

**Amendments to Chautauqua Sign Guidelines as adopted in 1987**  
[pp. 27 – 29 of Chautauqua Design Guidelines (1989)]

**(Strike indicates deleted language, underline indicates new language)**

**Chautauqua Sign Guidelines**

The intent of the Chautauqua Design Guidelines is to offer a framework or a guide for signs that will preserve and continue the style which has been present since the inception of the Chautauqua at the turn of the century.

After 1899, the original tent dwellings of the grounds were gradually replaced by simple cottages with broad porches, designed for summer use. The prevailing style for public buildings, as well as for cottages and signs, was simple and plain, and did not include ornate “gingerbread” Victorian styles.

“Signage” refers to signs or lettering on buildings, or to other structures within the park, and to lettering related to Chautauqua. The sign code encompasses all wayfinding and interpretive signs within the Chautauqua Park Historic District, now the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark, with the exception of traffic signs, which are governed by City ordinances. “Wayfinding” signs include identity, directional and gateway signs. “Interpretive” signs tell the story of the place and may include free standing signs (such as low-angle slopers) and wall-mounted signs. Where the Chautauqua Historic District signage guidelines are different from the existing City of Boulder sign code, the more restrictive requirements shall prevail.

The **Chautauqua Sign Guidelines** are as follows:

**That:**

1. Signage should be kept to a minimum and be in the simple style of the period of the Chautauqua movement as described in these guidelines.
2. A single lettering standard is not required, and varieties are allowed within the basic style described herein.
3. Signs should be done in simple lettering with no surrounding embellishments or decoration except that the graphic portions of historic interpretive signs may include embellishment drawn from historic sources, including photos, illustrations and graphic decoration.
4. Lettering on historic buildings should be all capitals; where needed, smaller capitals may be used in place of lower case type. Wayfinding signs may use initial caps or large and small caps for better readability and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Interpretive signs will use initial caps for titles and headers and sentence case for body copy and captions.

5. Medium or bold (block) typeface (style) letters should be used.
6. Lettering for wayfinding signs should be simple serif or sans serif type. Type on sign faces may be fabricated using vinyl applications, silk screening or high contrast paint. Lettering for interpretive signs may be serif or sans serif type and may be fabricated using several different methods, including but not limited to porcelain enamel, full-color digital embedment, powder coat output on steel, or similar technology.
7. Lettering for wayfinding signs shall not include italics (slanted), condensed (closed), script, or extended (stretched out). Lettering for interpretive signs may include italics, script and condensed fonts.
8. Background colors should be neutral in palette and drawn from actual colors in use in the historic buildings and must comply with ADA guidelines for contrast.
9. The basic sign format should be horizontal, rectangular or square, not round or any unusual geometric shape. Sign size shall follow a hierarchy ,with gateway signs having the largest sign face and other identify and directional signs being successively smaller in size.
10. Building identity signs should be flush to the structure. Perpendicular building identity signs are generally discouraged but may be appropriate on certain buildings, such as on the north side of the Community House where they already exist.
11. The materials used for wayfinding signage (sign face and structure/base) should be of wood, bronze or natural materials with no internal or back lighting The materials used for interpretive signs (sign face and structure/base) may include wood, painted metal, porcelain enamel, digital embedment, powder coat output on steel, or similar technology,
12. If color is used on a building sign, it should be compatible with the established color palette of that building.
13. On public buildings, the original name should be used on the identity sign.
14. For public restrooms, a single sign, not to exceed 100 square inches, will be placed on the outside of the building which houses the restrooms. The international symbols for men and for women may be installed on the appropriate entry doors.
15. “Name” signs for residential cottages will be placed above the front porch, or above, on, or immediately beside the front door and will not exceed 150 square inches in size.

16. Identity signage for the Chautauqua Dining Hall, Academic Hall, Missions House, Ranger Cottage, Community House and Columbine Lodge will not exceed 300 square inches and will be mounted above the main entry staircase or placed on free-standing elements near the building's entrance.
17. Signs which have been present on Chautauqua residences as well as on public buildings prior to Chautauqua's Boulder landmark designation in 1979 may remain unchanged.
18. A maximum of four free standing "gateway" site identity signs will be allowed, one at the Baseline and Grant Place entrance, one at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street entrance or on 12<sup>th</sup> Street east of the Auditorium, one at the King's Gate pedestrian entrance on Baseline near 10<sup>th</sup> Street), and one at or near the Ranger Cottage/Chautauqua Trailhead. Each of those sign faces will not exceed 24 square feet and, with supporting posts, will not exceed six feet in height above grade.
19. "Gateway" site identity signs will refer to "Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark".
20. Bronze plaques may be installed for historic identification purposes, only, and not as memorials or commemorations.
21. The size, shape, colors, font usage, materials, locations and lighting of all signage shall be approved by the Boulder Landmarks Board or its Design Review Committee. Sign content shall not require review.
22. Replacement of street identification signs with original concrete pylons or replicas is encouraged.