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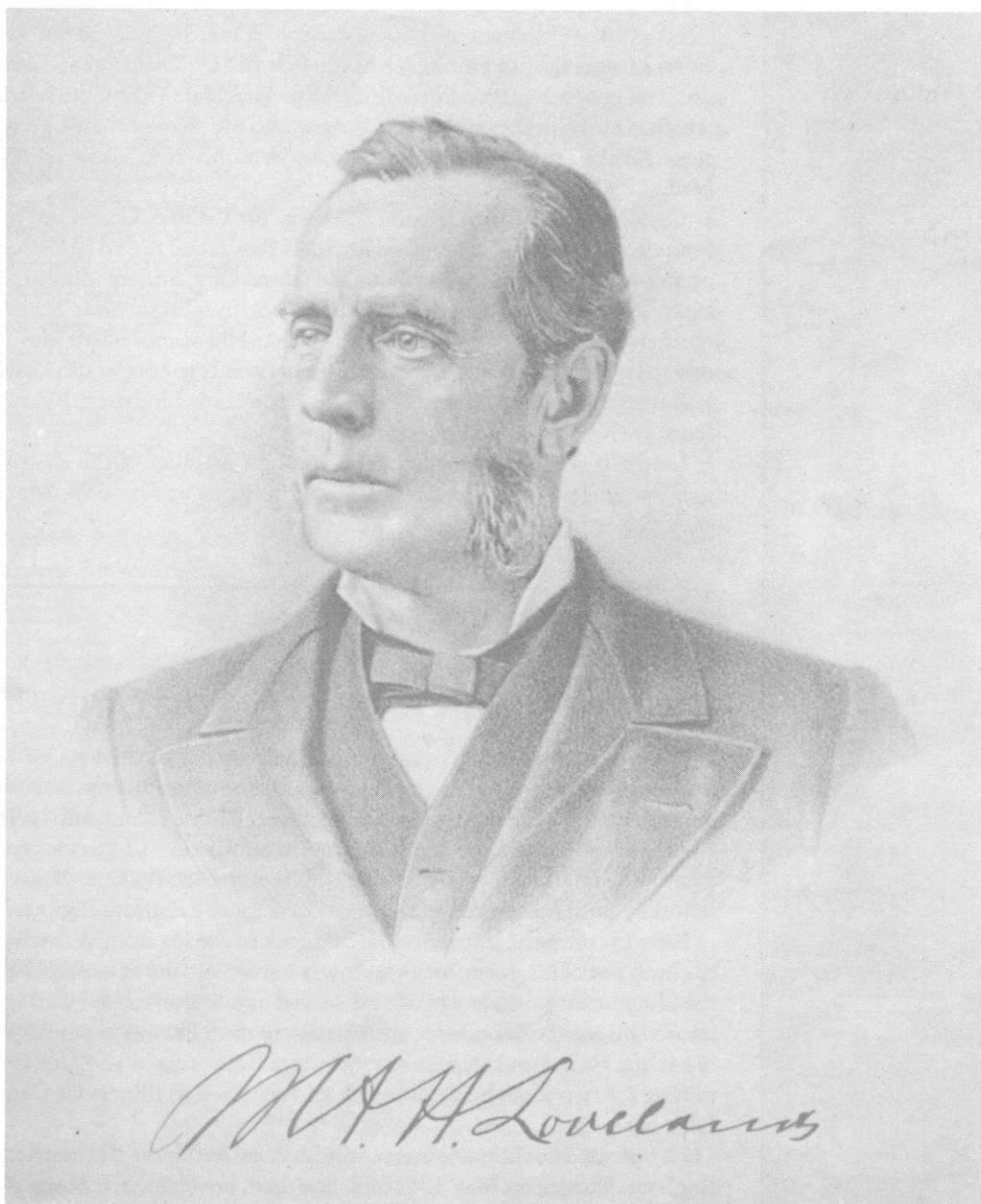


Historically Jeffco

PUBLISHED BY THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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W.A.H. LOVELAND

Photo courtesy of Golden D.A.R. Museum

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By: Don Ebner

The Jefferson County Historical Commission is trying to develop a kind of "endangered species" list of threatened sites that have historical significance in Jefferson County. Your help is needed to identify as many as possible. Please send your suggestion to us at Box 659, Morrison, Colorado, 80465.

Some "endangered species" we are aware of:

The very first documented gold discovery site in Colorado, on June 22, 1850 by Lewis Ralston. A short distance up Ralston Creek from where it enters Clear Creek. Threatened obliteration by the Ralston Road extension construction work to Sheridan Boulevard in Arvada.

Troutdale-In-The-Pines, a vacation resort above Evergreen on Upper Bear Creek Road started in the 1880's, was expanded to serve over 300 guests by the 1930's. It's Rainbow Ballroom attracted the "Big Bands" including Tommy Dorsey, Lawrence Welk, Paul Whiteman and many others. Some celebrity guests were: Clark Gable, Ethel Merman, Kate Smith, Liberace, Jack Benny, Groucho and Harpo Marx and so on. The property originally included the Troutdale Golf Course and the club house which is now the Evergreen Golf Course and the "Keys on the Green" restaurant. Idle since 1961, Troutdale is threatened by demolition to allow re-development of the land.

Off Crawford Gulch Road, which is up Golden Gate Canyon Road, are two homesteaded ranches, the 1858 Reynolds Ranch and the 1879 Pearce Ranch. They are on the original 1859 Gregory Road to Central City. Still standing in good condition are three log cabins, two barns and other out buildings, meat houses, engine house, chicken house and corrals. Also the Belcher Hill school house and a horse shelter are on the property. The new owner-developer wants to cooperate in saving the buildings.

Information on the above sites came from Lois Lindstrom, Vanita G. Cosper and Irma Wyhs.

Lastly, if you are interested in becoming a member of the Historical Commission and live in Jefferson County, please write to us at Box 659, Morrison, Colorado, 80465.

ON THE COVER

WILLIAM AUSTIN HAMILTON LOVELAND

William A.H. Loveland was born in Chatham, Massachusetts, on May 30, 1826. He was the son of Reverend Leonard Loveland, one of the most powerful pulpit orators of his day. In 1833 the family moved to Lippett, Rhode Island, and in 1837 to Lonsdale, Rhode Island, where the extended family numbering 12 grown people lived in a log cabin. The family emigrated to Alton, Illinois in 1837 where William was reared and schooled until he entered McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois.

Early in college he learned of the outbreak of the Mexican War which prompted him to climb out of his dormitory window, swim across the Mississippi River and enlist in the army at St. Louis at age 20. He served as a wagon master during the war until he injured his leg at Chapultepec and was discharged. His injury would plague him the rest of his life. He returned to Illinois but left for California in 1849 for the gold rush. After mining for two years he became sick and returned to Illinois via Central America and Lake Nicaragua.

He operated a successful mercantile business in Illinois. He married Phelena Shaw of Brighton, Illinois on May 13, 1852. She died, however, in January of 1854 leaving no children. Two years later he married Miranda Ann Montgomery and in 1859 decided to move west with 12 wagon loads of merchandise.

(continued on page 13)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Preserving Your Scrapbook

By: Cassandra Volpe for the Colorado Preservation Alliance¹

A personal or family scrapbook is an important memory of the past. With proper care and knowledge of some basic preservation techniques, you can enjoy scrapbooks for generations.

A good physical environment is of primary importance: temperature 60-70 degrees F; relative humidity 40-50%; low light; no sun, and a clean area away from potential disasters such as water pipes, attics, rodents, etc. is best.

The basic problem with scrapbooks is the variety of materials combined in one volume: i.e. newspaper clippings, photos, printed matter, ephemeral such as flow-ers, ribbons, match books, plastic favors, etc. All of these items: in one volume can cause danger to each other and strain the hinges of the scrapbook.

1. Use only acid free and/or alkaline buffered archival folders, scrapbooks, pages, and envelopes.

2. Purchase a PH testing pen @\$3.00 in archival supply catalogs for testing acid-free materials purchased.

3. Remove all pins, staples, paper clips and tape if possible without damage.

4. Mount documents and photos with acid free mounting corners, or use a water soluble adhesive sparingly.

5. To write on a document or photo, use only a soft pencil.

6. Photocopy clippings on archival copy paper. Also making archival copies of important documents and storing in a

separate location is a good idea in case of disaster.

7. Place fragile documents in transparent polyester sleeves (Mylar is one tradename rigid enough to support paper.)

8. Photographs require special handling. Important photos should be copied at a photo lab in black and white. Get a copy negative as well as a print. Color prints and Polaroids will fade within a few years.

9. Use only polyester, polypropylene, triacetate and polyethylene for enclosures for photographs.

10. Use photo albums of heavy-weight acid-free paper; use archival photo corners; write only with soft pencil, right on reverse of print.

11. Finally, wrap oversized albums and overstuffed scrapbook in acid-free tissue and store flat.

12. Do not use pressure-sensitive adhesive tape, rubber cement, white glues, metal clips, pins, or staples.

13. Do not write on front of a document or emulsion side of photo with magic marker or ball-point pens.

14. Do not use "magnetic" and plastic type sleeve albums that are commercially available.

15. Avoid dirt, dust, sunlight and water damage.

With careful handling and some protective enclosures, your scrapbook can give you many years of pleasure and memories. Below listed are archival supply companies that can assist you in obtaining the necessary protective items.

