally oriented, slider window. Wooden (or metal) vents, painted white, surround this window opening.

The east elevation features three window openings along the basement level and four on the main level of the house. All three lower windows are rectangular, horizontally oriented, and in-filled with glass block. The opening nearest the façade has a metal (or wood) vent in its upper portion. A three-course decorative brick band separates the gray-painted concrete foundation from the upper story brickwork. All of the main story windows are rectangular and vertically oriented. Running from the north to the south, the first and third windows appear to be identical and are larger than the other two. These (likely) casement openings feature two one-over-one sides. Details of the slightly shorter second window were not visible from the public right-of-way. The southeast window is the smallest of the four and features a one-over-one fenestration.

The west elevation has five window openings, all on the main level of the house. Four of the windows have white metal awnings with red striped decorative detail. The front two windows (near northwest corner of home) are rectangular, vertically oriented openings in-filled with glass block. The largest window, nearly centered on this elevation, matches the likely casement opening on the east side of the home. South of the largest window is a rectangular, vertically oriented opening that appears to be double-hung. A large bush obscures many of the details of the window at the southwest corner of the house. It is the smallest window, is rectangular and horizontally oriented, and may contain a small air conditioning unit. There are two drainpipes on this side of the house, one at the southwest corner running towards the corner of the front porch and another between the fourth and fifth windows. This side of the house features the same three-course decorative brick band that appears on the east elevation.

The accessory building along the alley obscures all views of the main house from the public right-of-way.

22. Architectural style:

Other architectural style:

Building type: **Bungalow**

23. Landscape or special setting features:

The house at 308 East Mesa Avenue has a concrete sidewalk and walkway from East Mesa Avenue to its front porch. The front yard and tree lawn are mostly grass lawn with one dead, sandy patch in the tree lawn. The rear yard appears to have a concrete walkway leading from the home to the garage, lawn, and some trees.

24. Associated building, features or objects:

House 2

A large, rectangular, front-gabled, north-facing accessory building is located south of the main house. The south (rear) elevation of this building runs along the alley. This building is faced in white stucco and features a light gray-painted band along the foundation. The rear gable face is covered in white horizontal siding. The roof is covered in asphalt composition shingles. Only the south (rear) and part of the west elevations are visible from the public right-of-way. The south side has a rectangular, louvered vent in the gable face. There are two windows on the main level of this side of the accessory building. Immediately below the central vent, a rectangular, horizontally oriented, aluminum slider window appears. Near the southeast corner, there is a smaller, rectangular, vertically oriented, double-hung window. A utility meter appears between these two window openings. Along the accessory building's foundation, there is a rectangular, horizontally oriented opening with metal security bars. At the southeast corner, a white metal drainpipe runs from the gutter to the foundation. There are no visible openings on the west elevation. Another drainpipe is located near the southwest corner of the building. There is a tall, brick chimney within the roof surface, near the southwest corner of the accessory building.

### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: **1927**

Actual  Estimate

Source of Information: **Rose Montero**

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26. Architect: **Unknown**  
Source of Information:
27. Builder: **Unknown**  
Source of Information:
28. Original Owner: **Unknown**  
Source of Information:
29. Construction history:  
**The original house on this lot was a gray, wood-frame building. It was torn down in 1926, but three rooms were saved and moved to the backyard. Rose (De Niro) Montero's father remodeled it and rented out the three rooms.**
30. Location: **Original Location**      Date of move(s):

**V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

31. Original use(s):      **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate uses(s):      **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
33. Current uses(s):      **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s):      **Single-family domestic residence**
35. Historical background:

*The following historical background is quoted from a narrative by former owner Rose (De Niro) Montero:*

"The owners of the (former house that once stood on the) property at 308 East Mesa Avenue were Marie and Anthony De Siato (Rose's grandparents). The old house was a grey wooden frame. It was torn down in 1926. Three rooms were saved and moved to the back yard. My dad remodeled it and rented the three rooms. Many couples started their married lives in this house.

"After the death of my grandmother Marie, in 1925, my mother and father and I lived in Primero, Colorado. Grandpa Anthony asked Mary (his daughter/my mom) if she would come back to Pueblo and take care of his family. Grandpa turned his property over to my Dad, Louis De Niro, his son-in-law. In 1927 my dad began to build his new house for his extended family. In December of 1928 we moved into our red-brick home.

