

SPITZMILLER RANCH

Owners:

Spitzmiller Family beginning about
@1909
Received Lehman Ranch in trade - 1930
Sold Lehman portion to Harry Knight
@1933
CO-BT @1946



Location:

Near the old town of Stillwater, Table Mountain in view, now under Granby Reservoir, once including, but later adjacent to Knight Landing Strip.

Four adjacent homesteads: Father Richard, Son Gustave A. "Gus", sisters Rose (Nauchbauer) and Catherine "Kate" (Schneider)

We have a receipt, dated June 1909, money from August Spitzmiller in connection with "Hd. application", Serial No. 09569: SW1/4 NE1/4 and N1/2 SE1/4, Sec. 26, and NW1/4 SW1/4, Section 25, Township 3 N., Range 76 W., Sixth Principal Meridian. We have Notice of Homestead Application for exactly the same land, Richard Spitzmiller, 1915, Serial No. 015880. We have a deed from Richard to Gustave A. for exactly the same land, Oct. 30, 1928.

Note: Barbara Spitzmiller desert claim, filed Sept. 20, 1920: SE1/4 NE1/4, E1/2 SE1/4 and SW1/4 SE1/4, Sec. 1, Township 2 North, Range 76.

We have Letter of Register for Richard Spitzmiller, April 1929: Lots two and three, SW1/4 of NW1/4, and SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section one in Township two north of Range 76 west of the Sixth Principal Meridian... containing 160 acres and 20/100 of an acre.

We have a deed, May 1929, Richard to Gustave A: Lots 2 and 3, SE1/4 NW1/4, SW1/4 NE1/4 of Sec. 1 in Township Two North of Range 76 West of the Sixth P.M. together with all ditch rights, water rights.

We have a deed for an exchange of land, August 1930 between Teina B. Lehman and Gustave A.: SW1/4 NW1/4, the N1/2 SW1/4 and Lot 4 in Section 1, Township 2 N, of Range 76 W. of the Sixth P.M., containing 160 18/100 acres. (Knight Airfield?)

We have a map showing land north of Granby Dam for Gus: Lots 2,3,4, SW1/4 NE1/4, S1/2 NW1/4, N1/2 SW1/4, Section 1, T.2 N., R 76W, 6th P.M.

**Building log cabin
1911**



General Ranch Information:

* Spitzmillers owned the land later used as the Knight Air Field from 1929 - 1931.

* Cattle. They got water, had water rights (2/3 interest) in and to the Lehman Ditch.

* A portion of the Spitzmiller Ranch was later sold to some Japanese folks who grew lettuce. “Barbara Tazer said the Spitzmillers tried to raise lettuce but weren’t successful so turned it over to the Japanese and they grew lettuce – she thought they put a fish in every hill.” “In 1919 it was discovered that spring head lettuce could be grown in the mountains. In the spring of 1922, the Great Divide Head Lettuce Colony was established on the sage brush mesa east of Granby...”

Files:

Spitzmiller

Pictures:

**Adolph Noel and
Rosie Spitzmiller**



**Gus and Anna Spitzmiller
Cabin in the Mountains**



Richard Spitzmiller and Old Ned – 1920s



Gus Spitzmiller and Goatskin chaps