Pioneer Museum
215 S. Tejon, Colorado Springs, CO
80903 719/578-6929

Light Impressions
439 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY
14607-3717 800/828-6216

University Products
P.O. Box 101, 517 Main St., Holyoak,
MA 01041 800/628-1912

Conservation Materials, Ltd.
1165 Marietta Way, P.O. Box 2884,
Sparks, NV 89431 702/331-0582

Restoration Source
P.O. Box 9384, Salt Lake City, UT
84109-0384 801/278-7880

Creative Memories, Suzi Moran, Consul-
tant, 3007 Rustic Court, Fort Collins,
CO 80526 303/223-4712

¹The Colorado Preservation Alliance headquartered at the Colorado State Archives in Denver, is a cooperative venture on the part of libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, public record offices, and other concerned groups throughout the state committed to investigating the means of insuring the lasting preservation of historical collections in Colorado. The Education and Training Committee of the Alliance will be releasing articles of general preservation information to the public and the Jefferson County Historical Commission agrees with the significance of the education offered and is glad to publish the information in issues of *Historically Jeffco*. Editor's note.

ADOLPH KUHRS: And the Founding of his Brewery

By: Robert J. Olson (1992 First Place Winner in the Robert Clement History Writer's Awards)

Adolph Kuhrs was born February 7, 1847 in Barmen, Westphalia, Germany, the son of Joseph and Helena Kuhrs. During his lifetime he would emigrate to the United States, work hard and create a successful brewing business in Golden, Colorado.

The place of his birth was a medium-size industrial town in Western Germany midway between Dusseldorf and Dortmund and not far from the French and Dutch border. His parents were working class Prussians of Dutch descent who moved several times during Adolph's youth from town to town in the portion of Prussia (Germany) known as Westfalen. When Adolph was born, Joseph and Helena were living in Barmen, an industrial city with a population of nearly 100,000. Barmen was established as a city in 1070. However, it remained very small until the industrial development of the Rhine and Rhur river basin in the late 1700's and early 1800's.

In 1808, Barmen received its charter and began rapid expansion in ribbon-weaving and other textile industries. Long after Adolph left Barmen it was combined with nearby Elberfeld and other smaller towns and villages to form the modern city of Wuppertal. This portion of Germany has an especially long and complicated history. Barmen was one of a series of towns that line the narrow Wupper Valley ("Wuppertal" means Wupper Valley in German). It is twenty miles east of Dusseldorf and 18 miles southwest of Dortmund. Only a few miles away is the Neander Valley where the early example of the human race was discovered in 1856. In the 12th century it was a part of the Duchy of Berg. By the 16th century it was the western frontier of an expanding Prussian empire.¹

In 1806, Napoleon I occupied the region and set up a series of puppet states in the Confederation of the Rhine. Napoleon established his brother, Jerome Bonaparte, as ruler. French influence was short; but powerful. By 1815, Prussia reclaimed the entire region. A series of liberal revolutions swept across Europe in 1847-48 and this affected the area



Adolph Kuhrs. Born February 7, 1847 in Barmen, Westphalia, Germany. Photo courtesy of Golden DAR Museum.

around Barmen. Otto von Bismarck began in 1862 to unify all of Northern Germany under Prussian leadership. There were many independent duchies, counties and cities interspersed within and near the Prussian empire which stretched from Poland to France.²

Economically the Wupper Valley was entirely rural until the late 1700's. It was located between the Hanseatic trading centers of Dusseldorf and Dortmund. This powerful economic union was in operation as early as the 13th century and lasted until 1669. Barmen and nearby

Elberfeld began their conversion from rural towns to industrial cities during the 18th century. Textiles, printing, linen and ribbon-making developed. One of the more famous citizens of Barmen was Friederick Engels the noted communist. Engels was born there on November 28,

¹ William Kostka, *Pre-Prohibition History of the Adolph Coors Company*, p. 9; *Americanized Encyclopedia Britannica* (1905), p. 807; Vol. 2, p. 45; Vol. 4, p. 189; and Vol. 1, 12, p. 783.

² The information on Prussian history comes from a variety of sources, i.e., encyclopedias, standard histories of the period, etc.

1820, the son of middle class merchants and lived there until 1838.³

Into this newly industrialized region came immigrants from many parts of Europe. There were Prussians from the eastern part of Germany; Northern Germans from the independent duchies; Southern Germans from Bavaria and Wurttenburg; and foreigners from nearby France, Belgium and Holland. Barmen is only 40 miles from the border with The Netherlands. One of these new residents was a Dutch worker named Joseph Kuhrs. Joseph was married to a young woman named Helena. It is not known when Joseph and Helena Kuhrs emigrated from The Netherlands. The Kuhrs family remained in Barmen for only a few short years. By January 1849, when a second son, William, was born, the family lived in Dortmund. The family also had a girl named Helena, whose birthdate and place is not known. It was in November, 1860, at the age of 13, that Adolph received his first apprenticeship. He began to learn the stationer's trade by working as a printer's assistant in Ruhrort for the firm of Andrea and Company. Ruhrort was located at the confluence of the Ruhr and Rhine rivers about thirty miles west of Dortmund. Adolph remained in this apprenticeship for approximately nineteen months.

It should be noted that the Coors family spelled their name "Kuhrs." Kuhrs is a Dutch family name. Barmen and the other towns in which Adolph Coors lived as a child were all very near the Dutch border with Prussia. Adolph Coors changed the spelling of his surname some time after he left Germany in 1868 and before he arrived in Denver in 1872. However, the "Kuhrs" spelling was used in at least one warranty deed filed at Golden in the 1870s.

Adolph moved with his family to Dortmund a much larger city than Barmen and northwest of the place where Adolph was born. In Dortmund, Adolph Kuhrs began a three-year apprenticeship with the Henry Wenkler brewery. Here Adolph would learn all of the basics of the brewing arts and sciences. The Henry Wenkler brewery had a long history dating back to 1430. In 1729, Johan Wenkler took over the operation. By the time Adolph Kuhrs began his apprenticeship in 1862 the

brewery was under the management of Henry Wenkler.⁴

Wenkler brewery continues today (1992) as Privatbrauerei Dortmunder Kronen GmbH & Co., brewing several brands including Steinbock, Vestrieb von Guinness, Kronen Weizen, Karamulz and Ait 1729 being some of the more popular. In 1985 this brewery produced 1,012,024 hectoliters of beer. This is the equivalent of 862,499 U.S. barrels. The older brewery buildings were destroyed during the bombing of the Rhine River valley during World War II, but the brewery was completely rebuilt following the war with new buildings and state-of-the-art equipment.⁵

Since an apprenticeship did not pay cash wages young Adolph worked after hours at the brewery as a bookkeeper. The small sum he earned was his first wages and served to pay room and board for himself and his family. Kuhrs stayed at Wenkler Brewery a total of five years between 1862 and 1867. During that time he learned many brewery skills. Both of his parents died in 1862. First, his mother died April 2 then his father passed away on November 24. This left Adolph, his brother and sister orphaned and fending for themselves.⁶

In May, 1867, at the age of 20, Adolph left Dortmund and the Henry Wenkler Brewery. It was the practice for young men following their apprenticeship to move from brewery to brewery for a period of years. This allowed them to work under a number of braumeisters. At the German brewery of the 1860s beer making was more an art than a science. Each braumeister produced a beer based on his own formula. He called upon all of his experience under various braumeisters in determining the proportion of ingredients, the length of time for aging, and the methods of production to be employed.

During 1867 Adolph moved to Kassel to work for another brewery. This was followed in rapid succession by employment as a brewery worker in Berlin and Uelzen. By 1868, Adolph had reached his majority and became eligible to serve in the armed forces of the Prussian King William I. This was a time of increasing Prussian militarism and there was a large demand for young men to serve in the

armed forces. In 1861 the King appointed Otto von Bismarck as Chancellor. The following year Bismarck had begun a large conscription drive to increase the size of the Prussian army from 300,000 to 500,000 men. He began to intimidate neighboring countries which led to war with Finland in 1864 and Austria in 1866. He then prepared for war with France which eventually took place in 1870 and 1871.⁷

Many served but a substantial number of young men joined the mass of German citizens emigrating to the United States. Between 1866 and 1870 upwards of 500,000 Germans left their homeland, for a variety of reasons, in favor of the United States.⁸

As the time approached for Adolph to face military conscription he studied closely his options. He could stay in his native Germany, serving in the Prussian Army and, if he survived, return to the traditional life of a brewer. Or he could leave his homeland, avoiding the Army and move to the New World and begin a new life. He decided in 1868 to leave Germany and emigrate to the United States. This decision made, the method of departure was the next issue to be resolved. There was a variety of options. Many steamships and sailing vessels departed the ports of Europe each bound for the United States or Canada. The accommodations ranged from First Class cabins to regular passenger rooms to steerage. At each level the costs were commensurate with the quality and size of the accommodations. However emigration was expensive. It cost a great deal of money to move not only one's family but their possessions and provisions as well. Besides Adolph did not have a passport allowing him to leave the country legally.

He arrived in Hamburg, a bustling seaport in northern Germany and amid the hustle and bustle of the docks made his way aboard a ship bound for America. Once out to sea he was, of course,

³ Encyclopedia Britannica (1905), p. 494, p. 807.

⁴ Kostka, p. 9; Brauereien und Malzereien in Europa 1986, p. D59.

⁵ Brauereien und Malzereien in Europa 1986, p. D5.

⁶ Kostka, p. 9; The Adolph Coors Story, p. 2.

