

1. Title / Content Area:	Room and Board
2. Historic Site:	Colorado Boarding Houses
3. Episode	https://www.pbs.org/video/room-board-nnhmwl/
4. Developed by:	Michelle Pearson, Adams 12 School District Laura Israelsen, Chesterfield School District
5. Grade Level and Standards:	<i>Grade Level: 3-5</i> <i>Content in this Document Based Question (DBQ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards</i> <i>Prepared Graduate Competencies: 1, 2, and 4</i> <i>Colorado Standards:</i> <i>3rd: History Standard 1 GLE 2.</i> <i>4th: History Standard 1 GLE 2..</i> <i>5th: Geography Standard 2 GLE 2</i> <i>C3 Standards in Social Studies:</i> <i>D2.Geo.2.3-5.</i> <i>D2.Geo.4.3-5.</i> <i>D2.Geo.5.3-5. D2.His.2.3-5. D2.His.3.3-5.</i>
6. Assessment Question:	How did boarding houses impact the economic, population and societal growth of Colorado?
7. Contextual Paragraph	Dreaming of a better life, many individuals were inspired to make the harsh trek westward at the turn of the 19th century. The rise of boarding houses challenged social and cultural conventions of gender, race, and class, while providing a home away from home. Boarders usually had their own room and shared a bathroom. They had regular meals provided as part of the fee they paid. Discover how the adaptable nature of boarding houses allowed for their survival, and at one time housed one third of Americans.
8. Connection to Historic Preservation	Colorado is home to several historically preserved boarding houses. The Astor House in Golden was saved when the city voted to pay for the renovations and preservation of the building. It was used as a museum and today is an important landmark building in the city. The Peck House in Empire served the gold miners



and provided meals as a stage stop. It has been preserved to resemble the original 1862 building and still serves as a boarding house today. Aspen is home to Hotel Jerome which started as a European inspired hotel. It was passed through several owners but still survives today as a destination hotel and preserved much of its original historic charm and architecture.

Document Based Question (DBQ)

Document Set

Astor House, Golden Colorado 1867-1887



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Guiding Questions:

1. What do you notice about the architecture and design of the Astor House?
2. How does the construction compare to other buildings of its time period in Golden?
3. Who is in the picture and what is the purpose of the Astor House?
4. How does the Astor House create a sense of community and family?
5. If someone built this today, what would be different? What would be the same?

Peck House, Empire, Colorado

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. After looking at the pictures linked to the Peck House picture, how has the Peck House changed over time?
2. The Peck House is the oldest hotel in Colorado. What need did it fill in 1863?



[Denver Public Library Digital Collections](#)

3. Why were so many of these boarding houses constructed during the gold/silver rush in Colorado.
4. The current owners have returned the Peck House to its original look and have worked to add furnishings that represent the 1860s. Is this important? Should we be preserving buildings we currently use in this way?

Hotel Jerome, Aspen, Colorado



[Aspen Senior Voice](#)

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What do you notice about this building that would make it ideal for a hotel or boarding house?
2. What do you notice about the architecture?
3. Do you think it is a good idea for a business to move into a historic building and repurpose it? How does this help or hurt a place?
4. What else do you notice about this picture? When do you think it was taken?

Assessment Question

How do Boarding Houses like the Astor, Peck and Hotel Jerome help tell the story of Colorado? Why are they important?

Response

