

## 17. CROSSCUT PIZZA SHOP

This building was an early general store by 1913 and also housed the town post office. Known for years as the "Trading Post," it functioned under different owners as a general store, an ice cream parlor, and a fishing and gem shop. In the 1980's it was an office building and newspaper office



## 18. THE TRAIN CARS

The Caboose, built between 1898-1904 was moved from Wall Street. The Pullman car, built in 1905 was a crew car after WWII and was situated at the scenic overlook on Highway 36 as an information center for Boulder.

The circus car, unidentified and found in a farmers grain shed, was Buffalo Bills personal car. It was bought by Mr. Tannam of the Denver Post along with the Buffalo Bill show. Later the car was owned by the Ringling Brother's Circus. It was placed in its present location in Nederland in 1978.



## 19. CHIPETA PARK

For most of the town's history, this area was an open space used occasionally for rodeos and pow-wows. When the park was built here it was named after Chipeta (White Singing Bird), a trusted and respected advisor to her husband Chief Ouray. Chipeta actively engaged in mediation between Tribal Councils and the US government.



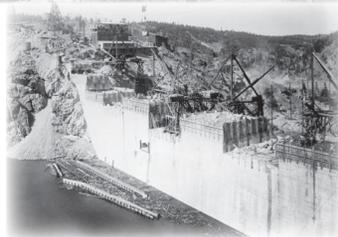
## 20. VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Veteran's memorial was erected in 1990. Traditionally at the top of a flagpole there sits a golden sphere. This one uses a fixture from the local Ace hardware store. Inside it contains a razorblade, a matchstick and a bullet. The poem "Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep" by Mary Frye is written on a plaque. The last two lines were added by Nederland veterans.

## 21. BARKER RESERVOIR

Up until the early 1900s, this area was an open montane valley. Much of the land towards the east of the valley was owned by Mrs. Hannah Barker. The Central Colorado Power Co. selected the location for their new hydroelectric dam project. Mrs. Barker declined to sell her ranch but the power company filed condemnation proceedings. Mrs. Barker lost her land but was given \$23,000 as compensation.

Construction on the dam began in 1907 and was completed in 1909. A spur line from the railroad to Eldora enabled trains to haul in material and equipment. The railroad grade can still be seen at times of low water.



# Historical NEDERLAND Walking Tour





## HISTORY OF NEDERLAND, COLORADO

This area was once a wild montane meadow and trading post between the Ute and Arapaho People, mountain trappers and explorers. In 1859 prospectors found gold nearby at what became Gold Hill. Nederland began with a huddle of cabins known as Dayton, and later Brown's Crossing. Around 1870, silver was found nearby and gold was found at Caribou. The town was renamed Middle Boulder after the creek that flows through the area. In 1873, a mining company from the Netherlands bought the Caribou mine a few miles west at 10,000 feet elevation, much higher than

Nederland's 8200 feet. Caribou was described as "the place where winds are born," and the harsh weather conditions drove miners to bring their ore down to Middle Boulder for milling. To the miners, this area came to be known as Nederland, as Nederland in the Dutch language means 'low land.' The climate seemed mild after long periods of time at higher elevations. Around 1915-16 the tungsten boom reached its peak. A 1918 flu epidemic devastated the town and the wartime demand for tungsten dropped.



Nederland continued on quietly until notoriety again arrived in the 1970s after the re-purposing of the old Caribou ranch into a music studio. Producer James Guercio established a unique recording studio which attracted artists such as Joe Walsh, Elton John, the Beach Boys, Chicago, Michael Jackson, Tom Petty, Frank Zappa, Joni Mitchell, Billy Joel and many more. After a 1985 fire, the studio was never rebuilt. The town is also home to "Grandpa Bredo." The tale of Bredo inspired the quirky wintertime local festival Frozen Dead Guy Days. Mining, exploring, home-steading, fishing, hunting, music and the arts remain local passions in Nederland to the present day.

### 1. WOLFTONGUE SQUARE

This area was the main business district in 1878. Mail arrived daily with stagecoach lines to Caribou, Central City and later, Boulder. Nederland was a busy crossroad. There were three hotels at that time, the Mountain House, Nederland House and the Hetzer House. The Hetzer House opened in 1877 and was famous through the county for 60 years until it was destroyed by fire in 1939. One of the earliest commercial buildings was a hardware store built in 1872 by John Pickel. He stocked drill steels, picks, shovels, hammers, blasting equipment, and other mining supplies. The store changed hands several times before being bought by Colin McKenzie who sold groceries and provisions. In 1916, the two story building shown here was built on the site of the Pickel/ McKenzie store. The upstairs housed the McRae Hotel, downstairs was storage. After prohibition ended, this building became the Silver Dollar Tavern. Later, the false front was removed and today the building houses the New Moon Bakery.

