



HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

OSGOOD – 1910

Ghost Towns in Weld County

William H. Butters homesteaded in Weld County near the northwest corner of Morgan County in 1910. A community of up to 200 new homesteaders developed in the area initiated by the promise of irrigation from the Greeley-Poudre Irrigation Project.

Osgood Post Office was established there, said to be named for Butters' wife's family name, and has also been referred to in some histories as Happy Valley or Butters. Osgood's mail came three times a week by way of a Union Pacific line that ran from Greeley to neighboring Cornish.

In 1915, a new wave of settlers arrived to Osgood, including Lee Chaitovich of Austria, who bought out Butters. Chaitovich built a large building that held the Osgood Store, Community Center, and Sunday School. Oil was discovered in a neighboring region inspiring many to invest in oil surveys in 1920. However, no oil was located in Osgood at that time.

Since the irrigation project failed (see the town panel for Purcell), the settlers who stayed had to resort to dry land farming and cattle ranching. The population dwindled and the Osgood Post Office closed on June 30, 1928.

*The above information is gleaned from the upcoming book, **Weld County Towns: The First 150 Years**, researched by the City of Greeley Museums staff, Nancy Lourine Lynch head writer.*