"Grandpa passed away May 7, 1937. My parents raised four children (in this house). My dad passed away November 2, 1970. Mother died June 16, 1986. (My sister) Elizabeth passed away February 13, 1941. (My brother) Richard became a dentist, (and) practiced in Orange County, California, for thirty-four years. He died April 18, 1992. I am Rose Montero, age 91, and (my younger brother is) Louis Jr., age 65. We (are both still) living in Pueblo.

"After Mother died we kept the house for seven years. Rented it for three years. We had two weddings and all the holidays at our house. We had spaghetti dinners almost every Sunday after the 11 o'clock mass at St. Mary's church with our mother. Rose and Pete lived in the four-room house in the back yard for seventeen years. We lived in the Slovenian neighborhood for all the years. The people were great, dependable, keeping their homes and yards immaculate.

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"In 1992 the property was sold to Gilbert Garcia. To this day I love the house on Mesa Avenue with wonderful stories and memories."

36. Sources of information:

Montero, Rose. "Property Owner Worksheet: 308 East Mesa Avenue." 2013.

## VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:  Yes  No

Designation authority:

Date of designation:

38. Applicable National Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns 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 that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see manual).
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Applicable Colorado State Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history.
- B. Connected with persons significant in history.
- C. Has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan.
- D. Is of geographic importance.
- E. Contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history.
- Does not meet any of the above Colorado State Register criteria.

Applicable City of Pueblo landmark criteria:

- 1a. History: Have direct association with the historical development of the city, state, or nation; or
- 1b. History: Be the site of a significant historic event; or
- 1c. History: Have direct and substantial association with a person or group of persons who had influence on society.
- 2a. Architecture: Embody distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or type; or
- 2b. Architecture: Be a significant example of the work of a recognized architect or master builder, or
- 2c. Architecture: Contain elements of architectural design, engineering, materials, craftsmanship, or artistic merit which represent a significant or influential innovation;
- 2d. Architecture: Portray the environment of a group of people or physical development of an area of the city in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- 3a. Geography: Have a prominent location or be an established, familiar, and orienting visual feature of the contemporary city, or
- 3b. Geography: Promote understanding and appreciation of Pueblo's environment by means of distinctive physical characteristics or rarity; or
- 3c. Geography: Make a special contribution to Pueblo's distinctive character.
- Does not meet any of the above City of Pueblo landmark criteria.

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39. Areas of significance: **Architecture**  
**Architecture**

40. Period(s) of Significance: **1927**

41. Level of Significance:  National  State  Local  Not Applicable

42. Statement of Significance:

**This property is associated with the De Niro family, who owned the house from 1927 until 1993. Louis De Niro built the house on the site of his wife Mary’s parents’ former home. The couple raised four children here, celebrating Sunday dinners, family weddings, and various celebrations. The De Niros appear to have been one of the few non-Slovenian families in the predominantly Slovenian neighborhood. Character-defining features of the principal house include its brick construction, prominent front-gabled roof, and large recessed front porch. This property does not possess sufficient significance to be considered individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties, or as a Pueblo Landmark.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**This home exhibits a high level of physical integrity relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The porch supports and railing are likely replacements, perhaps from the 1950s or 1960s when many of the owners of homes along this portion of East Mesa Avenue were making changes to modernize their existing homes. The poured concrete front porch also may be a change from the home’s original design and construction. The house retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its significance.**

## VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed  
State Register eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed  
Local landmark eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed

45. Is there National Register district potential:  Yes  No  Needs Data

Discuss: **The Eilers Neighborhood Story and Community-Built Survey project identified part of a potential Pueblo local landmark historic district associated with Pueblo's Slovenian-Americans community. Such a district would include all of the resources surveyed for this small project but the boundary extends to a much wider geographic area. More survey is needed to determine the appropriate local historic district boundaries. Based upon the information gathered thus far, this resource likely would be non-contributing to the proposed local historic district.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building contributing:  Yes  No  N/A

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it contributing:  Yes  No  N/A

## VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Digital photograph file name(s): **mesaavee0308 - 1.tif through mesaavee0308 - 4.tif**  
Digital photographs filed at: **Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library**  
**100 E. Abriendo Avenue**  
**Pueblo, CO 81004-4290**

