

LEHMAN RANCH

Owners:

Henry Lehman - @1880

(Son) Ed Lehman and wife - 1901

**Gustave A. Spitzmiller takes ranch in trade- 1930

@1933 sold to Harry Knight

Location:

Seven miles south of Grand Lake, South Fork of the Grand River, neighbor of Jim Harvey's Circle H Corral. We have an 1890 deed showing "The South West Quarter of North West Quarter, North half of South West Quarter Lot four in Section one in Township two North of Range Seventy-Six west containing 160 18/100 acres" sold by Edward Steisney to Henry Lehman.

** We have a deed for an exchange of land, August 1930 between Teina B. Lehman and Gustave A. Spitzmiller: SW1/4 NW1/4, the N1/2 SW1/4 and Lot 4 in Section 1, Township 2 N, of Range 76 W. of the Sixth P.M., containing 160 18/100 acres.



Amelia Lehman



The Lehman Ranch—the first guest ranch in Middle Park.

General Ranch Information:

* Henry Lehman "drove about 80 head of cattle into Middle Park about 1880 and lost them all in the snow and cold. He, his wife, and three children came "in a covered wagon pulled by oxen into Middle Park over Rollins Pass route." He homesteaded and built a ranch where the family took in guests, travelers and fishermen..." "One night at dusk he heard a noise in his corral. He saw a huge cinnamon bear about to attack his milk cow. He did not take time to go into the house after his gun, but picked up a heavy shovel and clubbed the bear to death."

About 1884, with closing of Gaskill Mine and Town, Lehman bought the hotel and furnishings of the Rogerson Hotel in Gaskill. Chris Young & John Holzwarth, Sr. helped tear down all the fine heavy timbers, doors, windows and costly interior and rebuilt it on Lehman Ranch.



* First guest ranch in Middle Park by the 1890s. By 1901, was a working/resort ranch. 40 guest capacity. \$2.00 a day or \$12.00 a week. "Ranch also served as a stage stop on the road from Empire to Grand Lake, Lulu City, and other mining towns."

* Re: Rocky Mountain Railway Co., begun to carry lumber and boxes out of Monarch, "The line to Monarch was to follow the South Fork of the Grand River through ranch lands belonging to Messrs. McCreary, Spitzer, King, Lehman, Killie and a school section..."

* "The first road from Granby to Grand Lake followed the old stagecoach road from Coulter (six miles south of the present town of Granby), to Grand Lake. It came across this mesa top and then down the hill to the Fount McQueary place on the Grand (Colorado) river, which is now owned by Camp Chief Ouray. From here the stage went to the Clyde King ranch on the south fork, and the Post Office was named "Lehman". Mrs. King was Emma Lehman. From the P.O. the stage went to Grand Lake.."

* Monarch folks got their mail, butter and eggs from the Lehman Ranch, about 6 miles from Monarch.

* (Daughter Della Lehman met and married Carl Just in 1898 and homesteaded on what is now Snow Mountain Ranch, then the Just Ranch.)

Files:

Lehman

Pictures:

One pix taken from "ranching" book

Additional pix