

Harry Bruce Wiswall was born Dec 18, 1884 in Longmont and went to school there. 1908 Wiswall brothers Wilbert (31) and Harry (24) were working on the Stanley Hotel in Estes for a couple weeks quit to go into business for themselves.

In the 1910 census Henry listed his occupation as photography
The 1911 Denver City Directory listed Wiswall Photo Craft Shop, commercial photography, Kodak finishing, enlarging, coloring, artistic framing, western landscapes.
Bruce Wiswall, photographer for the Union Pacific was in Fort Collins taking photos and will go to Estes Park for the rest of the week. These photos will be used for a special Estes Park folder next year. In 1912 H. Bruce Wiswall, owner of the Photo Craft Shop of Denver was at the Elkhorn Lodge taking pictures of Estes Park for the Northwestern railroad.

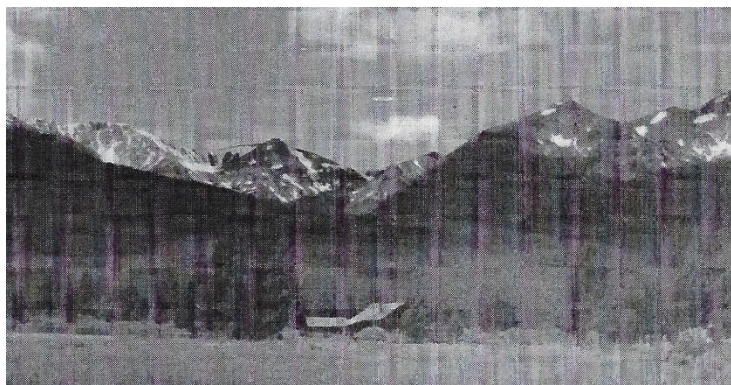
After the Wiswall Brother's father died, their business was listed in 1914-16 as Wiswall Photograph Co, commercial photographers in the Century Building. WW secretary and treasurer, Bruce president and manager. They lived with their mother Harriet at 3424 17th Ave. In 1915 a newspaper reported that the Wiswall brothers and their moving picture machine will commence operations in a few days on a film that will be shown during the fall at the Panama-Pacific Exposition and throughout the country. Moving Picture of Mountain Parks

In 1917-18 the Wiswall Brothers enlarged their business to include scenic photographs and booklets, motion pictures, scenic and industrial. Wiswall Scenic Mfg. Co, Bruce and WW, art publishers, scenic photographers.

The Steamboat Springs newspaper reported in August 1918 Bruce Wiswall of the art studio of Wiswall Bros of Denver was with a group of five men travelling in a big Cadillac 8 to inspect highways of the region. They spent a week on the road and pronounced Rabbit Ears the best. In 1918 Bruce registered for the WWI Draft. He had a dislocated hip and was at St Joseph Hospital in September.



Copyright by Wiswall Brothers, Denver



Bruce and his bride Helen homesteaded in Grand County, north of Grand Lake near the Colorado River. In an application for reduction of required area of cultivation, Bruce said "The beaver have so infested the valley in which my homestead lies that practically all of the hay land is continually flooded and cut up by beaver runs. The state fish and game commission refuse to issue permits to rid myself of the pest. Tearing out the dams does no good, they rebuild them up overnight." The land office approved his application.

1919 Bruce Wiswall, official photographer of the Denver Tourist bureau is in Steamboat Springs to secure pictures of the championship ski jumps. These will appear in literature advertising the state.

The Color Shop Grand Lake was opened in 1921 by Bruce's brother and in 1923 Bruce opened the Wiswall Tavern next door.

1923 Wiswall Tavern of which Bruce Wiswall is proprietor. It advertised a restaurant, soda fountain, confectionery, cigars, and tobacco.



Grand Lake Trout Club was organized to keep the streams and lakes in the vicinity of GL stocked with trout. The club was organized through the efforts of Dr. James E. Davis of the Central Christian Church of Denver. Board of trustees will manage and met at the Community House on August 18. Officers Dr. James E. Davis, Denver, president; Fred Maker, postmaster, GL, Vice President, Bruce Wiswall of the Wiswall Tavern, Grand Lake, Secretary, Henry Rhone of Corner Cupboard and A. S. Osborn of GL are the other two members.