48. Report title: **Eilers Neighborhood Story and Community-Built Survey**

49. Date(s): **10/22/2013**

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50: Recorder(s): **Mary Therese Anstey**

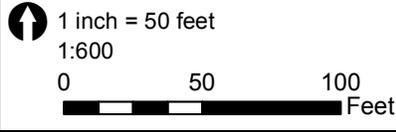
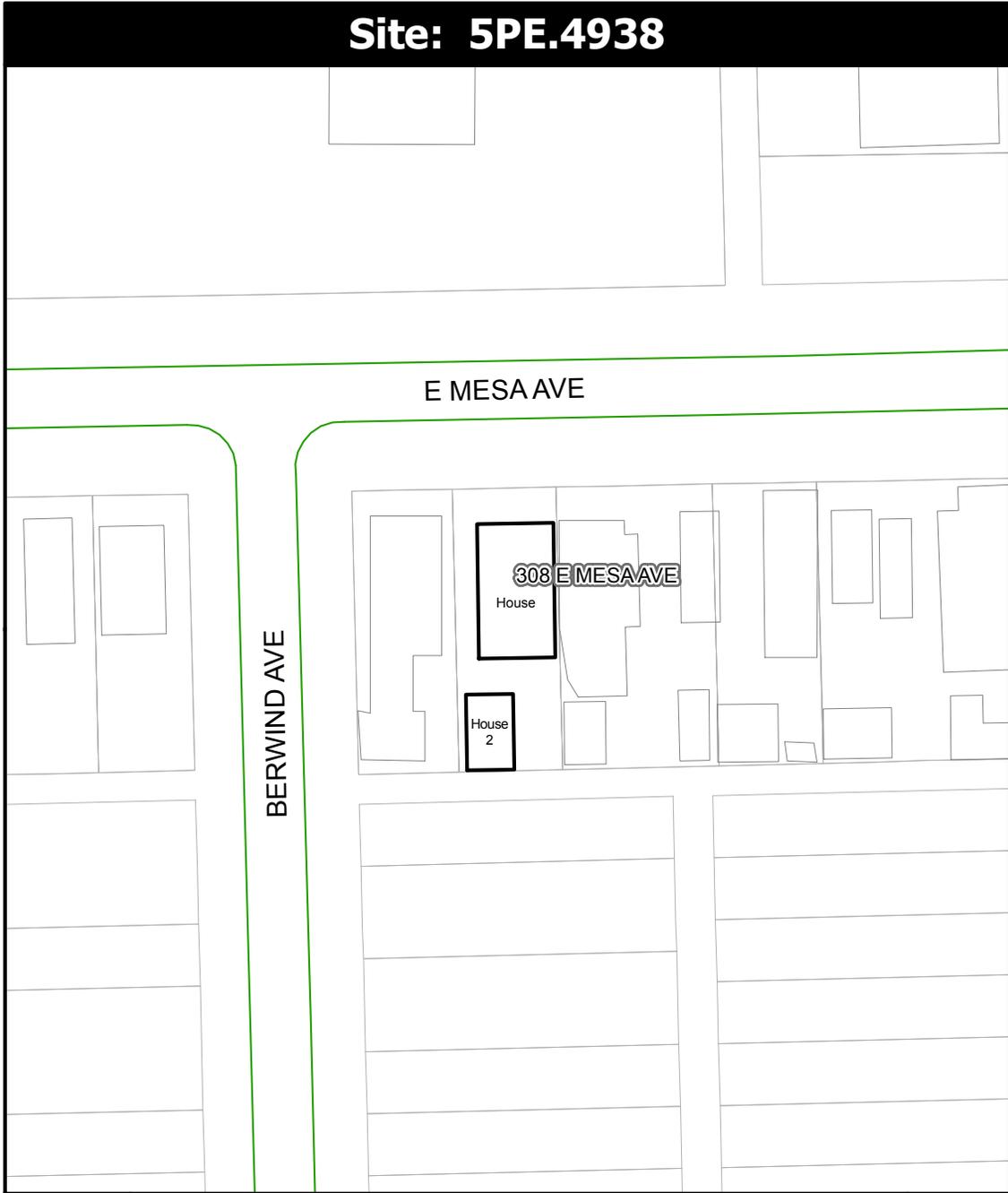
51: Organization: **Historitecture, LLC**

