CORNISH – 1910
Unincorporated Communities and Populated Place in Current Weld County

Cornish was located at the crossroads of historic native trails. The Cornish station was established in 1910 along the Crow Creek Branch of the Union Pacific Railroad, and named for a civil engineer for the railroad. Though a town plat was filed in 1911, development really began when the first business, the Miller Mercantile Company, opened in 1913.

Cornish ranchers, in tandem with the railroad, built large livestock pens for the cattle being shipped by train. Cowboys and local businessmen built rodeo grounds and a horse racing track for everyone's entertainment.

In the 1930s, Eastern Colorado suffered from "black blizzards" - wind storms that blew away topsoil. Cornish storms revealed ancient campsites with thousands of lithic artifacts. Hundreds of people flocked to the area, searching for projectile points, and clues about the life of ancient peoples. Cornish school children and residents organized the first "Stone Age Fair" in 1934. The fair's growth and popularity over the next six years necessitated its move to Loveland in 1940 to accommodate the crowds, where it continues as an annual event.

The wind also blew away the Cornish farmers' livelihood, leading to closures of businesses, the church and the school. The grain elevator and sugar beet dump closed when the railroad left in 1965. Following the postmaster's retirement in 1967, the Cornish Post Office was closed.

"It was the Dust Bowl years. The wind whipped the fields to pieces...The children would have to stop their schoolwork because they couldn't see what they were doing."

- Doris Robbins, Cornish School Teacher