



CHRISTIAN MURDOCK, THE GAZETTE

Jennifer Wendler Lovell and Bob Loevy in front of a Queen Anne victorian home featured in their book, "Exploring the Old North End Neighborhood of Colorado Springs: A Guide to its History and Architecture."

# LOCAL HISTORY HIDES IN PLAIN SIGHT

BY KATE JONUSKA  
Special to The Gazette

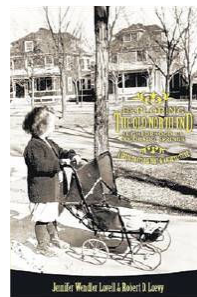
Tree-lined streets, leafy yards with extant stables, sidewalks lined with architectural scenery — few modern neighborhoods can claim to be walkable in the manner of the Old North End, built as it was in the age of foot- and horsepower.

Now, a new book about the 40-square-block area attempts to elevate the status of the Old North End from a neighborhood to a historical attraction of its own and offers six walking tours for readers to walk the history for themselves.

"Our neighborhood is really a tangible link to the history of Colorado Springs," said Jennifer Wendler Lovell, who, with Colorado College professor Bob Loevy, wrote "Exploring the Old North End Neighborhood of Colorado Springs."

From 1890 to 1900, the population of Colorado

SEE NORTH END • PAGE 2



The book will be available starting Saturday.

## DETAILS

**What:** Launch party and book signing for "Exploring the Old North End Neighborhood of Colorado Springs: A Guide to its History and Architecture"  
**When:** 2-4 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
**Where:** 1431 N. Tejon St.

**Details:** After Saturday, the book will be available through the Old North End Neighborhood organization at oldnorthend.org.

# NORTH END: Book's details help bring the past to life

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Springs skyrocketed, and gold mines were booming, just at the time the Old North End was ready for development. The homes were, therefore, all built within quick succession.

“Because the Old North End grew in such a short period, we have incredibly unified architectural character here. Not to say all the houses are the same by any means,” Lovell said. “In fact, most all of the architectural styles that were popular during that period are represented here.”

She cites Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, Shingle Style, Craftsman, Tudor and Prairie as but a few examples. The Gold Rush and its new wealth facilitated that variety as well as the size and amount of ornate detail, unusual in Victorian houses.

“The people who built and bought houses in this neighborhood were the new middle class that had been created at Cripple Creek,” Loevy said. “If you were a mine manager, if you were a gold stock broker, you didn’t want your family living at 10,000 feet in a bawdy mining camp. You put your family in a nice home in the Old North End.”

In their book, Loevy and Lovell offer a general history of the Old North End, a guide to period architecture and details about all the homes on the various walking tours, including archival and modern photos, construction date, and original and notable residents.

“For instance, my house, which is on the tour, an El Paso County court judge lived here, and an editor of the Colorado Springs Gazette lived here,” said Loevy, who has lived in his 1902 home since 1976. His garage is an old stable, with the original door where hay was delivered for horses.

Such details, say both authors, breathe life into the history of our city and reveal how people lived when the area was the New North End.

“Exploring the Old North End Neighborhood of Colorado Springs” will be available beginning Saturday, when there will be a launch party from 2 to 4 p.m. at 1431 N. Tejon St. and the authors will be on hand to sign copies. Afterward, the book will be available through the Old North End Neighborhood organization at [oldnorthend.org](http://oldnorthend.org).

## FACTS ABOUT THE OLD NORTH END

- It stretches from Uintah Street north to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, and from Monument Creek east to Wahsatch Avenue.

- It has many examples of rooms built specially for tubercular patients, with large windows to access the dry, high-elevation air, often called sleeping porches.

- It was home to many doctors who worked at the nearby hospital, and some houses still contain the side entrances or sinks of their former private practices.

- Includes homes designed by notable architects such as Thomas MacLaren, Charles Thomas, Douglas & Hetherington, Nicholas Van den Arend and E. C. G. Robinson.

- Differs from Denver in that the majority of homes are wood-frame or wood-shingle rather than brick; a major fire in Denver led to stricter fire codes than in Colorado Springs.

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