

## **CHURCH RANCH**

### **Owners:**

"Old Man" "Father" Frank Church, son Marcus Church with wife Anne - until 1949  
Furbush - 1949  
Perhaps other owner  
Miller, and son Ted Miller "Miller Hereford Ranch  
George & Virginia Mullen

### **Location:**

Both sides of County Road 41 over to Willow Creek Road. The meadow below the dam abuts the Church Ranch. One of the biggest ranches on the west side of Table Mountain.

### **General Ranch Information:**

\* "When the Timber and Stone Act of 1878 was passed, it permitted the purchase of land unfit for agriculture for \$2.50 an acre. Thus the Church brothers (George Henry Church and brother John) obtained land in Middle Park for grazing." Refers to land just west of the town of Fraser, "Church Park".

\* "Old Man" Church built Red Top Valley Ditch, which starts at the GL Golf Course, travels 15-16 miles, winding through 7V Slash and many other valley ranches. At places, it's 13 feet wide, and is used to irrigate all north of Willow Creek. Jackie Boyd tells us that Northern Colorado Water Conservation District is part owner of the ditch, and has representative(s) on the Board; they had intended to put in a reservoir, but now an endangered animal has been found in a fen, which will cause NCWCD to no longer irrigate the lands.

\* The original farm house is off Cty. Rd. 41, under Table Mountain and Little Table.???

\* Bluebird Camp, a cow camp or Forest Service camp, was located on Church Ranch just north of Willow Creek dam.

\* The Church family once ranched on Rocky Flats, NE of Denver.

### **Files:**

### **Pictures:**