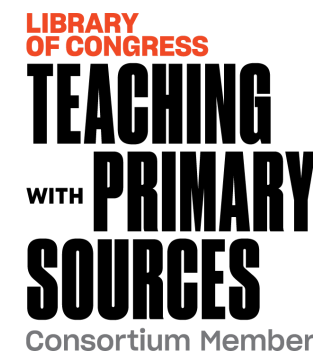


1. Title / Content Area:	Wall Street of the West								
2. Historic Site:	Various								
3. Episode	<a href="#">Wall Street of the West</a>								
4. Developed by:	Laura Israelsen, Denver Public Schools Michelle Pearson, Adams 12 School District Estella Cole, Architect and Historic Preservationist								
5. 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</p> <p><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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<i>D2.His.2.9-12.</i>	<i>D2.His.1.9-12.</i>								
6. Assessment Question:	How can examining the type of buildings constructed on one street in Denver give a glimpse about the economic growth of Denver during the development of the "Queen City of the Plains"?								
7. Contextual Paragraph	As stated in the book <i>Historic Denver Landmarks for Children and Families</i> , the 17th Street corridor of Denver, also termed the "Wall Street of the West," is a glimpse								



into an era of economic growth and development in downtown Denver between the late 1800's and the early 1900's. After the arrival of the railroad connection and spur, to connect Cheyenne, Wyoming to Denver, the city moved from a city facing stagnation in growth to a fast growing city in the late 1800's. Investors and businessmen started to construct buildings that represented something more permanent using materials that reflected the permanence of a city that wanted to be, and remain important, in the future. With Union Station placed at one end of the corridor and the Brown Palace Hotel being situated at the other end of the long street, *"city planners had businesses clamoring to be part of the corridor which would later hold hotels, offices, insurance firms, financial investment companies, and banks. 17th Street was the location of choice for progressive businesses looking to cash in on Denver's growth."*

Today, restored and repurposed buildings still reflect the importance of this era and many of the original key buildings such as Union Station, the Brown Palace, and Hotel Monaco are still present and being used by residents of Colorado and visitors alike. Arched hallways, marble floors and fixtures, stained glass windows, brass and other decorative elements continue to reflect the era in which these buildings were constructed and the intent for these buildings to represent the movement of Denver from a "rag tag mining town" to the "Queen City of the Plains."

The Boston Building stands today as an office building which is the same purpose for which it was built in 1888 by Henry Wolcott. At the time it was billed as one of the most modern office buildings of the day and housed real-estate offices, insurance offices, Postal Telegraph and Cable, Colorado Midland and Railroad, Colorado Coal and Iron Company, and the Denver Land and Water Storage Company.

The Equitable Building was constructed by the New York based Equitable Assurance Company to support an office in the west. The tallest building in Denver at the time it was built in 1892, it is an example of Italian Renaissance Revival architecture.

The Railway Exchange Building and Hotel Monaco: In 1937 the Railway Exchange

	<p>Building owners wanted to expand and decided to add an Art Moderne addition to the Railway Exchange Building. Fisher and Fisher Architects created a sleek modern building with rounded edges and lines of steel windows. This fit the image of speed and movement and characterized the image which building tenants such as Western Union Telegraph Company, Burlington Northern Railroad Company and the Colorado and Southern Railroad wanted to portray to the community.</p>	
<p>8. Connection to Historic Preservation</p>	<p>The buildings in this lesson represent many of the important buildings on the impressive 17th Street Corridor, but do not represent all that are important. The corridor continues to remain one of the most important streets in the city of Denver and the city has maintained great efforts to encourage preservation of these important buildings. Many of the buildings in this corridor are listed in the National Register of Historic Places including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Brown Palace: Listed in the National Register 1/09/1978</li> <li>• Denver City Railway Building: Listed in the National Register 1/09/1978</li> <li>• Hotel Monaco/Railway Exchange Building: Listed in the National Register 1/09/1978</li> <li>• The Equitable Building: Listed in the National Register 1/09/1978</li> <li>• Littleton Creamery/Beatrice Foods Cold Storage Warehouse: Listed in the National Register 1/09/1978</li> <li>• The Boston Building: Listed in the National Register 9/19/1978</li> </ul> <p>Today, although many of the buildings have been restored and repurposed for contemporary use, they still maintain the architecture and many of the features which helped to ensure Denver would be remembered by visitors as “more than a mining town.”</p> <p>The collective efforts of community members, businesses, and historic preservationists have worked diligently in the past 50 years to ensure that these magnificent buildings that helped to bring Denver to prominence in the turn of the century remain preserved and usable for the future.</p>	

