HARBISON RANCH

Owners:
Annie and Kitty each filed homestead claims Summer, 1895 – they lived with their parents Andrew and Mary and brother Rob.
Mr. and Mrs. (Mary Schnoor) Clyde L. Gudgel - 1940
        (Received upon death of the sisters in 1938. Rob received land in GL.)
RMNP buys 226 acres, including the Trail Ridge right of way at the east end of the homestead tract and certain water rights - 1940
RMNP purchased 130 acres from Gudgels - 1952
RMNP purchased 14 acres of Columbine Subdivision #2 from Mr. and Mrs. Rob Harbison -1952

Location:
2 miles north of Grand Lake on Trail Ridge Road
E1/2 of the SW1/4 of Section 30 and the E1/2 of the NW1/4 of Section 31, Lots 3 and 4 of Section 30 and Lots 1 and 2 of Section 31.

General Ranch Information:
* One of the last ranches established on the western slope of RMNP

* Annie's cabin (easternmost of the three, used as the kitchen) built in 1896, Kitty's cabin (westernmost of the three, used as sleeping quarters) built 1897. Big cabin (living room and two bedrooms) built 1898.

* Property was cleared of jack pine and fenced. 1897, family had 2 or 3 cows; gradually increased to 30-40, and opened dairy business 1898.

* The "Lone Star Dairy", Harbison Sisters, Proprietors. Everyone agrees that Rob was lazy, and the girls worked hard and supported the family. (The girls also worked at the Kauffman House, and leased it when Kauffman's first wife left.) Annie cooked: $1.00 for a Sunday dinner, $.25 for a daily meal; mostly farm food - chicken, butter, eggs, milk, with jellies, potatoes, canned veggies, etc. Girls took in Henry Schnoor children (Beatrice, Mary-Mamie). Rob delivered milk and ice.

* 1905 Harbisons began to take in tourists.

Files:

Pictures:
Ranch photos
Small Ad
Lone Star Dairy cards, invoice
Family photos
Map of Ranch, 1957 Blueprint for Kawuneeche VC

Rob Harbison delivering milk

Kitty Harbison rode horses to show park personnel the ranch boundaries when they were negotiating to purchase the ranch.