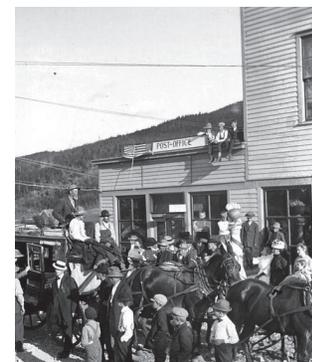


*Hetzer's Hotel, 1890*



### 11. SNYDERS GARAGE

This former barn was bought in 1924 by Lester and Iva Synder. Part of the building was remodeled for their living quarters. Mr. Snyder operated a garage and gas station and Mrs Synder ran an ice cream shop.



**12. THE DELI** In 1909 the original structure, located in the 'Beach Block', housed Nederland's first Post Office. As Colorado prohibition was going into effect in the winter of 1915-16, C.W. Blake and "Fatty" Mills built a movie theater here, with a sloping floor and electric footlights. It burned down in the 1920s. In the '60s, it was a grocery and mercantile store. It has also housed a holistic health center and family medical center.

### 13. MOUNTAIN PEOPLE'S CO-OP

This building was an early grocery store and for a time, Nederland's third Post Office. It was a gift shop for 20 years before being bought by Nederland Lions in 1965.



### 14. THE RUSTIC MOOSE

An early day Boulder-owned clothing store was established in the original building as the Pioneer Saloon (no connection with the Pioneer Inn across the street). The Mountain People's Co-op opened here in the 1980s until 2000, when it relocated next door. The site was home to Bucking Brown Trout Gift Shop before the Rustic Moose.

### 15. PIONEER INN

This building has long been a saloon or restaurant. "Harry's Place," an early bar at this site served 3.2 beer. Many famous musicians have dropped by for a beer and open-mic night. See them in the photographs on the wall on the left as you go in.



