



HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

LANCASTER – 1859

Ghost Towns In Weld County

In 1836 Lancaster P. Lupton built Fort Lupton for fur trading on the South Platte River. Andrew Jackson Williams and Charles H. Blake took over the abandoned ruins of Fort Lupton in then Nebraska Territory in 1858. They established a post office there in 1859 named Lancaster for Lupton's first name.

A territory was created from parts of both Kansas and Nebraska Territories in 1859, named Jefferson Territory. It had 12 counties, including St. Vrain County, named in honor of the French traders, Ceran and his brother Marcellaine St. Vrain.

Lancaster's post office name was changed to Fort Lupton on January 14, 1861. November 28, 1861 Colorado Territory was recognized by Congress and divided into 17 counties. St. Vrain County was renamed Weld County on September 9, 1861. The first three official post offices in Old Weld County were Fort Lupton, Julesburg and St. Vrain (also named for the St. Vrain brothers). Post Office was discontinued in 1920 and Kuner was officially vacated June 4, 1936.

*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.*