

HISTORY OF WELD COUNTY TOWNS

STONEHAM - 1887

Unincorporated Community and Populated Place in Current Weld County

In 1887 Stoneham Railroad Station was built on the Colorado-Wyoming branch of the Burlington Missouri River Railroad line near the present-day Weld-Logan County line. The Lincoln Land Company purchased the townsite by the railroad station from Elenora B. Stone in 1888, for whom the town and station were named. Stoneham Post Office opened in 1888, and the town was platted in 1889, with all the streets named for rocks (Granite, Marble, Flint, Agate, Boulder and Slate).

The depression of the 1890s depleted Stoneham's population and Stoneham Post Office closed in 1892. A Vacation Deed was filed for Stoneham in 1893 and much of the town sold for back taxes in 1894.

A second influx of homesteaders began arriving and in 1907 the Stoneham Post Office was reopened. In 1910 the Lincoln Land Company re-platted the town (mostly where it had been originally) and renamed it New Stoneham. The town built up quickly between 1910 and 1925 with several stores, lumber yard, hotel, service station, blacksmith shop, feed store, two grain elevators, two livery stables, a stockyard, blacksmith shop, barber shop, a creamery, three churches, a school and a small hospital.

The town's post office continues as Stoneham but the official town documentation is registered in Weld County as New Stoneham. As of the 2000 census New Stoneham/Stoneham's population was 147.

The above information is gleaned from the upcoming book, Weld County Towns: The First 150 Years, researched by the <u>City of Greeley Museums</u> staff, Nancy Lourine Lynch head writer.