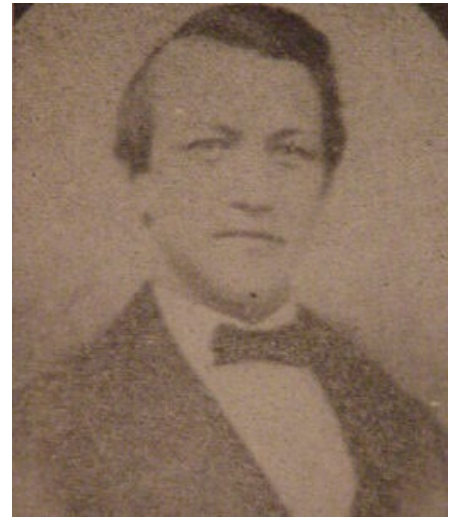


Who Was Redwood Fisher

Reading about Grand County history, one name keeps popping up – Redwood Fisher. Actually, there were two Redwood Fishers, grandfather and grandson, who made significant contributions to the development of the Grand Lake area.

One of the earliest pioneers was the senior Redwood “Woody” Fisher, born in Urbana, IL November 19th 1839. He learned his surveying skills in New Jersey, and received a degree in Civil Engineering in New York City, where he met his future wife, Louise Perrenoud. When he arrived in Denver in June 1860, after working his way west as a cowboy, he borrowed money to purchase his first surveying instruments. His bride to be, her two sisters and widowed father arrived in Denver in July 1862 in a mule drawn ambulance. They had traveled for six weeks from Omaha to deliver the vehicle which was used as an ambulance and hearse. The first marriage license in Denver was issued to Woody and Louise, and their wedding took place May 6, 1865.



Redwood Fisher

The day after his marriage to Louise, Woody joined General Hughes and E.L. Berthoud as Chief Surveyor in building the wagon road from Denver to Provo, Utah over Berthoud Pass. The expedition followed a route laid out by Jim Bridger.

Back in Denver after this adventure, Woody held the offices of city and county surveyor and county commissioner. He was foreman of Hook and Ladder Co. #1, and helped fight many Denver fires. In May 1870, Woody was killed attempting to stop a runaway team of horses at the corner of California and 14th Streets. While trying to save the lives of several children, he fell and the wagon wheels ran over him. Woody left his wife with three children, Louise, Charles and Ella. He is buried in Riverside Cemetery.