⁷ Encyclopedia articles and numerous standard histories of the period.

⁸ Kostka, p. 9; The Adolph Coors Story, pp. 2-3.

detected. He was allowed to pay his passage when he could earn money in the United States. The vessel arrived in Baltimore after a long ocean voyage. Adolph was what would be called in 1992 an "undocumented worker." He had no passport, he had been a stowaway and he was only 21 years old. He had no living parents, no money and no known relatives living in the United States.⁹

But despite these drawbacks he had almost eight years work experience in bookkeeping, in printing and as a brewer. More importantly he brought a vision of the future. Adolph believed that the United States would be a land of opportunity for him in the future. He had abandoned his homeland and the chance to work for successful breweries in a country which was undergoing great economic and industrial growth. He had exchanged that future for what he perceived to be even greater opportunities in a country which was just beginning to blossom as an industrial powerhouse. The United States was also not a beer-drinking nation.

When people today think of admission of foreigners to the United States the image of Ellis Island comes immediately to mind. But people were admitted at all seaports on both coasts. Ellis Island, in fact, was not used as a point of entry until 1892. Like so many millions of new residents of the United States from Europe, Adolph was young, alone, poor and unable to speak much, if any English. The contrasts with western Germany were immense.

Adolph took any jobs he could. First he had to pay off his passage expenses. Then he had to earn a living. For more than a year he worked outside of his chosen field of brewing. He worked as a bricklayer and then as a stone cutter. For a time he was a fireman. He also was a general laborer.¹⁰

At about the same time, Adolph's younger brother, William, also emigrated to America. He left Germany in the same year as Adolph, 1868. He also went to Chicago about the same time as Adolph. William was nineteen years old at the time and had completed his apprenticeship as a cabinetmaker.¹¹

Adolph Kuhrs began to move westward soon after arriving in Baltimore. Throughout 1868 and 1869 he moved

west. Eventually, late in 1869, he settled in Chicago. Then a booming, industrial city with 298,977 people, Chicago had a large immigrant population. Of 349,966 people living in Cook County, Illinois when the 1870 census was taken, 166,722 or 47 per cent were foreign born of which 65,488 or 19 per cent were from Germany.¹²

Soon after his arrival in Chicago Coors found employment at the Stenger Brewery in Naperville, Illinois, a small town thirty miles southwest of downtown Chicago in the rural DuPage County. Founded in the 1840s by Nicholas and John Sanger, the brewery had a small brick brew house built in 1854 and a three-story brick malt house built in 1856.¹³

After two years and a dozen stops since he left Dortmund in 1867, Adolph settled down in one place and at one job for an extended period of time. Naperville was entirely rural though close to Chicago, and had a significant German-born population with 19.4% of the total population.¹⁴

Coors brought to Stenger six years of brewing experience he had gained in Germany. But he also brought a desire to succeed and work hard. He was hired as a foreman on August 11, 1869.¹⁵

Whether Coors planned to settle down permanently in Naperville is not known. It may not have been known to Adolph Coors himself. On October 8-9, 1871 the plans of not only Coors but millions of other people were abruptly changed when a fire swept through central and northern Chicago killing 250 people and causing \$200 million worth of damage. The Great Chicago Fire was one the most destructive in history. It completely leveled the heart of a city destroying buildings and businesses.¹⁵

Coors stayed at Stenger for almost two years. He decided to leave in late 1871 and his last day on the job was January 22, 1872. The exact circumstances of his leaving are not known. However, after the Chicago fire there was a period of decline in the brewing industry around Chicago. Several Chicago breweries were burned to the ground and others were affected by the lack of a sanitary water supply. In Naperville, production declined from 6000 barrels in two breweries in 1857 to 2,640 barrels in one brewery in 1879.¹⁷

The Stenger brewery survived under Stenger family management until about 1891 when it was purchased by one of the large Chicago breweries. By the mid-1890s the brewery was closed and the buildings remained vacant. Eventually it was used as a mushroom farm. Then, in the 1950s the land was developed as an office complex for Illinois Bell telephone company.¹⁸

Coors worked on a railroad being built west out of Chicago. This was a period of great railroad construction in the northern Great Plains. Reports of Coors working on a canal are probably erroneous.

The next move west took Adolph to Denver, Colorado Territory in April or May 1872. Denver was a 10-year-old boom town that had developed into the chief supply point for the nearby mining areas. After a rapid beginning in 1858, there was almost no growth between 1860 and 1870. The 1860 census recorded 4749 people, the 1870 census 4759 residents.

But beginning just before Adolph Coors arrived there was an economic resurgence that was to last for twenty years. During this time Denver would grow to 132,135 people making it the second largest city west of the Missouri river. Its sphere of economic influence would make it the regional center for one-fifth of the nation, extending from Canada to Mexico from Dakota Territory to Arizona Territory.

When Denver was founded it was not altogether certain it would survive and become the great regional center it would become. It was a boomtown like hundreds

⁹ Kostka, pp. 9-10; The Adolph Coors Story, p. 3; W.B. Vickers, *History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys*, p. 558.

¹⁰ Kostka, p. 10; The Adolph Coors Story, p. 3.

¹¹ Rocky Mountain News, December 31, 1923, p. 2 c. 2; History of Colorado (1927), pp. 213-214.

¹² Compendium of the Ninth Census (1870), pp. 38, 407.

¹³ C.W. Richmond and H.F. Vallette, *A History of the County of DuPage, Illinois* (1887), pp. 59, 89; Naperville Centennial Booklet, p. 5; Letter from Louisa A. Brackman, curator of Collections, Naper Settlement museum to author, November 15, 1990; U.S. Census 1870, DuPage County Illinois, Village of Naperville, p. 76, 5 July 1870.

¹⁴ Compendium of the Ninth Census, p. 153.

¹⁵ Kostka, p. 10.

¹⁶ The New Illustrated Columbia Encyclopedia, p. 1349; other numerous sources.

¹⁷ Richmond and Vallette, . . . DuPage, Illinois; Frederick W. Salem, *Beer Its History and Its Economic Value as a National Beverage*, appendix.

¹⁸ Brackman letter.

of other boomtowns. The merger of Auraria, Highland and Denver was followed by intense competition from mining supply towns, like Boulder, Colorado City and Golden.

The center of Denver's commercial district in 1872 remained as it was in 1859 on Larimer, Market and Blake streets a few blocks on either side of Cherry Creek. For a brewer, however, it was a crowded field. There were several dozen brewers and beer bottlers in Colorado Territory. In Denver alone there were seven breweries. There was simply not enough beer drinkers to support all of these breweries.

In Denver the pioneer Rocky Mountain Brewery under Philip Zang was certainly the largest brewer in 1872. Begun in 1858 by Frederick Zadek Salamon and Charles Tascher it was then sold a few months later to John Good and Philip Endrich. In 1869 Good had hired master brewer Philip Zang to manage the brewery at Tenth and Larimer in Auraria or "West Denver." This brewery would grow, thrive and be acquired by John Good, the same Mr. Good who founded the Rocky Mountain Brewery in 1859. This brewery would be known as Tivoli, then Tivoli Union Brewing Company. It would survive until 1869 and be the last

local competitor to the Adolph Coors Company.¹⁹

The Denver Ale Brewing Company had its brewing facilities at Ninth and Lawrence streets and was established in 1869. The City Brewery, in North Denver at Sixteenth and Platte Street, was operated by George F. Oppenlander after 1874. However, in 1872 Charles Schribner was the proprietor.²⁰

¹⁹ Compendium of the Ninth Census, various Colorado entries; D.K. Clint, *Colorado Historic Bottles*, pp. 46-53, 61; Margaret Coel, et al, *The Tivoli Bavaria in the Rockies*, pp. 6-11, 17-22, and 36-44.

²⁰ D.K. Clint, *Colorado Historic Bottles*, p. 55; *Rocky Mountain News*, January 4, 1877.



Coors Brewery circa 1890. Note the white Coors residence to the left of the brewery that was built in 1881 from the Dance Pavilion erected in 1878. Photo courtesy of the Golden DAR Museum.

A brewery with almost unusual name was the "One Horse Brewery." Apparently the operation, begun in the middle 1860s used but a single horse to make deliveries in its beer wagon. Henry Graff sold his interest to Louis Hessemer in 1866. A few years later Leonhard Summer purchased the brewery and subsequently moved it to Fairplay where it remained into the 1890s. Lyman Parkhurst and brother opened a brewery at Seventeenth and Larimer streets on January 5, 1870. Then on August 5, 1871 they sold the brewery to the partnership of Crocker and Goodfellow. Goodfellow eventually moved the brewery to Caribou, Boulder County.

Other brewers came and went. There was also a great deal of liquor, wine, soft drink, soda water and beer imported from "The East" and from New Mexico Territory. These products were brought into Denver in bulk and repackaged by local bottlers. There was not any major national beers prior to the 1890s. In 1872 the George Ehret Hell's Gate Brewery in New York produced less than 100,000 barrels of beer and was considered the largest in the country.²¹

Upon his arrival in Denver, Adolph Coors quickly determined that his meager capital, probably only a few hundred dollars at most, would not be wisely invested starting another brewery in this market and at this time. There was, however, a need for entrepreneurs to bottle beer produced by all of these breweries. The cost of starting up a bottling operation was considerably smaller than a full-scale brewery. So Adolph Coors determined to establish a bottling facility.

