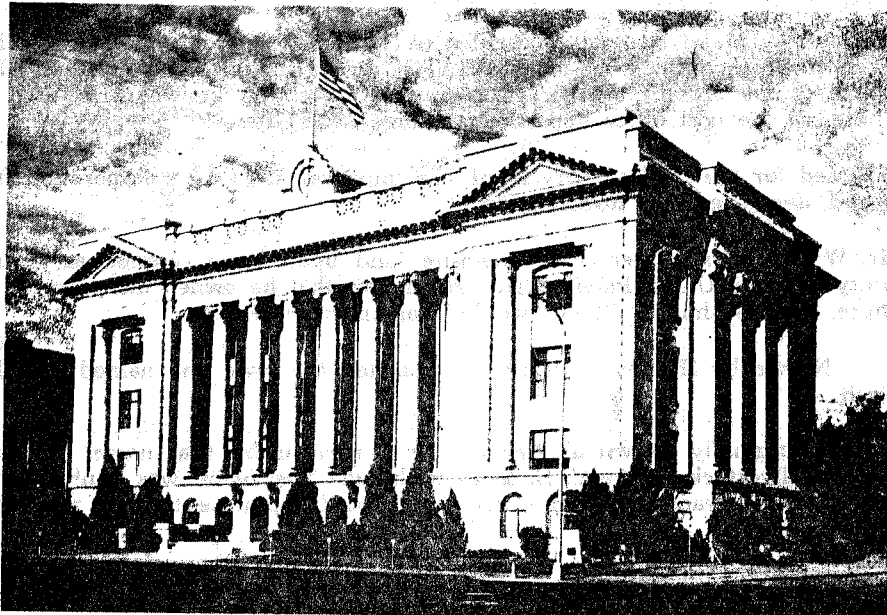


## HOW AND WHY

# Weld County Communities Were Named

**WELD COUNTY (1861)** . . . For Lewis Ledyard Weld, the first Secretary of Colorado Territory. The first county seat was St. Vrain.



**WELD COUNTY COURT HOUSE**

**AULT** . . . For Alexander Ault, a pioneer mule and grain buyer. Was first called **BURGDORF** for Charles W. Burgdorf, roadmaster for the Union Pacific Railroad.

**AVALO** . . . Spanish for "earthquake" and probably for the broken topography of the surrounding land. It was formerly known as **GREASEWOOD FLATS**.

**BRIGGSDALE** . . . For Frank Briggs, the founder of the town.

**BUCKINGHAM** . . . For C. D. Buckingham, the Superintendent of the McCook Division of the Burlington Railroad.

**CARR** . . . Named for Robert E. Carr, a contractor associated with John Evans. Later Carr became President of the Kansas Pacific Railroad.

**CORNISH** . . . For a Mr. Cornish a Civil Engineer employed by the Union Pacific Railroad.

**DACONO** . . . A coined word made up in 1901 from the first two letters of the names of three women by C. D. Baum, a local coal mine operator. The three names were Daisy, his wife's name, Cora Van Voorhies and Nora Brooks. Cora and Nora were friends of Mrs. Baum.

**EATON** . . . For Benjamin H. Eaton, the fourth State Governor of Colorado.

**ERIE** . . . For Erie, Pennsylvania and named by R. J. Van Valkenburgh, who came from there in 1873.

**ESPANOLA** . . . Spanish for "Spanish Woman".

**EVANS** . . . Named for John Evans, the second Territorial Governor. In 1875-76 it was the county seat. Was first called **STAGE** for Bill Stage, brakeman for the Denver and Pacific Railroad.

**FIRESTONE** . . . For Jacob Firestone, owner of the townsite land.

**FORT LUPTON** . . . For Lt. Lancaster P. Lupton, who was a member of the expedition of Colonel Dodge in 1835. It was first called **FORT LANCASTER**.

**FREDERICK** . . . For Frederick A. Clark, owner of the townsite land.



**GALETON** . . . Named in honor of a girl named Gale, who was the daughter of an early day family. It was first called ZITA.

**GARDEN CITY** . . . From the nickname of Greeley, "The Garden City of the West". It was named because it joins the city limits of Greeley.

**GILCREST** . . . Named for W. K. Gilcrest, an early day banker. It was first called NANTZ or NANTES.

**GILL** . . . For William H. Gill, owner of the townsite land.

**GREELEY** . . . Named for Horace Greeley.

**GROVER** . . . Named by Maud Donovan, daughter of a pioneer settler, who gave it her mother's maiden name. The first post office was called CHATOGA, an Indian word meaning "Buffalo" and was one mile north of the present town. This community was first known as POINT OF ROCKS, which was too long, so the post office department changed it to Grover.

**HUDSON** . . . Named for the Hudson City Land and Improvement Co., a corporation from Denver, who purchased and developed the townsite land.

**IONE** . . . A Mr. W. A. Davis, owner of the townsite land upon being queried as to ownership of land in the vicinity told the Union Pacific Railroad officials that he owned the property in all directions arounds there, so they thought "Ione" would be an appropriate name.

**JOHNSTOWN** . . . Named by Harvey J. Parish, who started the town and named it in honor of his son, John W. Parish.

**KEENESBURG** . . . Originally known as Keene after a rancher by that name. It was then only a sidetrack for loading livestock by the C. B. & Q. Railroad. The name was confused with Keene, Nebraska, so Mrs. Fannie Evans, the Postmistress, suggested the present name, which was adopted by the Postal Department.

**KEOTA** . . . It is assumed that the name came from Keota, Iowa. It is an Indian word meaning "Gone to visit" or "The fire has gone out".

**KERSEY** . . . This was the maiden name of the mother of J. K. Painter, Roadmaster for the Union Pacific Railroad. It was first called ORR, after the first colonist, but this was confused with other points so the change was made to KERSEY.

**LASALLE** . . . Named by the Union Pacific for their station and the street by that name in Chicago.

**LUCERNE** . . . A common name for alfalfa, which is raised here in abundance.

**MASTERS** . . . For a cattleman by that name who owned the land adjoining the town.

**MEAD** . . . In honor of Dr. Martin S. Mead, who homesteaded there in 1886.

**MILLIKEN** . . . In honor of John D. Milliken, founder of the Denver, Laramie & Northwestern Railroad and President of Southwestern Land and Iron Company.

**NEW RAYMER** . . . In honor of George Raymer, assistant Chief Engineer of the Burlington & Missouri Railroad. It was first called RAYMER, but changed to NEW RAYMER to avoid confusion with RAMAH.

**NUNN** . . . For Tom Nunn, who forestalled a wreck by flagging down a Union Pacific train before it ran into a collapsed culvert. It was named by the Railroad in his honor. This community was first called MAYNARD.

**PIERCE** . . . In honor of General John Pierce, former surveyor general of Colorado Territory and one-time President of the Denver-Pacific Railroad.

**PURITAN** . . . For the local Puritan Coal Mine, which was named for the high quality of the coal.

**PLATTEVILLE**, . . . For the Platte River.

**ROGGEN** . . . Believed to honor Edward P. Roggen, Secretary of State of Nebraska in 1885.

**SEVERANCE** . . . David Severance, an early homesteader, donated some of his land for the starting of the town. It was first called TAILHOLT.

**WINDSOR** . . . For Reverend A. S. Windsor. It was formerly known as NEW LIBERTY and also NEW WINDSOR.