

1. Title / Content Area:	Barney L Ford Building
2. Historic Site:	Various
3. Episode	<a href="#">Barney Ford</a>
4. Developed by:	Century Middle School Team, Adams 12 Five Star Schools Michelle Pearson, Adams 12 Five Star Schools Laura Israelsen, Adams 12 Five Star Schools
5. Grade Level and Standards:	<p>Grade Level: 6<sup>th</sup>- HS</p> <p>Content in this Document Based Question ( DBQ ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards Prepared Graduate Competencies: Understand the nature of historical knowledge as a process of inquiry that examines and analyzes how history is viewed, constructed, and interpreted.</p> <p>Colorado Standards: 6th: History Standard 1 8th: History Standard 1 HS: History Standard 1 HS: Economics Standard 1</p> <p>C3 Standards in Social Studies: D2.His.1.6-8 D3.1.6-8. D2.His.2.6-8 D3.3.6-8 D2.His.3.6-8 D2.His.3.9-12. D2.His.2.9-12. D2.His.1.9-12.</p>
6. Assessment Question:	How do buildings associated with Barney Ford show his entrepreneurial spirit as well as his success as an African American businessman in Colorado?

# 

a production of RM 

LIBRARY  
OF CONGRESS  
**TEACHING**  
WITH **PRIMARY**  
**SOURCES**

  
**METROPOLITAN**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
OF DENVER

7. Contextual Paragraph

The building at 1514 Blake Street was one of the earliest commercial successes for Barney L. Ford, a pivotal Black leader in the early history of Colorado. Ford was a Black pioneer, businessman, civic leader and politician who actively fought for African American civil rights in his state. Born into slavery on January 22, 1822 in Stafford, Virginia, Ford escaped from a South Carolina plantation and made his way to Chicago. He became active in the abolition movement while in Chicago after meeting Henry O. Wagoner, an active member of the Underground Railroad. Ford later married Wagoner's sister-in-law Julia.

The Fords moved to Colorado, purchased land on Blake Street in Denver, and built a small business. The building was destroyed by fire the following year, and Ford rebuilt the current brick building. He established a restaurant, bar, barber shop and hair salon. From this initial business venture, Ford expanded his commercial holdings steadily. By 1854, Ford was generating the 14th highest income in the state of Colorado, the result of his numerous income-producing properties, including hotels in Denver and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Ford played a significant role in the admission of Colorado to the Union as a free state. A member of the Republican party, Ford was the first African American to be nominated to the Territorial Legislature. In 1865, Ford successfully lobbied the Federal government for black voting rights in Colorado, enlisting the support of Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts.

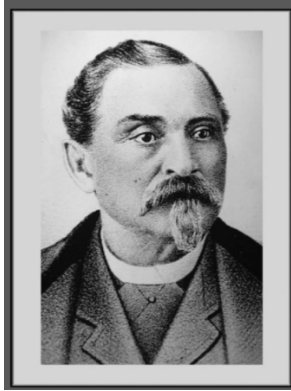
The Barney L. Ford Building is located at 1514 Blake St. in Denver, Co. It is privately owned and not open to the public.

8. Historic Preservation Connection	<p>The Barney Ford House in Breckenridge was part of a City of Breckenridge Cultural Resources Survey in 2004 and was a contributing property to the historic district. The Barney Ford building in Denver, Colorado was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976 and more information about the nomination can be found on site file 5DV.47.66 at the History Colorado State Historic Preservation Office. The Denver building was listed in the National Register reflecting significance for several criteria including association with a prominent figure, and architecture typical of the time period.</p>	
-------------------------------------	--	--

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document Set


Barney Ford




[Barney Ford LINK](#)

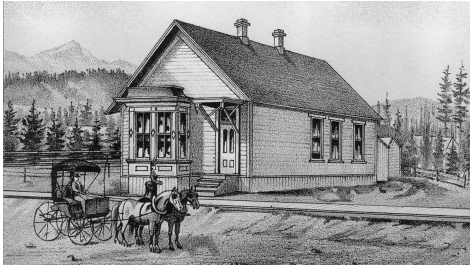
#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Why was Barney Ford inducted into the Colorado Black Hall of Fame?
2. In what ways did he contribute to the community of Denver? How did he make a difference?
3. How did Barney Ford contribute to the success of Colorado?
4. How did color affect how Barney Ford was accepted by others in Colorado?
5. Barney received an illegal education. Why was this important in his future success?

Barney Ford Building	
	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What do you notice about the architecture of these structures?</li> <li>2. What are some of the reasons one building would be taller or shorter than another?</li> <li>3. What time period is this? How do you know?</li> <li>4. What would be the benefit of having a business with multiple floors?</li> <li>5. How do the materials of this building show the importance of the building during that time period?</li> </ol>
<a href="#">Barney Ford Building Link</a>	

Barney Ford Building	
	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look at the contemporary architecture of this building. What do you notice about the architecture of these structures that has changed from the original?</li> <li>2. What would be the benefit of having a business with multiple floors today? Does this possibly differ from the past?</li> <li>3. If a developer was to build a building today, it likely would be much taller. What were the challenges of building tall buildings during this time both structurally and economically?</li> <li>4. How does the preservation and continued use of a building contribute to a positive environmental stewardship today? Explain.</li> </ol>
<a href="#">History Colorado Link</a>	

## Barney Ford House in Breckenridge

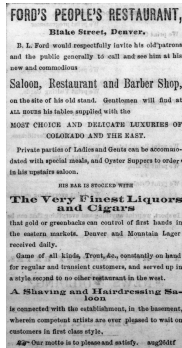


[Denver Western History Collection LINK](#)

### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What materials do you believe were used to build the house?
2. Why would these materials be easier to access than others in this region of Colorado?
3. Considering that Breckenridge started as a mining town, why would this house stand out among others probably built in the same city?
4. How does the architecture of this house show the importance of the person who lived there?

## Advertisement



[Barney Ford Advertisement LINK](#)

### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What does this advertisement say about Barney Ford's entrepreneurial spirit ?
2. What goods and services did Barney Ford offer in his building and business in Denver?
3. How did this advertisement show that Barney Ford was a good businessman ?
4. Think about what is advertised in this newspaper. How would the building you have looked at ( The Barney Ford building ) supported these offerings?

### Barney Ford Businesses in Denver



[Colorado Experience Video](#)

21:00 - 56:00

1. What are three of the businesses that Barney Ford started and sold in Denver?
2. Based on the video, how can you ascertain that he was successful after losing his building to fire and taking out a loan?
3. How did Barney Ford rely on his skill sets to continue to develop different businesses in Denver?
4. Why do you suppose people came to his businesses? Use your inference skills and explain based on the video narrative.

### Assessment Question

How do buildings associated with Barney Ford show his entrepreneurial spirit as well as his success as an African American businessman in Colorado?

Response