After about one month of looking, studying and planning, he entered into a partnership with John Staderman whereby Staderman provided the bulk of the working capital and Coors provided the bulk of the working labor for the partnership. Staderman was operating the Cosmopolitan Saloon on Larimer street at the time he and Coors began their bottling business. Throughout his stay in Denver, Staderman was either proprietor of, or worked for, various saloons and rooming houses located in the central business district.

By November, 1872, Coors bought Staderman's interest in the firm. The bot-

tlng plant was housed in the Tappan Block, near the southwest corner of Fifteenth and Market streets. A three-story brick building, built in 1866 the Tappan had housed the territorial governmental offices beginning in 1868. When it was built it was considered the finest business block in the young city, but by 1872 it had been surpassed by many larger and more elegant structures. It was within the saloon district and had access to many potential customers within a few blocks.²²

Coors bottled "beer, ale, porter, cider, imported and domestic wines and seltzer water," according to his advertisement in the Rocky Mountain Directory and Colorado Gazette, published in 1873.²³

In the fall of 1873 Coors began carefully to consider his future. He was 26 years old. He had been successful enough to own his own business. Denver had been good to him. He had felt welcome enough in Denver to join both the local Turnverein and the Odd Fellows Union Lodge No. 17. There was a large German population. The saloon business was flourishing. The opportunity for a beer bottler seemed ample with emerging regional brewers looking for local bottlers. Denver was a prosperous and growing town.

Working six days a week in Denver, Coors used his Sundays off to scout locations for a possible brewery. Some of the time was spent visiting nearby towns. He was touring Golden, the one-time territorial capital of Colorado and a town which still had pretenses of being Denver's economic rival. Coors was attracted to Golden from the start. He liked the small-town booster spirit. He liked the location and access to the town. But he especially liked the water supply.

Golden was small but not that much smaller than Denver. It was close to Denver and closer still to the nearby mining camps. It had good rail transportation thanks to E.L. Berthoud and H.A.W. Loveland. It had a progressive newspaper under George West. It had a brick manufactory. There was a mine smelter, many retail stores, professional offices and fine homes. It had good schools and a territorial school of mines. A special census taken in 1873 in anticipation of Colorado's admission to statehood reported

Golden had a population of 2,850. This compares to 587 only a few years before.²⁴

The bright and optimistic outlook of leaders in both Denver and Golden was evident everywhere. But there were dark clouds on the horizon. The 19th century was one of speculative boom and bust. There was an economic crisis looming that would become world-wide panic. On Wall Street stocks would tumble. A number of banks would fail. The panic would reach Golden in September 1873. The Panic of 1873 halted railroad construction everywhere. For Golden this meant ten years of great planning, financing, surveying and laying rail to Julesburg to connect with the Union Pacific mainline stopped abruptly and forever.²⁵

Railroads had been the lifeblood of the Golden economy. Railroad corporate bonds financed most of the construction. Jefferson County bonds assisted in the work. The Golden banker was an officer in the railroad company. Much of the equity of the rail lines was owned by men living in Boston and New York. Commerce and industry ground to a halt. No railroad construction meant an immediate loss of hundreds of jobs, reduced business and personal purchases of goods and services and a crisis over Golden's future.²⁶

Golden also had at least a few empty buildings available for purchase at a reasonable price. One such building was a former tannery built a mile east of the main part of town by Charles C. Welch a few years prior to Coors' arrival. Welch was born in Massachusetts and had traveled the world visiting California and Australia before reaching Golden in the early 1860s. He began a long-term business relationship with W.A.H. Loveland and E.L. Berthoud in the various railroad ventures that were headquartered in Golden. He started a number of manufac-

²¹ Salem, Beer, appendix.

²² William Smiley, *History of Denver* (1901).

²³ Corbett, Hoyer & Co. *Directory of the City of Denver* 1873, p. 242; Kostka, p. 10.

²⁴ Lorraine Wagenbach and Jo Ann Thistlewood, *Golden and the 19th Century*, pp. 52-55, 80-85. W.B. Vicker, *History*, p. 528. 1873 Territorial Census, Jefferson County, cited in *Century of Census* published by Univ. of Northern Colorado Michener Library (1973).

²⁵ Vickers, p. 272; Kostka, p. 12.

²⁶ Vickers, p. 272; Kostka, p. 12.

turing concerns of which the tannery was one.²⁷

He owned the land east of Golden where much of the Coors' Brewery now stands. In addition to the railroad and tannery business connections he later operated the Cambria Works, a brick and clay manufacturing plant which prospered in Golden throughout the last twenty years of the nineteenth century. The old tannery building was located on one of the three roads leading from Denver to Golden. The building was on the north side of the "Territorial Road" soon to be renamed "Middle Golden Road" and finally to be called West 32nd avenue. This road ran along the base of "Castle Rock" or South Table Mountain as known today. Welch's tannery was located on a parcel of land by 250 by 500 feet which extended from the Territorial Road across Clear Creek. The extreme southerly part of the tract sloped sharply up to the road but the rest of the tract had much less of a slope so that it was nearly flat by the time it reached the creek. There was only one building on the parcel. This was a two-story brick building most likely built using bricks manufactured in Golden and erected by Golden labor to Mr. Welch's specifications.²⁸

Despite nearly two years in business in Denver Adolph Coors still did not have the capital required to begin his own brewery. However, Coors may have felt the economy had hit its bottom and he wanted to be in on the ground floor of the next great economy up swing.

Therefore, in October 1873, he entered into a new partnership to operate a brewery in Golden. Coors' new partner was Jacob Schueler. Schueler came to Denver in 1861, eventually opening a store which sold candy, bakery goods, ice cream, soda water and wines. The soda water and wines were purchased after 1872 and may have been acquired from Staderman and Coors. Located at 376 Larimer street between 15th and 16th streets on the south side of the street, Jacob Schueler had built up a solid business and had money to invest. He probably liked what he saw in young Coors.²⁹

The two developed a good business partnership. As with John Staderman, Jacob Schueler provided the capital and Adolph Coors the expertise and labor.

The ratio of capital was \$18,000 for Schueler and \$2,000 for Coors. The name of the new facility was The Golden Brewery.³⁰

Golden had recently lost the only brewery in town. The Golden City Brewery was operated by L.T. Bron and C. Koenig at the corner of Ford and Water streets. Ford Street was the saloon district for pioneer Golden and virtually all of the saloons were located within a few hundred feet of the doors of the Golden City Brewery. The origins of Bron and Koenig's Golden City Brewery are not known. When George West issued Volume 1 Number 1 of The Colorado Transcript on December 19, 1866 one of the local advertisers was the "Golden City Brewery and French Bakery, Bron & Koenig, Prop's." The proprietors advertised that "We have our establishment in complete running order; are prepared to furnish our celebrated beer by the keg or glass. Our customers will always find our place supplied with fresh bread and pastry. Give us a call and satisfy yourselves." The brewery advertised each week until January 1, 1868 when the advertisements completely disappeared. They did advertise in the 1871 Wharton Denver City Directory. Then, on November 22, 1871, a new ad in The Colorado Transcript read, "Golden Brewery, Rudolph Koenig, Propr." This ad stated, "Having leased this well-known establishment, I am pleased to receive my old friends and new, and the public generally. I will always be prepared to greet all with a lunch and the best of wine, liquors, cigars, etc. Rudolph Koenig."³¹

In November 1873 the tannery and two-acre lots were acquired for \$2,500. This left plenty of money for converting the building to a brewery. A wooden third level was built on top of the tannery building. Then a two-level combination ice house and fermenting cellar was erected east of the existing building. A second, smaller beer cellar was built west of the main building. Finally a pond was dug to provide ice for the brewery. The deed from C.C. Welch had provided the brewery "all the water of Clear Creek for Water Power."

The deed was made November 12, 1873 and was recorded on November 15 in Book T at Page 297 of the Jefferson

County Records. In the deed John Pipe and Charles C. Welch of Jefferson County deeded the property to Jacob Schueler and Adolph Coors of Arapahoe County for \$2,500. The property is described as being a tract 250 feet by 500 feet but uses the southwest corner of "a certain Brick and Stone Tannery" as the point of reference. The traditional reference to section, quarter-section and township are not made in this deed.³²

The brewery also acquired the first water rights when the land was purchased. But it was not Clear Creek water that attracted Coors to the site. There were numerous fresh water springs emanating on the property on the slopes of South Table Mountain and in the nearby foothills.

The first press notice of the new brewery was on November 12, 1873. The Colorado Transcript said Schueler and Coors "propose making it into one of the most extensive works of the kind in the Territory." It announced the building additions and the fact that the work would be completed by February 1, 1874. The paper concluded, "We welcome these energetic men among us and trust they will be as successful as they anticipate."³³

Coors set about purchasing supplies for the new brewery. There were five large 20-barrel and 25-barrel casks for fermenting, aging and storing the beer. There was a 6-barrel mash tub, a 90 barrel water tank and all the necessary pumps, motors and brewery plumbing. There is no record of outside employees beyond the two partners performing the work. By January

²⁷ "Charles C. Welch," in Frank Hall, History of Colorado, vol. 4, pp. 611-12.

²⁸ Kostka, p. 11; Jefferson County Records, Book T Page 297, filed November 15, 1873.

²⁹ A complete biography of Schueler is warranted, but not within the scope of this particular work. Information concerning Schueler is available through the Wheat Ridge Historical Society library.

³⁰ Golden Globe, May 20, 1893 Industrial supplement; Kostka, p. 11; The Adolph Coors Story, pp. 3-4.

