

Early Pioneers to the Pikes Peak Region of Colorado

This is a list of 160 pioneers that arrived in the Pikes Peak Region in 1858 and 1859 – according to the Pioneers Museum of Colorado Springs.

Source: Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph newspaper, March 8, 1959; article title - “Pioneers Outfoxed Indians in Attempt at Trade.” The original article is located in the Special Collections department of the Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, on microfilm and in the history clipping files.

(**See bottom of this document for helpful notes**)

Adams, William A. – Claimed 160 acres on Fontaine qui Bouille about seven miles below Colorado City.

Archibald, A. W.

Auchinvole, Charles J.

Aux, George

Baldwin, Amanada Melvina (Mrs. Elisha E.)

Baldwin, Elisha Emery – Father of Mrs. Zopher Holden of Colorado Springs.

Banning, Laura (Mrs. Sylvester)

Banning, Sylvester

Barth, Andrew

Bassett, Alden – Had a sawmill.

Bassett, Hannah – “... Came to the Pikes Peak Region with her husband, William, in 1859, was both ambitious and beautiful. Because she was ambitious, the family crossed the plains five times. Because she was beautiful, a band of Indians tried to trade a large number of horses to William Bassett for her.”

Bassett, William – his photograph, as well as more details about this Bassett family are included with the original Gazette newspaper article cited here (March 8, 1959),

Beach, Melancthon S. – “Among the early arrivals, who located Colorado City, built the first house there, was the first county recorder and represented El Paso County in the first territorial legislature.”

Blake, Charles H. - Member Colorado City Town Company.

Blodgett, A. D.

Blodgett, Martha (Mrs. A. D.)

Blodgett, W. R.

Bolin, B. H. – Claimed 160 acres 12 miles from Colorado City on “Cut Off” to Denver road.

Bollman, Edward

Bott, Anthony – Came with a party from Kansas City in November, 1858, and laid out a town which they called “Eldorado” on the site soon to be claimed as “Colorado City.”

Burghardt, H. J.

Burghardt, M. D.

Bute, George A. – Was with Anthony Bott in 1858 when the party laid out “Eldorado.”

Cable, R. E. – Credited with naming “Garden of the Gods.”

Cady, F. W. – Claimed 160 acres 15 miles from Colorado City on north fork of the Little Fountain.

Chestnut, James D. – Claimed 160 acres in Squirrel Creek Pinery about 15 miles from Colorado City.

Chever, C. B.

Chever, David A. – Member original Colorado City Town Company.

Clark, Henry S. – Appointed county commissioner by Governor Gilpin.

Cobb, Frank M. – Climbed Pikes Peak in 1858.

Coby, Henry – Belonged to Company G., Colorado Cavalry and took part in Civil War and in the Battle at Sand Creek.

Comstock, Harris S. – Claimed 160 acres lying on the west side of Cheyenne Creek at its junction with Fontaine qui Bouille.

Cook, F. A. – Claimed 160 acres on Fontaine qui Bouille one half mile below Cheyenne Creek.

Cook, G. W.

Corson, W. A.

Cotten, James Madison

Cotten, Oliver Martin – On grand jury in 1861, Justice of the Peace in 1862, and father of Frank Cotten.

Cotten, William – Great Uncle of Frank Cotten.

Cremer, Nathan

Crowley, John

DeLong, James – Claimed 160 acres on Fontaine qui Bouille 10 miles below Colorado City.

Devlin, Pat – Killed by “Jim” Laughlin in Colorado City.

Donovan, Joe B.

Dugen, Seth – Claimed 160 acres where road leads to “Big Mountain Pinery.”

Enos, James – Claimed 160 acres being the first claim north of and adjoining the claim of M. S. Beach on Camp Creek.

Eskins, Peter Phillip

Fletcher, William Dudley

Ford, Col. F. R. and his wife Henrietta

Fosdick, H. M. (Colonel) – Platted original Colorado City townsite and was the first to show that farming could be successful. He plowed up a few acres on the south side of Fountain Creek and planted all sorts of fruit and vegetables.

Foushee, John G.

Fulerton, James – Claimed 160 acres on Fountain qui Bouille at mouth of Bear Creek.

Ganit, G.

Garvin, Dr. James Paul – was first physician of El Paso County. He built the cabin that was located “just above” the Templeton Block on Colorado Avenue, called by some uninformed people the “State Capitol.”

Garvin, William

Gilmore, Charles – Led a party of about 12 men from a place near Denver and laid out “El Dorado City” in 1859.

Girton, Sarah (Mrs. Thompson)

Girton, Thompson

Gleason, A. H.

Goldberg, Gumpert – Claimed 160 acres on Fontaine qui Bouille about 9 miles below Colorado City

Graves, W. H.

Gregory, John

Hall, George B.

Hall, H. I.

Hall, O. C.

Harman, Lewis

Hayden, Lewis – Claimed 160 acres near Colorado Avenue; grandfather of Zopher Holden of Colorado Springs.

Higgins, Thomas J. – Higgins and Cobb and a Mr. Baker, known as “Hog” Baker, were among the first business men in Colorado City.

Hinman, “Jersey”

Holden, Daniel M. – Father of Zopher Holden of Colorado Springs.

Holliday, Duncan

Holmes, James A. and his wife – Climbed Pikes Peak in 1858. It is thought that she is the first woman to have made the trip.

Holmes, William.

Humbert, Prosper – Claimed 160 acres on the Little Fountain.

