



## HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

### **MASTERS – 1900**

#### *Ghost Towns in Weld County*

In 1881 the Colorado Central Railroad (later the Union Pacific) established a station on their rail line, named for John Masters, a foreman on John Barton's 4-Bar Ranch. Large water projects required two extra railroad sidings for supplies and crews. These projects increased the Masters' area's farming production and included Riverside Ditch (1886), Riverside Reservoir and intake canal (1902) and Empire Reservoir (1905).

With a population of 100, the Masters Post Office was established in 1900. By 1920 Masters had a store, beet dump, pool hall, and school. The growth anticipated by the completion of the Lincoln Highway Colorado Loop never occurred and the town dwindled. The Masters Post Office closed in 1967 and mail was rerouted to Orchard.

*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.*