

1. Title / Content Area:	Auraria 9th Street Historic District								
2. Historic Sites:	Auraria Campus, Denver								
3. Colorado Experience Episode	<a href="https://www.pbs.org/video/auraria-uurrvk/">https://www.pbs.org/video/auraria-uurrvk/</a>								
3. Developed by:	Century Middle School Team, Adams 12 School District Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Western Region Team								
4. Grade Level and Standards:	<p><i>Grade Level:</i> 6<sup>th</sup> - HS</p> <p>Content in this Document Based Question ( DBQ ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards <i>Prepared Graduate Competencies:</i> <i>Understand the nature of historical knowledge as a process of inquiry that examines and analyzes how history is viewed, constructed, and interpreted.</i></p> <p><i>Colorado Standards:</i> 6th: History Standard 1 HS: History Standard 1</p> <p><i>C3 Standards in Social Studies:</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>D2.His.1.6-8</i></td> <td><i>D3.1.6-8.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>D2.His.2.6-8</i></td> <td><i>D3.3.6-8</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>D2.His.3.6-8</i></td> <td><i>D2.His.3.9-12.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>D2.His.2.9-12.</i></td> <td><i>D2.His.1.9-12.</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>D2.His.1.6-8</i>	<i>D3.1.6-8.</i>	<i>D2.His.2.6-8</i>	<i>D3.3.6-8</i>	<i>D2.His.3.6-8</i>	<i>D2.His.3.9-12.</i>	<i>D2.His.2.9-12.</i>	<i>D2.His.1.9-12.</i>
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5. Assessment Question:	How does the preservation and continued use of these buildings reflect the commitment of the universities to preserving this history and the stories that tell of the establishment of Denver in the 19th century?								
6. Contextual Paragraph	The Denver Public Library states, “Auraria, Denver’s oldest neighborhood, predates the city’s establishment, and its history neatly encompasses the city’s founding, its development, and its redevelopment as a modern urban center. As a contemporary Denver neighborhood, Auraria is synonymous with the Auraria Higher Education Center								



(AHEC), which opened in 1976, and home to the University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the Community College of Denver. The neighborhood forms a rough triangle, bounded on the south by Colfax Avenue, with the South Platte River to the west and Speer Boulevard to the east, roughly the line of Cherry Creek, converging at today's Confluence Park."

Auraria was established in the late 1800's by a small group of miners because of the discovery of gold in the area. The town plan was to have buildings, residential and commercial, on square blocks which established a core town in the area. As soon as it was established though, another town was established across the river, Denver City. The two rivals later merged to become Denver, and Auraria was partially abandoned until later when it became active as one of the first mixed-use residential and commercial areas in Denver, and often referred to as West Denver. In the 1970's Auraria campus was established, and today the area is used for a variety of purposes including residential, commercial, and brewing once again. As quoted in the National Register nomination, "Though not historically noted, the residents were typical of the pioneer stock that built the city, people like a flour mill owner, railroad engineer, and telegrapher, cattle and horse dealer, dentist, blacksmith, coppersmith, tinner, cabinet maker, ice dealer, livery owner, and bookkeeper for the Tivoli Brewery, who all lived in this block between 1873 and 1905."

The 9th Street Historic District was one of the very first locations of a town which helped to start Denver. As it developed, it became a diverse community and this is reflected in the many architectural types located in the district including Italianate, Victorian, and a Spanish Mission style church.

**7. Connection to Historic Preservation**

Auraria's 9th Street Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and continues to be preserved on the Auraria campus today. Preservation efforts have been a collaborative effort between the universities that are present on the campus, local community members, Historic Denver, Inc., and the History Colorado State Historical Fund. The buildings have been adapted for use on campus for a variety of purposes and retain the majority of their character defining features.

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document Set

#### Auraria 9th Street Historic District



<https://www.historycolorado.org/location/auraria-9th-street-historic-district>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Who may have lived in these types of houses?
2. What materials would have been used in the construction of these homes?
3. How can a house such as these shown here, represent the social standing of the owner?

#### St Cajetan's Catholic Church



<http://cdm16079.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collecti on/p15330coll6/id/20>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Examine the architecture of this building. If you need assistance in determining information about it go to this site ( <https://history.denverlibrary.org/auraria-neighborhood> )
2. How does the architecture reflect the cultures present in this section of town when it was an integrated part of the city?
3. How does the preservation of this building ensure that there is a connection to multiple cultural groups in Denver on the campus?

9th Street Historic District on Auraria Campus



<https://library.auraria.edu/news/2018/unearthed-directory-ninth-street-historic-park>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. The Auraria 9th Street Historic District is located on the college campus. What are the challenges of maintaining historic buildings in a campus setting?
2. What are the good things about keeping historic buildings present on a college campus?
3. How does this remind others about the importance of another time period in history?
4. How could this set of preserved buildings help teach about historic preservation efforts to preserve our past?

Denver Story Trek



<https://denverstorytrek.org/places/ninth-street-historic-park>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What does this story tell you about the 9th Street Historic District?
2. How does it compare to what you have seen in the photos you have examined?

**Assessment Question**

How do the preservation and continued use of these buildings reflect the commitment of the universities to preserving this history and the stories that tell of the establishment of Denver in the 19th century?

Response