³¹ Colorado Transcript, December 19, 1866, p. 4 c. 5; November 22, 1871, p. 2 c. 6; Wilhelm and Wharton "Golden Directory" in The City of Denver Business Directory, p. 120; Ed Love, Colorado Breweries, p. 4.

³² Jefferson County Records, Book T Page 297, filed Nov. 15, 1873. In 1873 the city of Denver was located in Arapahoe County which Coors obviously listed as his home address. Editor's note.

³³ Colorado Transcript, November 12, 1873 and February 1, 1874; Kostka, pp. 11-12.

7, 1874 the *Transcript*, said the brewery would save Golden "thousands of dollars per year," since beer could be manufactured and consumed locally.³⁴

By February 18, 1874 the paper further commented that "the brewery here noted is one of the largest in the west and it is owned by men who thoroughly understand their business and have sufficient means to put their establishment on a successful basis . . ."

While the owners did "thoroughly understand their business" and \$20,000 was a good deal of money in 1874, the brewery was definitely not "one of the largest in the west." The editors can perhaps be excused for such a comment. Maybe the comment was typical boosterism. Or perhaps *The Transcript* was only a little premature.³⁵

Also, in February, the ice house was complete and Coors began his annual harvest of ice. The production of beer requires the beverage be cooled during the manufacturing process. Before mechanical refrigeration became economical brewers harvested ice by cutting blocks of ice from streams, ponds and lakes during the coldest part of winter. The blocks were then stored in well insulated frame buildings. Jacob Schueler had been in the ice business when he first came to Denver in 1861 and remained in the profession until about 1865.³⁶

On February 27, 1874 the brewing process began at the Golden Brewery. There was no fanfare and no publicity of this fact. It was another two weeks before Coors gave *Transcript* editor George West his first tour of the new brewery. West's report, published in the March 11, 1874 issue of the *Transcript* described the brewery as being two full stories with beer cellars on the east and west sides of the main building and an ice pond between the brewery and Clear Creek.³⁷

By April 1, the first Golden Brewery beer was ready for sale. From the beginning the market for beer was a regional one. Not only was Golden served but beer was shipped to the mining camps of the foothills and the supply towns of the plains. Railroads were used to ship beer to Boulder and up Clear Creek. Schueler and Coors were one of the larger customers of The Colorado Central Railroad in 1874. According to the railroad's *Sta-*

tion Cash Book, "J. Schooler & C" were almost daily shipping beer or receiving supplies. This book shows clearly that Jacob Schueler was actively involved in the business on a daily basis throughout 1874.³⁸

Within a few days of the first sales, orders began to flow in faster than Schueler and Coors could produce beer to fill the orders. The size of the labor force producing the beer is not mentioned, but probably did not exceed half a dozen men. Coors was everywhere. He took orders, oversaw the dozens of steps in the production process, he supervised packaging the beer in eight gallon kegs and shipping by rail and wagon of the finished product. For the summer busy season there was no rest. As early as July 1874 the *Transcript* mentioned that the Schueler and Coors brewery was "running to the full capacity of their works and will shortly enlarge their facilities." It is further reported that Golden Brewery beer had "leaped to the front rank of brewers in a remarkable short time, and their beer is now regularly sold in Denver and the mountain and valley towns. . ."³⁹

In the fall of 1874, Coors made detailed plans for enlarging the brewery. By December he was ready to build the first addition to the brewery since it had opened in February. For this addition Coors hired Phillippi and Smith of the Rocky Mountain Stone Mills in Golden. Coors needed additional capacity in many departments since he did not have enough room for malting, fermenting, aging or packaging. However, he chose to provide space for a boiler room. The room measured 20 by 24 feet, built of brick and stone from the Golden area. It was located at the northwest corner of the original part of the plant.⁴⁰

Inside the new addition was a new steam engine. This replaced the six horsepower engine that came with the building when the brewery acquired the Welch tannery. Coors and his small force of workmen also worked to enlarge the ice pond in order to produce more ice. Upon completion the brewery had an ice pond about 40 by 200 feet parallel to Clear Creek and adjacent to the brewery.

Golden Brewery had a successful first year of operation. Golden itself had only a few saloons but the brewery's product

was sold in Black Hawk, Central City, Boulder and Denver. These were successful, growing towns thirsty for good beer and willing and able to pay for a superior product. But 1874 had been a tough year for other sectors of the territory's economy. Farming was especially hard hit. Grasshoppers invaded the richest farming land. This included Clear Creek valley between Golden and Denver.

For Coors and other brewers this meant a difficult time in getting raw ingredients to manufacture their product. Barley had to be imported from Nebraska and Utah. Hops, rice and most of the supplies had to be imported from out of the territory. All of the brewing equipment also had to be imported although the Golden Brewery probably manufactured some of the equipment to Coors' specification.⁴¹

Denver was making a robust recovery from the Panic of 1873 and going into 1875 was adding new buildings, new industries and new residents every day. The mining economy was very strong and Denver had emerged as the supply hub of a vast region which had to provide food, mining equipment and services for mines throughout Colorado. Agriculture was also rapidly progressing in Weld, Jefferson, Larimer and Arapahoe counties as well as along the Platte and Arkansas river basins.

Despite this growth the number of breweries in Denver actually was decreasing. This was due to a wide variety of reasons. Moritz Sigi was killed when the horse he was riding ran away. Hugh Goodfellow moved his brewery to Caribou. Others survived and prospered. Philip Zang's Rocky Mountain Brewery, the oldest and largest in Colorado, had an excellent record of growth until a fire on September 30, 1875 caused \$12,000 damage.

³⁴ Colorado *Transcript*, January 7, 1874 and March 11, 1874; Kostka, pp. 13-14.

³⁵ Colorado *Transcript*, February 18, 1874; Kostka, p. 13.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Colorado *Transcript*, March 11, 1874; Kostka, pp. 12-14.

³⁸ Colorado Central Railroad, "Station Cash Book," in Colorado Historical Society manuscript collection; Kostka, p. 14.

³⁹ Colorado *Transcript*.

⁴⁰ Kostka, p. 15.

⁴¹ Ibid.

According to a list published in 1880 by Frederick Salem, Zang Brewery was Colorado's largest producer with 8,408 barrels. Denver Brewing Company was second with 5,858 barrels. In third place was Schueler & Coors with 3,004 barrels in 1879 up from 2,857 barrels in 1878. The other two major Denver brewers were Max Melsheimer with 1,290 barrels and G.F. Oppenlander's City Brewery with 1,472 barrels in 1879.⁴²

The value of beer produced at Denver was established at \$200,000 and another \$72,000 represented the value of the beer bottler's business. The Golden Brewery's output was indeed miniscule when compared to these statistics. There were 18 breweries listed in the Colorado State Business Directory. The towns with breweries in 1875 were: Denver (5), Central City and Del Norte (2 each), Idaho Springs (2), Boulder, Caribou, Fair Play,

Golden, Pueblo, Rosita, and Trinidad (1 each).⁴³

Not long after the brewery opened, Coors began to offer tours of the facility. Coors set up an out-of-doors beer parlor on the grounds. This was known as "Golden Grove." Before long, Coors was renting the space to church and civic groups for picnics. Most of the groups enjoyed beer from the brewery as part of the gathering but some groups preferred no alcohol served. Coors accommodated by offering soda water and lemonade instead. In no instance was hard liquor served. One of the first groups to enjoy the Grove was a "large party from Denver" which visited Golden and the brewery in May, 1874.

In 1876, a bath house was built at Golden Grove. This mall building allowed for swimming among the guests at the brewery and Grove. The, in 1877, Coors leveled the area around the brewery getting rid of the underbrush and planting a flower garden and lawn. Trees were planted and a fence enclosed the Grove. Among other improvements was a wooden dance floor, swings and tables. Coors allowed small boats on the pond and a bowling alley completed the improvements for 1877.

Every weekend from May to September the Grove was a popular attraction, drawing hundreds of people to the Golden area. Some came to see the brewery but most of the attraction was the Grove itself. However Coors' ambition was to work to see his brewery grow and the Grove was a drain on his time and energy during the busiest part of the year. For a short time in 1877 the Grove was leased to Richard Raschke.

The next improvement at the Grove was a pavilion, measuring 50 by 80 feet, built in 1878. "Dressing" and "withdrawing" rooms were included in this building. Numerous improvements were made to the ice ponds as well. Finally in 1879, the lawn and flowers were replanted into a formal garden complete with a water fountain built near the new pavilion. The work was spread far and wide about Golden Grove and it was one of the first



Louisa M. Weber. Married Adolph Coors on April 12, 1879. She was the mother of eight Coors children, two of whom died in infancy. Photo courtesy of the Golden DAR Museum.

⁴² Salem, Beer, appendix.

⁴³ Colorado State Business Directory 1874.

forms of advertising used by the Golden Brewery.⁴⁴

The Grove served as a meeting place for many ethnic groups such as Irish-Americans and German-Americans. The Turnverein leased the grounds and this attracted many German-Americans from Denver to make the trip out to Golden. In the 1870s immigrants made up a substantial portion of the beer business in mining camps and supply towns alike.

The Grove was also used for civic events by the City of Golden. Not only did the public schools hold spring end-of-school picnics at the Grove, but Fourth of July and other holiday celebrations were held there as well.

When President James A. Garfield was assassinated on September 19, 1881 Golden held its memorial service for the slain leader at the Golden Grove.

