



HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

FOSSTON – 1909

Ghost Towns In Weld County

Hiram W. Foss was a miner who decided to try farming. He moved his family in 1909 from Silver Cliff, Colorado to three miles northeast of Cornish. Foss and his son-in-law, Jesse Forney, built a two-story mercantile store called Foss and Forney. It also housed a telephone switchboard with phone lines that topped the barbed wire fence posts. In 1910, the Fosston station was built on the Crow Creek Branch of the Union Pacific Railroad and the Fosston Post Office was established in the store with Lena Foss as postmaster.

Foss and Forney Mercantile burned down in 1927 and the bricks were salvaged to build the Fosston Community Building. Fosston farmers were successfully growing barley, pinto beans and cane without irrigation until the drought of the 1930s initiated a rural decline. The Fosston Post Office was discontinued in 1941 and the town was finally abandoned. In 1956 those same bricks from the mercantile were re-salvaged to build a home in Loveland.

*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.*