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document Set

Brown Palace Hotel



<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017885320/>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. The Brown Palace Hotel is one of the most special buildings and is unique in design and shape. Examine the building. Why is it different from other buildings in this collection of primary sources?
2. The Brown Palace is an anchor of the “Wall Street of the West” and is located close to the Capitol as well as the business district. Why would this be a purposeful placement of a building?
3. Why would you not want the Brown Palace hotel to be located near other hotels and Union Station?
4. Unlike other buildings, the Brown Palace has remained relatively unchanged on the exterior. Based on this image and your use of inquiry, what helps keep the building the same? List several examples.

The Boston Building



<https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p15330coll22/id/68078>

and [Colorado Experience Episode](#)

15:15 - 18:05

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of businesses were housed in the Boston Building according to the episode?
2. Examine the features of this building. Why would these types of features be important to someone who would have their office in this building?
3. Today, the building remains as an example of Richardson Romanesque architecture. Based on the episode, how does this building not only represent architecture famous in the east but also architecture reflect the West?

### Equitable Building



<https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p15330coll22/id/18933>

### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Mr. Hyde established the Equitable Office Building in Denver as a place to sell insurance to people and businesses. Why would this be something important to have during the turn of the century in Denver?
2. The Equitable building was host to railroad company offices, mining offices, lawyers, and businesses. Why would it be helpful to have all of these businesses in the same building together?
3. Look closely at the design of the Equitable Building. It is constructed in an opulent manner with decorative elements and it is in the shape of two “E’s” which stand for the Equitable Assurance Company which built it. Are buildings still designed in this manner today? Give an example with your answer to illustrate your claim.

### Railway Exchange Building and Hotel Monaco



<https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p15330coll22/id/36055/rec/1>

### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Analyze the image. How do the features of the building represent a modern era beyond the other buildings we have examined in the Wall Street of the West?
2. Why would a railroad company want to have their offices in a building such as this?
3. What challenges can you think of in regards to the construction of this building?

Littleton Creamery/ Beatrice Foods Cold Storage Warehouse



<https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p16079coll2/id/1707/rec/11>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Examine the building image from 1985. What does the picture tell you about the condition of the warehouse?
2. Does the building look like it is in use as a business any longer? How can you tell?
3. What materials are used in the construction of the building?
4. How do you suppose these materials ensure the building would remain cold even in the hot summer heat of Colorado?
5. Look at the area surrounding the building. Does it look like a developed portion of Denver? Why or why not?
6. Why would a cold storage building be located near the railroad station?
7. Why would a cold storage building created at the turn of the century, not be needed for its original purpose in the 20th century any longer?

Colorado National Bank Building



<https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p15330coll22/id/32381/rec/1>

[Colorado Experience Episode](#): 7:15 - 15:15

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Colorado National Bank was one of the earliest banks established by the Kountz brothers in Denver. Why do you suppose they were interested in establishing a bank in this city?
2. Based on the show, what caused the bank to move to the location on 17th and Champa Street?
3. Steve Turner, architect and Executive Director of History Colorado, mentions that the larger, more permanent building on 17th was designed in a very specific way. Describe the elements included in this design and why they were included.
4. How did the elements of this building represent other important buildings on the East Coast of the United States?

<b>Assessment Question</b>
How can examining the type of buildings constructed on one street in Denver give a glimpse about the economic growth of Denver during the development of the “Queen City of the Plains”?
<b>Response</b>