

CIRCLE H RANCH RESORT

Owners:

Redwood Fisher

Jim Harvey, step father of Frank Norton

Owners of the Circle H Lodge/Retreat building along Hwy. 34 included Duncans (1973: they also opened Middle Park Glass in 1976; Mr. Duncan was Ken Hilton's stepfather.), Navarres, April & Ken Hilton

Location:

Down below where Circle H is now, 6731 Hwy. 34. Redwood Fisher also had land at the west side of Table Mountain, now subdivided.



General Ranch Information:

* Jim Harvey first homesteaded below Harvey Island, near the place where the South Fork of the Arapaho meets the North Fork of the Colorado (which now goes through dam), all now under the Granby Reservoir. Jim Harvey sold his first homestead, and then traveled looking for another place to settle. He chose to homestead 160 acres which became the Circle H Corral Ranch in the 1930s. The ranch was down below the present Circle H Retreat, 6731 Hwy. 34.

* He set up a working dude ranch, offering pack trips up Pawnee Pass, over "Abe Lincoln". They also ran cattle, dairy cows and of course horses. * Jim Harvey and Frank Norton built the original lodge, made out of logs, which burned down. Circle "H" is for "Harvey".

* They moved all the buildings up, some onto Granby Dam road, when Granby Reservoir was flooded.

* Ida Lupino starred in a movie filmed in part on Stillwater Ranch: *On Dangerous Ground*, 1952. She became a frequent guest at Circle H Retreat. Mike Norton says there's a picture of Bonnie Harvey sitting at a desk, with Ida Lupino behind her, as Bonnie "signed over" some Circle H Corral land to Ms. Lupino just before flooding of Granby Reservoir began.

* Martha Boehner remembers the Lodge in the 1950s as a dancehall/bar, set up with a "corral" dance floor. In 1959, it was owned by Gert Hogue.

* The lodge burned down in the late 1940s, according to April Hilton, and was rebuilt in 1954. Each owner since kept the original name.

Files:

Circle H Corral/ Lodge

Pictures:

Certificates, signed by Presidents Coolidge and Wilson, indicating homesteads.



