

## EXPLORE HISTORY

Fort Collins is full of rich history just waiting to be explored. Put on your best walking shoes or grab your bike, scooter, or skateboard and check out the places that have made Fort Collins what it is today. Be mindful that some of these locations are private residences – enjoy from the street but please respect private property.



*Theodosia Ammons, c.1900 (H00143). Courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.*

## WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN COLORADO

The movement for women's suffrage in the United States extends back to the foundations of the country during the Revolution with unsuccessful efforts by national leaders throughout the 1800s. Western states and territories led the way, with the territories of Wyoming and Utah granting women suffrage in 1869 and 1870, respectively. After Wyoming achieved statehood in 1890, Colorado became the second state to extend suffrage to women in 1893 and was the first to do so by referendum of the voters. The movement revived again in 1919 for the successful ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution, granting women throughout the nation the right to vote.

**“They are not afraid to ask for what they want, and they are going to keep right on asking until they do get what they are sure they ought to have.”**

- Mrs. W.H. Wrigley  
*Fort Collins Courier*  
May 18, 1893

*Cover image: 100 block of North College Avenue, showing the Opera House & Ault's Hall at 113 and 123 N. College (H01952). All images are courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.*

### QUESTIONS?

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**WOMEN'S  
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FORT  
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Alice Edwards won election as an alderwoman for Fort Collins in 1895, making her the first woman not just in Fort Collins, but in Colorado, to be elected to local office after the 1893 referendum.

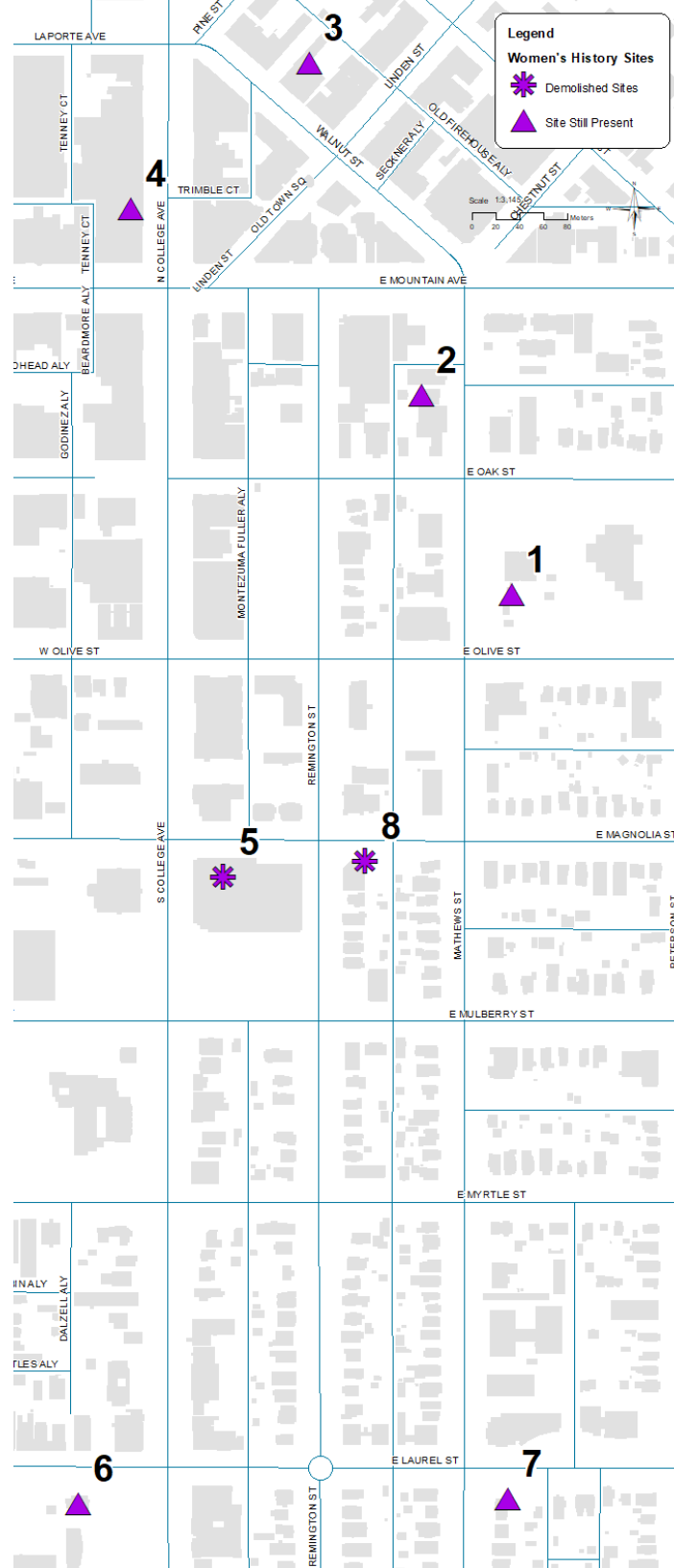
*Alice Edwards (H06636). Courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.*

## SUFFRAGE IN FORT COLLINS

The suffrage movement in Colorado, like so many successful social movements, was led by grassroots organizers at the local level. In Fort Collins, women like Elizabeth Stone, Eliza Tanner, and Lucy McIntyre hosted debates and other events through organizations like the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Chautauqua Circle. They also wrote editorials in community newspapers and successfully galvanized women and men of the community to support suffrage in 1893. After winning the vote, they and others, like Theodosia Ammons and Alice Edwards, continued to advocate locally and statewide, helping win ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1919.



*Corbin Residence at 402 Remington, prior to demolition (H00905) Courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.*



Check out these important locations associated with the suffrage movements in 1893 and 1919. For more information about these sites, visit our website at [www.fcgov.com/historicpreservation/suffrage-2020](http://www.fcgov.com/historicpreservation/suffrage-2020):

1. Elizabeth Stone's Cabin, 200 Mathews in Library Park.
2. Lucy McIntyre's residence, 137 Mathews.
3. Fort Collins City Hall (1882-1957), 232 Walnut.
4. Ault's Hall and the Opera House, 113 & 123 N. College.
5. First Christian Church (demolished), 400 S. College.
6. Routt Hall / Domestic Arts Building, 151 W. Laurel.
7. Aylesworth Residence, 704 Mathews.
8. Mrs. S.J. Corbin Residence (demolished), 402 Remington.

