

HISTORY TOUR ALONG THE 40 WEST ARTLINE

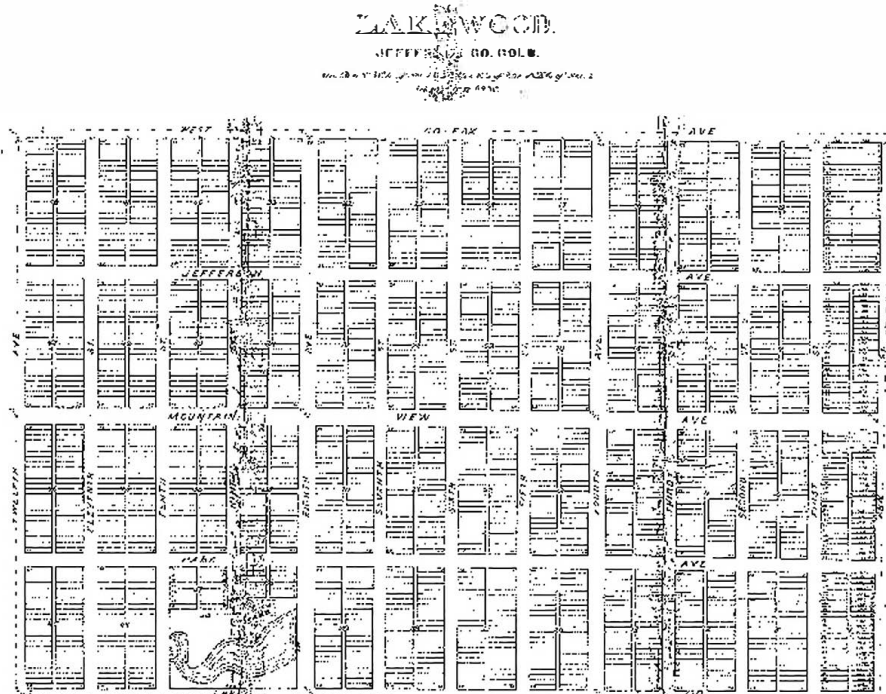


History along the ArtLine

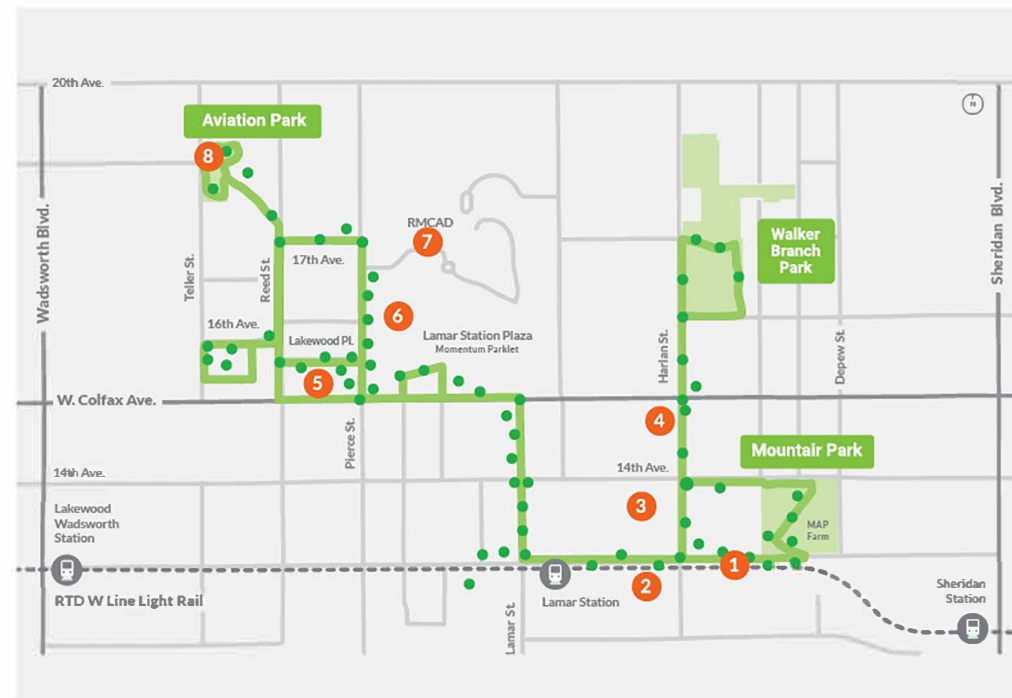
The 40 West ArtLine is a 4-mile interactive walking and biking arts experience that launched in summer 2018 in the heart of the state-certified 40 West Arts Creative District in northeast Lakewood. Visitors to the ArtLine can experience over 70 unique public art elements, with more installations planned in 2019. More information is available at www.40WestArtLine.org.

