



HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

HILLSBOROUGH/HILLSBORO – 1861

Ghost Towns In Weld County

George Sanderson Hill came from Iowa and built a cattle ranch on the Big Thompson River near the Weld County border in 1861. Hill built a two-story stagecoach station there which was the first brick building in Weld County (still standing in 2009). A post office was established on his land in 1871, named Hillsborough, for himself. A railroad line was graded by Hillsborough and in 1881 the Union Pacific Railroad constructed a railroad station there.

A community grew around the businesses and in 1891 Hillsborough's name was shortened to "Hillsboro" and the location moved for the first time, possibly five or six miles northeast of the original Hillsborough Post Office.

In 1896 the Hillsboro Post Office was moved again, reestablished 8 miles south of Windsor. The post office was moved a third time in 1898 and remained open until 1903. Hillsboro's first town plat was filed November 22, 1905 by Mary Knowlton, but the site was vacated in 1909 after the town of Milliken was established on the eastern edge of the final Hillsboro site.

*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.*