Golden Grove finally closed in April 1881 when Coors decided he needed to remodel the pavilion into his family residence. The Grove simply took too much time and energy to operate. But the Grove had served its purpose by then. In seven years of operation tens of thousands of residents, visitors and guests had seen Golden and sampled some of Coors' product fresh from the adjacent Golden Brewery.

When Adolph and his wife, Louisa, moved into their new home they vacated the old residence west of the brewery Adolph had built about 1878. This original residence remained part of the brewery complex until the 1930s and was the home of Adolph's brother, William, then of his son, Adolph Jr.

The brewery was developed as methodically and precisely as the Grove had been. Each year, the production increased and each year Coors and his partner, Jacob Schueler, added to the physical plant of the brewery. Beginning in 1873 when the two partners opened the brewery, there had been a succession of enlargements. In 1873-74 there had been the 60 by 40 foot ice house and fermentation cellars and the 24 by 36 foot beer cellar. In 1874-75 there was a 24 by 20 foot boiler room. In 1878 the large stone bottling facility west of the original building was followed by a three-story 50 by 50 foot malt-house immediately east of the brewery.⁴⁵

The land occupied by the brewery and the Grove was about two acres. The original parcel purchased from John Pipe and Charles C. Welch in November, 1873 was added to in March, 1878, when a small parcel adjacent to the west boundary of the brewery was purchased from Pipe and Welch for \$300.⁴⁶

These improvements also increased the quality of the beer produced. Coors operated as his own "braumeister" and he knew the quality of the beer depended on the quality of the ingredients and the precise methods used in production. By adding specialized facilities Coors was able to improve some aspect of the manufacturing process.

The 1878 addition of the malt house was critically important. Malt is an important ingredient in beer. However, without an adequate malt house, Coors had to purchase his malt from outside suppliers. When the malt house opened, Coors gained control of the production of the malt and therefore, could better control the quality of his beer. From the very beginning, Coors promoted his beer for its quality.

The decision of selling much of the beer in bottles meant increased packaging costs and the additional cost of operating a bottling line. Glass bottle manufacturing was very scarce in Colorado and the cost of importing glass bottles was extremely high. But the value of bottled beer was almost double that of draught beer. Bottling the beer gave it an aura of quality. In order to keep their customers coming back Schueler and Coors had to offer consistently superior quality beer.

Since Adolph Coors moved to Golden in October, 1873, he had worked extremely hard to build up his brewery. As with any of his projects before or afterwards he personally invested time and effort in doing it the best it could be done. But this approach left very little time for his personal life. Throughout his life he was extremely reticent to talk about himself, about his deeds and especially about his past. Adolph Coors never let anyone, even those closest to him, see all of the inner man.

He was more willing to share the "public persona" especially with his workers, the townspeople of Golden and the many visitors to the Golden Brewery. But he

kept a part of himself hidden. He probably wasn't trying to hide his past as much as holding on to his long-held belief that his personal life was nobody's business.⁴⁶

Between 1873 and 1878 Coors remained in the background of Golden civic affairs. He was happy to host any local function at his Golden Grove. But after everyone was served he drifted into the background. Certainly language was a barrier. He spoke primarily German, his native tongue. His English was somewhat limited. Virtually all of the brewery's employees were Germans. The saloon keepers who were the bulk of his customers were primarily immigrants. Historian Tom Noel demonstrated this fact in "The City and the Saloon," published in 1973. In Denver in 1880, 72 of 109 saloon keepers were foreign born, and over half of the foreign-born were German, according to Noel.⁴⁷

One organization Coors joined was the Denver Turnverein. Begun in 1865, the society had its roots in Prussia in 1811. In Denver, the "turners" first met in Adolph Schinner's Bakery and Saloon. Later they moved to larger and larger halls. Coors joined the Turnverein while he was operating his bottling works in Denver. He remained active in the Turnverein and attended many of their activities even when he lived and worked in Golden. Their musical productions, gymnasium shows and orations provided Coors with the occasional social and recreation contacts he enjoyed. After he moved to Golden and opened the Golden Grove, the Turnverein came to Golden on occasion to meet and perform at Coors' home and drink Golden Lager Beer freshly brewed at the Golden Brewery.⁴⁸

Another group Coors joined while in Denver was Union Lodge No. 17 Odd Fellows. He was elected to one of the lodge's offices on January 8, 1873, at the

⁴⁴ Colorado Transcript, July 12, 1876, p. 3, June 20, 1877, pp. 3-4 and May 8, 1878, p. 3 c. 4; Kostka, pp. 20-22; The Adolph Coors Story, p. 30.

⁴⁵ Colorado Transcript, March 11, 1874, p. 3 c. 2, December 9, 1874, p. 3 c. 5, April 17, 1878, p. 3 c. 5, May 8, 1878, p. 3 c. 3, June 19, 1878, p. 3 c. 5 and November 6, 1878, p. 3 c. 3.

⁴⁶ Jefferson County Records Book 8 Page 448, March 28, 1878.

⁴⁷ Thomas J. Noel, *The City and The Saloon Denver 1858-1915*, p. 45.

⁴⁸ Kostka.



Golden, Colorado in 1873, as Adolph Coors saw it when he purchased his brewery in November of that year. Photo courtesy of the Golden DAR Museum.

same time Moritz Sigi was elected treasurer.⁴⁹

There were two individuals essential in the creation of the Golden Brewery. One was, of course, Adolph Coors. The other was Jacob Schueler. Schueler provided \$18,000 of the \$20,000 needed to open the brewery. Schueler was born in 1833, came to Denver in 1861 and was a partner with Adolph Schinner in the Platte River Ice Company in 1866. In February, 1867 he married Fannie Vinot and in May of that year was operating an "ice cream saloon." By November, 1867 he opened a "boarding restaurant."

His advertisement in Wharton's 1866 directory read, "J. Schueler, formerly of A. Schinner & Co., Confectioner, Larimer St., opposite the post office, Denver, Colorado. Manufacturer and Dealer in all kinds of Confections, Candies, Cakes,

Breads, Pies, Crackers, Fruits, Jellies, Nuts, Wines and Cigars, Soda Water, Ice Cream and Fresh Oysters in their season."⁵⁰

In 1869 he started bottling soda water and came to know Adolph Coors in 1872 and 1873 when Coors operated a bottling plant in Denver. They formed a partnership in the fall of 1873 and began construction of a brewery at Golden. Schueler's name is rarely mentioned in the Golden newspapers. The press always focused on Coors. This was because Coors lived in Golden while Schueler continued to reside in Denver.

But the older Schueler may have offered Coors much more than operating capital. Schueler was an experienced businessman. He was well aware of the bottling business and it was the bottled lager beer which made the Golden Brewery a suc-

cess. Schueler was also experienced in quality control in the manufacture of soda water in Denver. He was active in the bottling of soda water for nearly five years before the opening of the Golden Brewery. Finally, Schueler had many contacts among saloon keepers and other retail liquor owners in Denver. Soon after his partnership with Coors began Schueler moved from 376 Larimer in "East Denver" to 244 Eleventh Street in "West Denver." Otto Baur leased the Larimer Street location to begin his famous confectionery store business.

⁴⁹ Rocky Mountain News, January 9, 1873, p. 4 c. 2.

⁵⁰ A biography of Jacob Schueler appears in Glen Preble's *Impressed In Time Colorado Beverage Bottles, Jugs and Etc. 1859-1915*, pp. 46-49; Rocky Mountain News, May 2, 1866, p. 1 c. 3, May 4, 1867, p. 4 c. 3; January 20, 1869, p. 4 c. 2; Wharton Denver City Directory 1866; Wilhelm and Wharton Denver Business Directory 1871.

Coors purchased Schueler's share of the Golden Brewery on May 1, 1880. Schueler then focused on the soda water bottling business. Tragedy struck twice within five weeks when on December 1, 1880 his daughter died then his home and bottling plant burned January 11, 1881 causing \$3,500 damage. The bottling plant was rebuilt and the Schuelers moved to 1407 Court Place where they lived until 1889 then invested in mining properties for a decade.

Between 1899 and his death in 1918 Schueler owned and managed the Ute Chief Bottling Company of Manitou Springs. After his death, his wife, Fannie, sons Rudolph, William and Frederick, and daughter Augustine ran the plant until the late 1940s.⁵¹

On May 1, 1880 Adolph Coors purchased the portion of the partnership which was owned by Jacob Schueler thus becoming sole proprietor of the Golden Brewery. He was now in full control of the brewery. There were few changes in the day-to-day operations of the brewery. There were no new additions to the building, no changes in the advertising which appeared in the newspaper.

One personnel change did occur about the time that Coors purchased Jacob Schueler's share of the Golden Brewery. Adolph's younger brother, William, arrived in Golden to become foreman of the brewery. William, like Adolph, had left Germany at a young age and had worked in the midwest before coming to Colorado. William would stay a while in

Golden then move to Denver where he managed the company's beer depot and other operations well into the twentieth century. Both Adolph and his wife, Louisa, and William and his wife, Mary, had young daughters born in 1880 and 1879 respectively. Both families lived together in residence house at the brewery, located a few hundred feet west of the bottling plant near the Middle Golden Road.⁵²

⁵¹ Rocky Mountain News, January 12, 1881, p. 8 c. 1, August 31, 1881, p. 8 c. 1; September 2, 1881, p. 4 c. 4; September 6, 1881, p. 6 c. 1; Colorado Springs Directories, 1898 through 1949; The Ute Chief Mineral Springs are located west of Manitou Springs on Manitou Avenue.