Husted, Calvin R. – Had a ranch at what is now called Husted, part of the Air Force Academy site.

Irion, John W. – A government surveyor.

Long, Isaiah K. – Claimed 160 acres on Fontaine qui Bouille.

Love, Arthur B.

Love, James

Love, Robert F.

Love, William A. – Platted Love and Quimby addition to Colorado City; the site occupied by Philadelphia and Colorado smelting.

McAlroy, E. P.

McCarty, Michael – Member of Colorado City Town Company.

McCloud, Alexander – Claimed 160 acres in “Big Valley.”

McClure, W. P. – Member Colorado City Town Company. He fought a duel with Richard Whitsitt in Denver and was severely wounded, but recovered.

McCrea, Reuben

McDonnald, Angus R.

McMahan, John – Claimed 160 acres on south side of Fontaine qui Bouille.

Macomber, Major W. H. – Belonged to “Old Time Cowboys.”

Middleton, Robert and his wife.

Miller, Frank

Miller, John D.

Miller, Paul

Moore, James A. and Minerva, his wife with T. A. Jones, G. Chapman and M. D. Burghardt, he claimed 640 acres in the “Squirrel Creek Pinery.”

Moore, William B.

Morrow, Robert – Grandfather of Robert Morrow of Colorado Springs.

Murphy, Patrick – Lived near Monument and used to walk to Denver carrying butter and eggs. Lived to be 103 years old.

Murphy, William – Claimed 160 acres on the Monument.

Myers, Ira – Claimed 160 acres on Camp Creek.

Oaks, Joseph – Homesteaded on Kiowa Creek.

Ohlinger, Jacob

Owens, Thomas

Parkinson, John T. – Member original Colorado City Town Co.

Parr, Joseph – Claimed 160 acres about one mile below junction of Fontaine qui Bouille and Cheyenne Creek, being on road that leads to “South Pinery.”

Persall, Charles W. – Helped M. S. Beach build the first house at 28th and Colorado Ave.

Price, C. W.

Price, John J.

Putnam, George W. – Member Colorado City Town Co.

Richardson, Albert D. – Was connected with New York Tribune and was an active member of this community; had a claim on Monument creek and was a member of Colorado City Town Co.

Reed, Asa Harden

Roberts, David

Rowley, I. H.

Shepherd, I. T. – Claimed 160 acres on Monument Creek.

Simpson, Daniel

Simpson, Hiram

Simpson, Jim

Simpson, Lorenzo Dow

Skerritt, Joseph – Chestnut, Skerritt, McDonald and Smith claimed 640 acres in Squirrel Creek Pinery, 15 miles from Colorado City.

Smith, Joseph

Smith, Julian – One of the founders of El Dorado City; also member of Colorado City Town Company

Smith, Samuel

Smith, W. A.

Spielman, Clementina Girton (Mrs. David)

Spielman, David

Steele, Robert W.

Stout, E. P. – Member Colorado City Town Co.

Tallman, John M.

Tappan, George H. – Member of Tappan and Company, owners of a general store in Colorado City; built a concrete residence near Colorado City.

Tappan, John G. – member of Tappan and Company.

Tappan, Lewis N. – Was one of the surveyors with M. S. Beach, who laid out the townsite of Colorado City.

Tappan, Samuel – Friendly toward the Indians, member of First Colorado Regiment, came from Massachusetts.

Tappan, William – Owned what is now 720 S. 8th St.

Templeton, Andrew J. – Templeton Gap is named for him.

Thompson, John – Claimed 160 acres 20 miles from Colorado City southward on Fontaine qui Bouille.

Tucker – “There was at the time a man named Tucker, and two others, encamped on the Fountain a little distance above the new town site” (Eldorado City).

Vorhees, August

Wade, A. B. – Claimed 160 acres on a stream called Antelope Creek.

Waggoner, Seymour W. – A member from Colorado City of the First Colorado Battery on the Union side in the Civil War and served in Missouri.

Wanless, John W.

Warren, T. H.

West, Robert S. – Claimed 160 acres in the “Big Valley” and in 1862 was constable.

Whitsitt, Richard E. – Fought a duel with pistols with W. P. McClure.

Wilking, Oscar – Claimed 160 acres “near H. D. L. Morse.”

Willis, Robert B. – Supervisor of district one of roads, Colorado City.

Winchester, L. J. – President of Colorado City Town Company.

Wineka, Otto – One of four founders of Fountain City near Pueblo; also had claim near Garden of the Gods.

Woodward, G. A. – Member of original Colorado City Town Co.

Wooten, Rickens L. – Had an early claim on the Soda Springs of Manitou.

Wright, Andrew C. – Road overseer in Colorado City.

Wyatt, N. G.

***“Fontaine qui Bouille” later became known as Fountain Creek.

**The town name of “El Dorado City” of 1858/59 was short-lived and it soon was called “Colorado City” instead. Colorado City attracted settlers first, and then nearby Colorado Springs grew shortly thereafter. In the early 1900’s Colorado City was annexed and became part of the city of Colorado Springs. Today, Colorado City is informally referred to as “Old Colorado City” but it is technically an area located within the western side of Colorado Springs - and addresses there reflect the city of Colorado Springs postal zip codes. Old Colorado City and Colorado Springs are in El Paso County.

***“Old Colorado City” should not be confused with the other “Colorado City” located to the south in Pueblo County, Colorado.