

LITTLE BUCKAROO RANCH

Owners:

Nelson C. House - homesteaded 1914 "House Ranch"

John Jacob and Carla Wiebenson - 1930

Frank A. Godchaux, Jr. and Mary R. - August 1941, summer home, named Little Buckaroo

John G. "Johnnie" & Caroline P. Holzwarth - August 1953 (1957?)

RMNP acquired small portion of Little Buckaroo 1955

Ann (Jim) Wright & Carolyn Rhone acquired part of ranch, intending to make a Boys Ranch - 1958 - Little Buckaroo, Inc., Carolyn Rhone, President

George F. (Fred) & Marilyn S. Dick - October, 1962 - Trail River Ranch

Purchased more property from Mabel Gill.

Portions of property sold to family members, NPS, and Clarence G. & Elaine Johnson, 1964-65

Portion sold to Joseph K. "Joe" and Ruth Wetherill - 1967

Portion sold to John B. and Cecelia J. Gubbins - 1970

Portions sold to members of Johnson family - 1971

One Dick and Wetherill portion sold to NPS - 1975

Marilyn Dick - owned property upon divorce from Fred, 1977 - two portions sold to NPS 1980, and with further legal actions, (Fred and) Betty Dick lease property from RMNP until 2005

East Troublesome Fire on 10/21/2020 burned 193,000 acres in Grand County and Rocky Mountain National Park. The barn and house were spared; however, a small playhouse and large garage and storage buildings burned to the ground.

Location:

20631 Trail Ridge Road, RMNP, six miles north of Grand Lake



General Ranch Information:

* Nelson House constructed house, barn, hog shed and corral, other outbuildings, hayfields on 160-acre homestead west of the Colorado River between the Bowen Gulch Road and Baker Creek. The original house later became the bunkhouse for Little Buckaroo Ranch.

* "The already-established wagon road to Gaskill... also known as Bowen Gulch Road, traversed the property, providing a link to timber, hunting, trapping, and fishing to the west and Grand Lake via Fall River Road to the east."

* Wiebensons (John and Carla) constructed own Rustic cabin, outbuildings south side of Baker Creek.

* Godchaux made improvements and additions.

* Dicks bought 147-acre ranch, changed/demolished buildings, renamed it Trail River Ranch. (Jackie Boyd tells us that her husband Jim did some remodeling work on the Dick house, but never got paid!) RMNP bought the 6.7 acre section east of the Colorado River on which Dicks lived. Dicks also sold 6 parcels to private owners. In 1974, RMNP expanded to include the Dick's ranch, now 66.5 acres.

* The Godchaux family brought New Orleans rice to the Fishers (Fisherancho) every summer

Files:

Little Buckaroo Ranch
Rhone, Henry & Carolyn

Pictures:

Barn