

# Rocky Mountain News

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## Site selected for Clyfford Still Museum

By Rocky Mountain News

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The new Clyfford Still Museum will be located just west of the Denver Art Museum in the Golden Triangle neighborhood, according to an announcement today by city and museum officials.

The Museum will occupy three parcels of land on the east side of Bannock Street between 12th and 13th Avenues, according to the joint announcement from the office of Mayor John Hickenlooper and Clyfford Still Museum board chair Christopher Hunt. Museum board of directors chose this location for its proximity to existing cultural destinations, as well as easy parking and pedestrian access.

"The Clyfford Still Museum will benefit from the existing cultural activity in the area and create new depth for Denver's diverse artistic offerings," said Mayor Hickenlooper in the release. The mayor visited Still's widow Patricia at her Maryland home in 2004 to discuss Denver as a possible home for the collection.

Pending City Council approval, the city will close on the property in April for \$910,000, completely paid for by private donations to the Clyfford Still Museum.

Since the artist's death in 1980, several American cities had attempted to acquire the estate. In 2004 the City of Denver entered into an agreement with Patricia Still, the artist's widow, to acquire more than 2,000 artworks through the artist's estate. The agreement requires the City of Denver will build a museum dedicated to Still's work by 2014. In October 2005 Patricia Still's estate bequeathed the artist's archives to Denver as well as an additional 400 works by the artist, who is central to the Abstract Expressionism movement.

When completed, the museum will be approximately 30,000 square feet including galleries, storage and study areas dedicated to the artwork and archives of the great American painter. It will be the country's most comprehensive single-artist museum and house nearly 90% of Still's total output.

The museum board is finalizing a process for selecting an architect that will commence later this spring. The board hopes to choose an architect by mid-year with the goal of opening the museum in 2009, five years earlier than specified within the donation agreement. The Museum is presently identifying lead gifts among its board and key stakeholders.

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