52: Address: **PO Box 181095  
Denver, CO 80218-8822**

53: Phone number(s): **303-390-1638**

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## SKETCH MAP

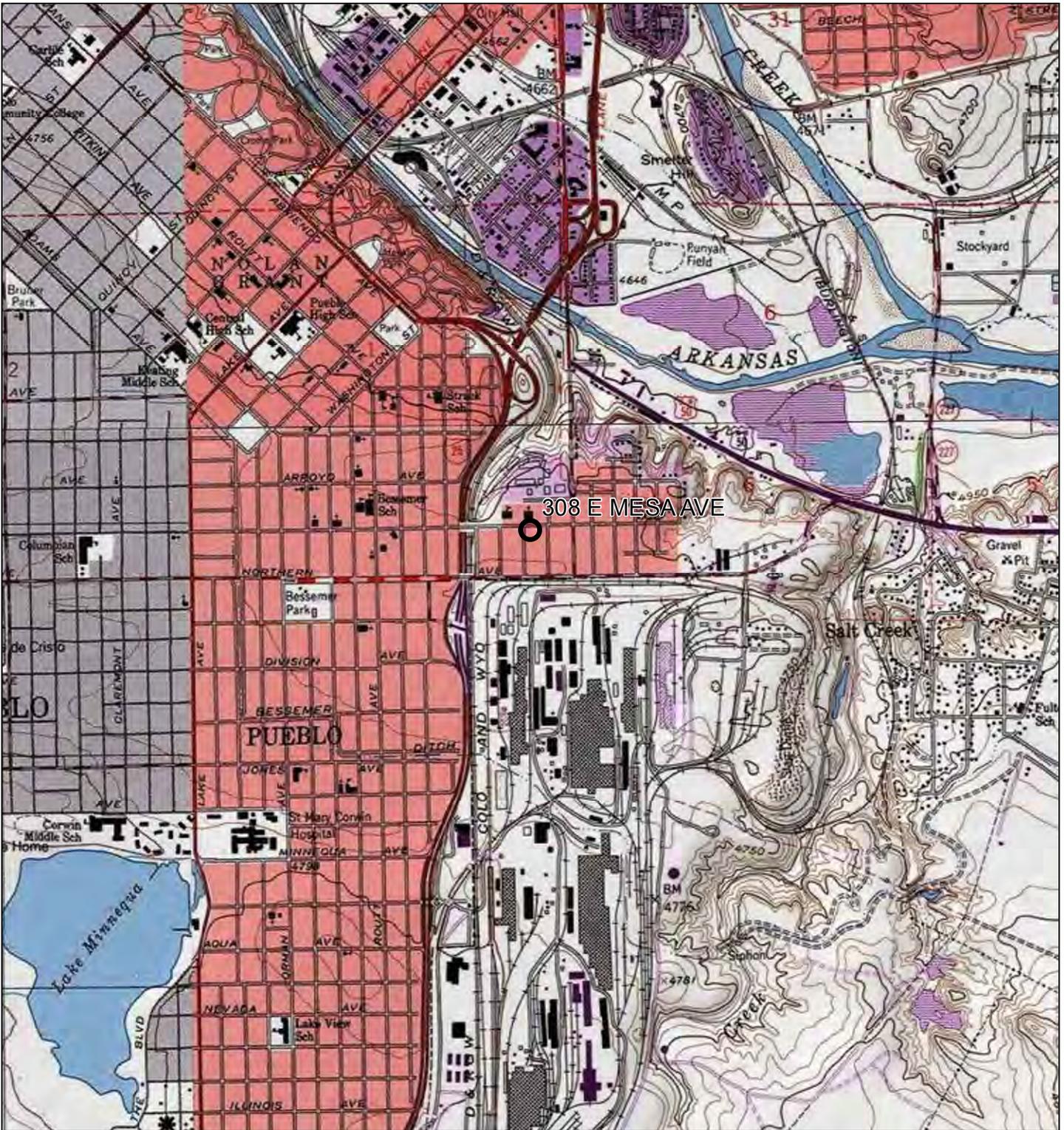


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## LOCATION MAP



Source: U.S. Geological Survey 7.5' Southeast Pueblo - 1994