⁵² *History of Colorado* (1927), pp. 213-14; Tenth Census (1880) Jefferson County, City of Golden lists six members of the Coors family residing in the same household. Coors had three daughters, Louise, Bertha and Augusta along with three sons, Grover, Herman and Adolph Jr. Adolph married Louisa M. Weber on the brewery grounds on Saturday, April 12, 1879. Editor's note.

ON THE COVER

(continued from page 1)

On June 22, 1859 he arrived in Golden in advance of his wagons and quickly decided to cast his lot in this new town. Steps had already been taken to form a town company and surveyors were at work platting the town. Buildings were in the first stages of construction. He purchased the lot next to Samuel Eldridge's carpenter shop on the east side of Washington Avenue just south of Clear Creek. He sent men into the mountains to cut logs for the walls to his store. (Loveland's first building remained standing until 1936 when it closed as an ice cream store and was demolished. Nothing today stands in its place except a vacant lot next to a modern shopette.) In the meantime, his wagons arrived and his goods were unloaded in a tent that he erected on the site.

Business rivalry began quickly between Loveland and the Boston Company as to who would have the first business building erected in Golden City. Some say Loveland stole shingles from the pile near the Boston Company to finish his store first thus gaining the distinction of being the first mercantile business in Golden City.

Shortly after his store was built, Loveland built his first home at 706 Washing-

ton Avenue and sent for his wife and two sons to join him.

After Golden City was laid out by the surveyors in blocks and lots, the numbers were placed in a hat and drawn at random by the citizens. Loveland had given money (in 1860 Loveland estimated his personal wealth at \$10,000) to the County Probate Judge in the fall of 1859 to enter the townsite of Golden City with the Territorial Legislature. In 1863 Loveland, due to his financial generosity, was allowed by the citizens of Golden City to claim all lots in town not already occupied by settlers. On December 14, 1863, he became a substantial land owner in Jefferson County.

He chartered the first Masonic Lodge in Golden City and in Colorado.

On April 10, 1860 he was elected Golden City treasurer.

As a legislator he was successful in bringing the Territorial Government to Golden City in the early 1860's and built a structure to house the legislature that still stands today on the northwest corner of 12th and Washington Streets.

In 1860 he constructed the first wagon road up Clear Creek Canyon to the mines above and in 1862 secured a charter for his wagon road company. In early 1865

he began the construction of a railroad from the Union Pacific Line to Denver and west into Gilpin County and the mines. He organized the Colorado and Clear Creek Railway and became president of the Colorado Central Railroad. On January 1, 1868 ground was broken in the construction of his railroad which reached Golden from Denver on September 26, 1870.

For the next 20 years Loveland developed a reputation as an astute businessman, politician and property owner. He owned the renowned "Fanny Barrett" mine which was considered the richest mineral deposit mine in Colorado. In 1877 a town in north central Colorado was named after him and earlier a mountain pass.

On December 7, 1894 he died of pneumonia at his home in Lakewood. He was buried in Riverside Cemetery in Denver and later removed to Fairmont Cemetery in Denver.¹

¹ Material needed to write this article came from *Golden, the 19th Century*, Harbinger House Publishers, Littleton, Colorado, 1987; authored by Lorraine Wagenbach and Jo Ann Thistlewood, pp. 7-9. Also, *76 Centennial Stories of Lakewood*, edited by Pat Wilcox, 1976 by the Lakewood Historical Society, pp. 20-23.

THOMAS L. GOLDEN: THE NAMESAKE OF A CITY?

Prior to the Homestead Act of 1862, land in undeveloped territories, including what is now Jefferson County, was claimed by people through the formation of "land companies." In 1859 Thomas L. Golden arrived at the mouth of the canyon that led to Gregory's Diggings and assisted in the formation of the Golden Gate Town Company.

For historians, a fundamental question arises: Was Golden and Golden Gate named after Thomas L. Golden? What was Thomas L. Golden's contribution in the formation of these two communities?

Even though not confirmed, information sources reveal that Thomas L. Golden was born August 18, 1811 (or in 1807) in Knox County, Kentucky to Stephen Golden and Hannah Holmes. Stephen was born in Georgia in 1766 and Hannah was born in North Carolina in 1771.

The 1830 census shows Stephen Golden living in Knox County, Kentucky with his wife and eleven children. Listed in the same household is a male child between the ages of twenty and thirty which would be correct for identifying Thomas L. Golden who would have been between 19 and 24 years of age in 1830. There may be a discrepancy, however, since the ages of the parents listed in this census are off by five years, therefore, they may not be Thomas's parents.

Twenty years later in 1850 Stephen Golden, who is more likely Thomas's father, is still living in Knox County, Kentucky. The 84 year old farmer is listed with his wife, Hannah, age 79, and one remaining child living in the home, Solomon, age 26 who was a blacksmith. Nearby, on separate farms, some of Stephen and Hannah's children are listed. Farris, age 44 and his wife Elizabeth, age 44, with 9 children. Stephen Golden Jr., age 28, and his wife Susan, age 20, with a baby. And George Golden, age 33, with his wife Mary, age 25, with four children. But there is no mention of Thomas.

There is some mystery to Thomas Golden's early years. He reportedly married Mary A. McFarlan and had thirteen

children. In 1840 Thomas L. Golden would have been between 29 and 34 years of age, probably married with several children. However, the census shows no record of Thomas Golden living in Knox County, or for that matter, anywhere in Kentucky. In Jefferson County, Kentucky the census showed a Thomas Golden in 1840 but his age was set at 55 years which would make him too old to be the Thomas Golden of Colorado fame. So where did Thomas Golden live between 1835 and 1858?

Sometime in the spring of 1858 Thomas Golden left home for California in search for gold. He left without his family. Thomas arrived at Fort Laramie during the summer and met George Jackson. Jackson had arrived at Fort Laramie from a hunting trip. Jackson wanted to sell his game to Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians. Jackson convinced Golden and another traveller, James Saunders, to join him in looking for gold in the Pike's Peak region and delay their trip to California. Jackson spent 1853 to 1857 in California, became an accomplished prospector, and knew that gold could be found along the front range of the Rocky Mountains. In late fall of 1858 Jackson, Saunders and Golden arrived at Ralston Creek. It was here that Lucien Ralston found gold eight years earlier. They searched but found no gold. The Jackson/Saunders/Golden group decided to finish the year by trading with Indians along the Vasquez and the Platte.

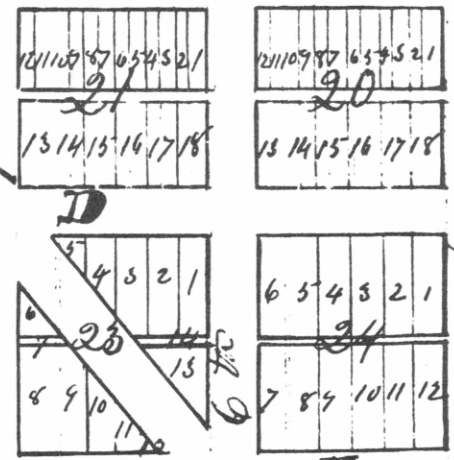
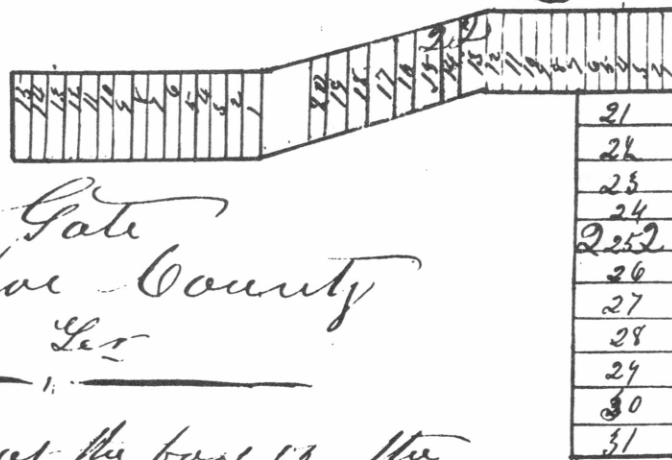
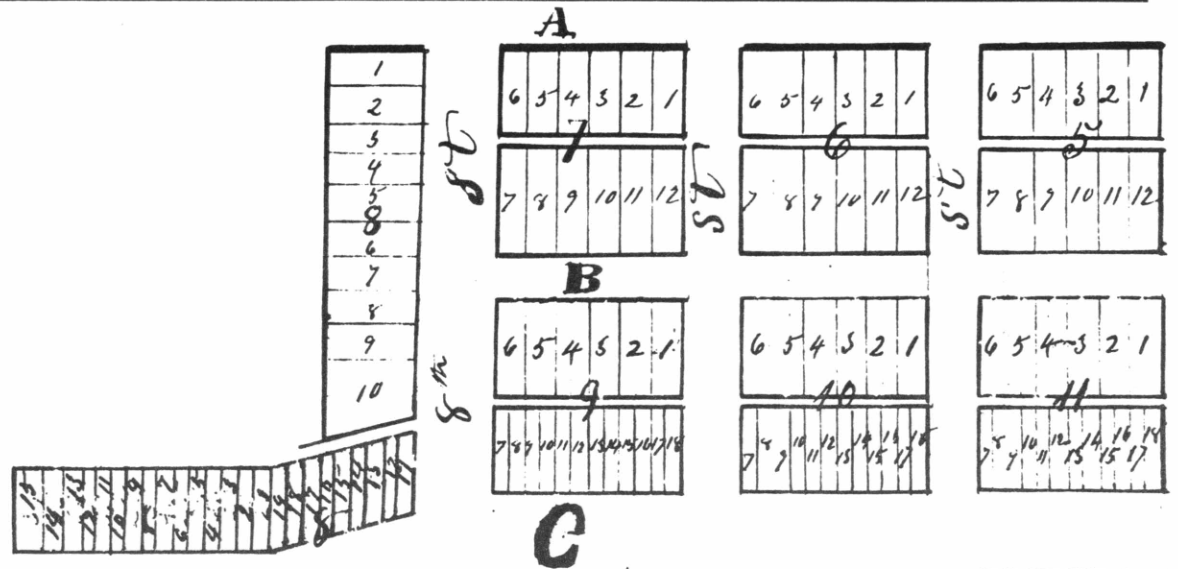
Thomas L. Golden was with George Jackson and James Saunders when they sold their stock of Indian goods at Arapahoe Village (Bar) in the fall of 1858 and moved west toward the entrance to the canyons where the city of Golden is now located. Arapahoe Bar was located along the Vasquez (Clear Creek) two miles east of entrance to the canyons (currently located near West 44th Avenue and McIntyre Street). In the early fall of 1858 Golden, Jackson and Saunders erected lodges at the present site of 11th and Washington Avenue in Golden and pre-