The ArtLine travels through several of Lakewood's oldest neighborhoods and past a number of significant buildings that reflect the earliest development of the area dating back to the late 1880s. While out enjoying all the ArtLine has to offer, use this guide to take a few minutes to celebrate the history of this unique area, where the roots for Lakewood took hold. More information on historic preservation in Lakewood is available at www.lakewood.org/HistoricPreservation.

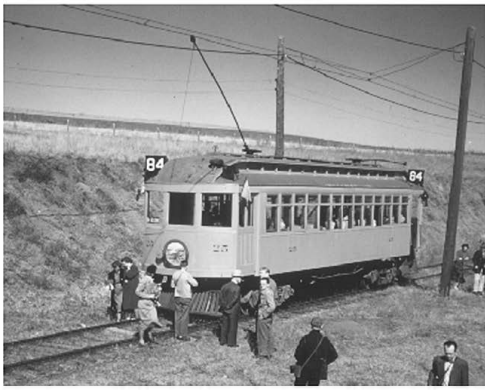
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Plat map of the 1889 Lakewood Subdivision (Harlan to Teller streets, W. Colfax to W. 10th avenues)



This history guide was developed by the Lakewood Historic Preservation Commission.



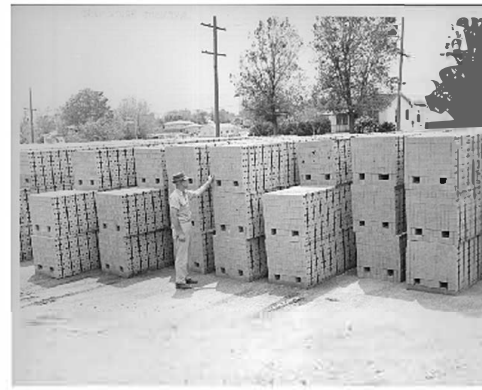
1 Rail's Influence on Lakewood

Rail is not new to Lakewood. Beginning operations in 1891, the DL&G was the first railroad to run along the same right of way as the W Line. William Loveland and Charles Welch developed the railroad to support their vision of the 1889 Lakewood Subdivision as a "railroad" suburb. Over the years, there have been a number of uses for this rail line including a streetcar line, a freight line serving the Denver Ordnance Plant, and finally the W Line.



2 D&IM Power Station at 6000 W. 13th Ave.

For nearly 50 years (1904-1950), the Denver and Inter-mountain Railway line (D&IM) carried passengers between downtown Denver and Golden. The structure was constructed in 1909 and was once a power station providing electricity for the streetcar line. The central building of the complex retains much of its historic character including a barrel roofline, brick walls, and buttresses.



3 Lakewood Brick at 1325 Jay St.

Founded in 1919, Lakewood Brick and Tile Company is Lakewood's oldest manufacturing company still in operation. Its proximity to the rail line allowed easy import of clay and shipping out of finished brick. The company was established by the Dennison brothers in response to Denver's new building code calling for use of noncombustible materials due to the plague of fires throughout Denver.



4 Loveland House at 1425 Harlan St.

William A.H. Loveland was a railroad entrepreneur and businessman central to the establishment of the area. He, along with his wife, Miranda, and Charles Clark Welch, platted a new Lakewood subdivision near West Colfax Avenue in 1889 and started the DL&G railroad. Loveland paved the way for this new railroad suburb by building his own two-story Gothic Revival style home in 1888.



5 Lakewood-Mountair Fire Department at 6885 W. Colfax Ave.

The Lakewood and Mountair communities created their first volunteer fire district in 1937. The 1,800 homeowners living in the fire district believed that a firefighting organization and up-to-date equipment were necessary to safeguard their businesses and houses. The average cost per property owner was quoted at approximately \$16 per year. Station No. 1, shown in the photograph, was constructed using volunteer labor.



6 Casa Bonita at 6715 W. Colfax Ave.

Casa Bonita is part of Lakewood's post-World War II history. Built in 1974 as part of a chain of Mexican restaurants, it has a strong flavor of Mexico in its unique expression of Spanish colonial architecture. The prominent 85-foot tall tower with a gold leaf covered dome and a statue of Cuauhtémoc, the last emperor of the Aztec, at the apex of the entrance is one example. Casa Bonita was highlighted on an episode of "South Park."



7 Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design at 1600 Pierce St.

RMCAD moved to this site in 2003 as a fully accredited institution offering degrees from traditional fine arts to graphic design. The site was originally home to the Jewish Consumptives' Relief Society (JCRS) and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The JCRS began serving as a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1904. In 1954 the American Medial Center moved to the site.



8 Aviation Park at 1890 Teller St.

The Broadmoor Country Club opened at this site in 1925 and quickly became one of the area's most popular dining and dancing establishments. A post WWII name change to Aviation Country Club added swimming, golf and tennis to the amenities. The club closed in 1990, and the City of Lakewood opened Aviation Park in 2002 featuring designs reminiscent of the site's history.