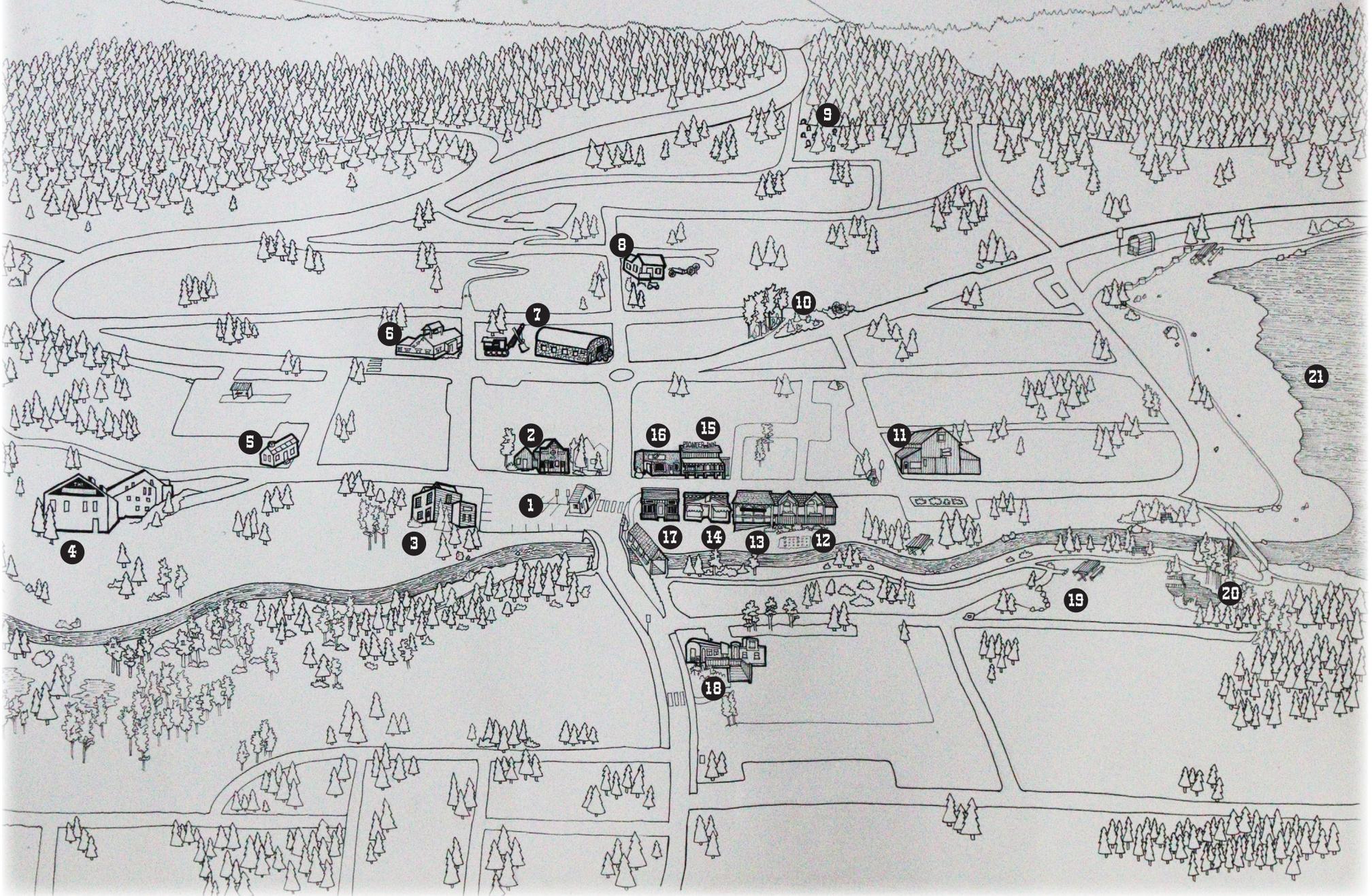
### 16. NATURE'S OWN

During 1916, a frame saloon was moved from the north west corner of Bridge and First Street to where Nature's Own now stands. The building became the Tanner Brothers Grocery, which burned down in 1947. Robert Childers opened a grocery store in the new building on this site. This building housed a Piggly Wiggly grocery store for many years. The "Rock Shop" opened here in 1986.



Historical  
**NEDERLAND**  
**COLORADO**

Walking Tour





## 6. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The community Presbyterian church was organized in 1912, and the little frame building was completed in 1915 through donations and time from people in town. The bell that sits atop was once the old fire bell at the Boulder Fire Department.



## 7. THE MINING MUSEUM

Before the stone garage was constructed as part of a WPA project, this site housed a smithy, a paint shop, the Town Hall, a church, a community center and a grocery store. The rock building was built using stone from Eldora in 1937.

The Bucyrus Model 50-B Steam Shovel behind the museum owned by the Nederland Area Historical Society was built in 1932 and sent to build the Panama Canal. All but one of the steam shovels used there were scrapped in Panama but this one was shipped back to Denver via California. In the early 1950s it was transported to Rollinsville by Roy and Russel Durand who operated it at the Lump Gulch Placer, south of Nederland. It sat idle from the '70s until it was moved to Nederland in 2005.

## 8. THE GILLASPIE HOUSE MUSEUM

Built in 1906 by Dr. Carbon Gillaspie as a home for his new bride Grace. He practiced medicine here and became mayor of Nederland before moving his practice to Boulder. The Gillaspie family kept the little house as a summer home until they donated it to the town in 1975. It is operated by local volunteers as an example of



an older day miner's home. It is filled with historical artifacts and housewares and shows visitors how people lived in the area 100 years ago.

## 9. NEDERLAND CEMETERY

The original location of Nederland's Cemetery was off Highway 119 near the current St. Rita's Catholic Church. It was moved in 1878. During road construction in 1955, a final body was uncovered and moved to the current cemetery. This is a functioning cemetery, so please be respectful if you visit.



## 10. PEACE SCULPTURE GARDEN

The Peace Sculpture garden was created by local non-profit Mountain Forum for Peace and dedicated in 1997. A bronze sculpture depicts a Ute girl offering a feather to a pioneer toddler. A plaque reads "To those who in all periods and places reach out to another in peace."



## 2. NEDERLAND TOWN HALL

In 1915, C.W. Blake bought this building and held dances and community group meetings here. Movies were projected onto a white sheet every Saturday. In 1916, the building changed hands to "Shorty" Long who continued to show moving pictures. The old theater

building was moved back from the street when the Town purchased it in the 1940s. The small structure left of Town Hall originally housed Nederland's horse-drawn fire wagon. After a period of storage use, for a while it was the Town Marshall's office. The original town jail is hidden behind it.



## 3. NEDERNET

Bought by the Shellhaas family as a home in 1939, this building was Nederland's 5th Post Office as well as the telephone company office. Margarite Shellhaas was the postmistress. In 1972 she won a contest to name the local newspaper with the name "The Mountain-Ear."



## 4. WOLFTONGUE MILL

The first mill here was the Breed and Cutter. Built in 1870, silver ore extracted from this mill provided the silver bricks used to pave a path for President Ulysses Grant's visit to Central City in 1873. In 1874 the mill was bought by Dutch investors and renamed "The Mill at Nederland," thus giving the town its current name. In 1904 it was sold to a Pennsylvania Steel Company who renamed it Wolf Tongue Mining & Milling Company and installed modern machines. The name combines the two words for tungsten ore, wolframite and tungsten. The tungsten boom peaked around 1916, due to the demands from the First World War. Nederland's population of 300 swelled to 3000. Hotels and boarding houses were crammed to capacity. Unlike other mining operations in the area, the Wolf Tongue Company operated steadily for many years. A fire in 1926 destroyed the old mill, the mill standing today was built immediately after that fire on the same site. It was operated by present owner Ralph Meyertons but has been dormant for several years.



## 5. BRYANT HOUSE

Breed & Cutter foreman William Bryant and family resided here in the 1870s. After he died in 1899, the family moved to Boulder, but Mrs. Bryant returned in 1930 and lived in the house until her death. This building is believed to be the oldest standing residence in Boulder County. This is not the original location of the structure.