1924 Bruce Wiswall of Grand Lake, one of the most expert photographers on out of doors pictures in the state attended the Hot Sulphur Springs Winter Sports Carnival representing the Denver Tourist Bureau. He took pictures of all the events and a large number of feature pictures. They will be used to illustrate newspaper and magazine articles on winter sports.

1924 application for certificate to operate a bus line between Denver and GL - dismissed
1924 application for operation of a telephone system in Grand Lake and vicinity - certificate granted.

1924 Bruce Wiswall, artist photographer and proprietor of the Wiswall Tavern and with the Rocky Mountain Tourist Bureau of Denver attended the ski carnival at HSS shooting scenes for the purpose of publication in booklets which will be sent all over the US for the purpose of interesting tourists in this section of the mountains.

Bruce Wiswall sold the Tavern to the Rhones.....

1925 H Bruce Wiswall salesman for Thomas-Gill Co. Helen Wiswall clerk at D & F in Denver.

1929 Houston TX directory Bruce Wiswall (Helen) district manager

1930 Fulton Georgia, Bruce Wiswall rants, has radio, sales manager citrus products, Helen, sales promoter citrus products.

1940 California, Los Angeles Bruce Wiswall, 55, finished grade 8, living at same address 5 years ago, salesman of chemicals, manufacturer of chemicals. Helen born in NE 46, finished grade 7

1943 WWII Draft Registration. Age 57, born Dec 17, 1884, married Sarah Helen Wiswall, employer L. C. Borensen

1953 Bruce and Helen mgr. Wiswall Corner Cupboard 2508 E 2nd, Corner Cupboard restaurant 24 Junipero Ave

1954 Voter registration LA county 1425 E Ocean Blvd.

1959 Long Beach CA 745 Orange Ave Apt 2

1961 Return visit to Grand Lake

1963 - 68 Bruce wrote a letter to the editor about animal abuse. Lived at 1523 Monterey Rd, Seal Beach

From Newspaper article July 28, 1961

Homesteaders of Forty Years Ago Revisit N. Fork

Bruce and Helen Wiswall, who homesteaded near Bowen Gulch on the site of the Ghost Town of Gaskill in 1918 returned for a weekend visit July 14. they were houseguests of Carolyn Rhone, Johnnie and Caroline Holzwarth entertained them at dinner Friday evening. Saturday morning their old neighbors, Nell House and Bea Redburn, drove them to their homestead cabin, now a part of the Bokker Club beyond Little Buckaroo Ranch. The house is intact, every log testifying to Bruce's ambition to set up a home in the valley. The Bridge over the creek is still being used. The barn where the Wiswalls kept their fine team and their cow, is only a skeleton, however, and the site of Wiswall's sawmill a bare spot in the valley.

"We all came in about the same time," Johnnie Holzwarth explained. "The Wiswall brothers, Bruce and Wilbert, photographers, arrived first and camped on the school land. Later in 1918 Bruce brought his bride, the former Helen Crandall, advertising department, Daniels and Fishers. I came in 1919, myself. Henry and Carolyn Rhone started the Corner Cupboard in the spring of 1920, and homesteaded on Baker Creek that fall. Dad House's homestead cabin is how the bunkhouse at Little Buckaroo. Nell and Al lived in what we later called Kawuneeche Lodge, the Gill's place. The Cowgills were at Green Mountain Ranch. We all had a lot of dreams for that valley!"

A couple of years afterwards the Wiswalls started building the "Wiswall Tavern," later Rhones' Hotel. People still marvel at Wiswall's big fireplace. And the crest with W/T can still be found on furniture and fixtures, here and there. Example of Wiswall brothers expert photography appear in many scrapbooks of early days, when Wilbert had "The Picture Place", site of the Rhone office on Main Street.

The Bruce Wiswalls now live in Long Beach, California. "Sort of wish we'd never left this valley," they admitted as they left for home.

Harry Bruce Wiswall died May 18, 1975 in California.