pared for winter. This represented Thomas Golden's only residency in Golden City!

During the fall of 1858 Jackson, Golden and Saunders made trips into the western foothills searching for gold. The men split up to look for elk and after two weeks Jackson returned to the camp on the Vasquez and informed Thomas Golden that he had discovered gold further up the river. Thomas Golden warned Jackson not to tell anyone about the discovery, however, Jackson met a group of men from Illinois and agreed to lead into the mountains. This outraged Golden. The two men argued and their relationship was severed. In the spring of 1859 Jackson led his new friends into the western hills without Thomas Golden. James Saunders left the partnership during the fall 1858 and dropped from history.

Census records show Thomas Golden a farmer, not a merchant. The land north of Clear Creek bordered on the east by the table mountains and on the west by the foothills appeared to be good farm land. In the spring of 1859 David K. Wall arrived near the Jackson/Golden campsite on Clear Creek and planted the first seeds. Thomas Golden found the small creek seeping out of the canyon north of Clear Creek and recognized irrigation. He knew that over a thousand acres of land without trees could grow vegetables needed by hungry gold seekers. If David Wall could do it so could Thomas Golden. The farmer from Kentucky was a typical frustrated prospector and in desperation turned to the occupation he knew well—farming.

John Gregory did not discover gold on the north fork of Clear Creek until April of 1859. This discovery lured thousands of would be prospectors across shortgrass and rock already coveted by Thomas Golden as farmland to the top of a mountain ridge named for Gregory. Ironically, Gregory was one of the men from Chicago who left with Jackson in early 1859 from the camp on the Vasquez leaving

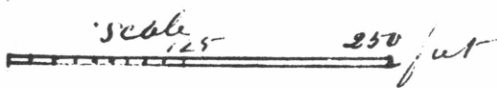


Golden Gate
Atappahoe County
Kansas Tex

Is situated at the base of the
Rocky Mountains at the mouth of the
Cannon which is the only practicable
pass to the Spanish Jacksons
and Clear creek diggings which are
the best diggings yet discovered.

A fine stream of water runs through
the town and there is plenty of fine lumber
near; and is surrounded by a fine farming
country.

N McKenney Draughtman



Filed for record Jan 14th 1860
Eli Carter recorder

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Thomas Golden behind. Once the Gregory Road was blazed, Thomas Golden recognized the value of the land not only for celery and potatoes but as a center of commerce. Thomas Golden saw a future in this land. It was perfect for a town to cater to the miners headed west. The "golden gate to the golden fields." He set aside farming for selling nails and charging for passage across his farmland.

Golden knew that the entrance to the canyon north of the Vasquez was the easiest route from Auraria to the gold diggings on the north fork. In the spring of 1859 Golden set up a toll gate at the bottom of the mountain that led to the Gregory diggings and at the mouth to the un-named canyon. From a "hotel" that he built on the Gregory Road, Thomas began selling his nails for 35 cents a pound.

By June of 1859 the townsite occupied by Thomas L. Golden had only a few rough log huts. Travelers in June knew the site as "Golden Gate" but credit for the name was not given to Thomas Golden.

Thomas Golden found five other men to consign a claim deed for 1,280 acres of land "at the foot of the mountains where the rode [sic] passes into the mountains to Gregory diggings claim running one mile north of the rode [sic] & one mile south of the rode [sic]". At five o'clock in the afternoon of June 8, 1859—the same day A.D. Richardson of the *Boston Journal* identified the area as "Golden Gate" in his memoirs—Golden's town site claim was recorded in the *Book of Claims*, page 18 by Richard E. Whitsett. One cosigner of the June 8th claim was W.G. Preston who would stay with Golden through later land claims. The other four were identified only as "Lyons," "Ford," "Mick," and "Bapten." June 8, 1859 can be considered to be the day "Golden Gate City" became a reality.

The town company headed by Thomas Golden followed the mandates of the law as closely as possible. Federal land legislation prior to 1862 normally offered 160 acres of public land to farmers who could bring water to the land and erect a structure on it within a certain period of time. On the 5th of July, 1859, twelve men, including Thomas Golden, filed a claim of 160 acres that now had three houses. This filing lay directly in the middle of

Golden's 1,280 acre filing of June 8, 1859. Golden had also erected a hotel at the northern end of his main street. According to the *Miner's Register* (Oct. 1862) Thomas Golden was the first merchant to advertise prices in "the whole region." In the spring of 1859 Thomas Golden was actively engaged in the commission business out of his hotel at the mouth of the canyon.

Within three weeks of Golden's initial town company filing of June 8, 1859, twelve men organized another company by June 27 and filed for townsite privileges to ward off the new territorial surveyors. However, the new town company was named J.B. Gard and Company which indicates Thomas Golden's initial decline in influence with the settlers and further evidence that Golden Gate was not named for him. ("J.B. Gard & Company Townsite. J.B. Gard, Thomas L. Golden, W.G. Preston, E.G. Seachrist, J. Rogers, T. Rogers, Mintens, H.J. Hawley, Davis, J.P. Gard, and Samuel R. Brown".)

By September 1, 1859 Golden Gate City boasted eight to ten homes.

On September 20, 1859 Thomas L. Golden was the vice-president of the town company known as Golden Gate, Arapahoe County, Kansas Territory. The Golden Gate Town company was made up of Thomas Golden, J.S. Rogers, Charles Fletcher, H.S. Hawley and W.G. Preston. The *Miner's Register* in October 24, 1862 gives Thomas Golden credit for naming the area Golden Gate. This document does not indicate that Golden Gate was named for Thomas Golden, only that Thomas Golden laid out the town and established a toll gate late in 1858 and is credited with the idea of the name, Golden Gate.

In September of 1859 the Golden Gate Town Company sent E.G. Sechrist, J.S. Rogers, H.J. Hawley, C.C. Post, S.E. Lincoln, and Alfred Tucker to the provisional territorial convention at Denver. Some say that Alfred Tucker's involvement in the Town Company and the buying of land at the mouth of the canyon eventually led to the demise of the town itself. Thomas Golden remained behind and prepared his campaign for County assessor of the new Jefferson County in the November election of 1859. (Golden would defeat Eli Carter 79 votes to 4).

This political choice for Thomas Golden could be construed to be self serving. As the first County Assessor Thomas Golden set the value of land throughout the region. Similarly, members of his town company attending the territorial convention certainly allowed the town company to protect their investments from surveyors sent by the Jefferson Territorial intervention. (The first official survey of Golden Gate City was not made until October 1, 1861 by Joel E. Hendricks).

In the same election for Jefferson County assessor, voters were asked to name the County seat. Sixty five votes were cast in Golden Gate while one hundred and sixty three were cast in Golden City. Throughout the summer of 1859, Golden City and Golden Gate City competed for all types of attributes.

On December 7, 1859 the Jefferson Territorial Legislature gave approval for the incorporation of the Golden Gate Town Company. The Legislature gave permission for Thomas Golden and his Company to lay off six hundred and forty acres into blocks and lots and then sell the land. On this day Golden Gate City was officially recognized by the Territorial Legislature. The Company was allowed to sell lots for \$500.

Two miles south of Golden Gate City George West and his Boston Company set up business on Clear Creek. West can be credited for naming Golden City due to its "golden opportunities," a feeling he had when he first arrived in June of 1859. This scenario is more credible than believing Thomas Golden had enough influence to cause a rival town company to name their community after him.

In the final analysis, the conclusion can be reached that the name "Golden" and "Golden Gate" in identifying towns in Colorado history did not come from the respect shown one particular business entrepreneur in 1859, but that the business entrepreneur was involved in naming "Golden Gate" based upon his beliefs in commerce—and had nothing to do with the naming of "Golden."

After 1861 Thomas Golden disappears from Jefferson County history. Where did he go? What happened to him? Why did he leave?

Thomas Golden's hotel business failed. Alfred Tucker took over the toll gate at

the mouth of the canyon. No significant farming took place along the road from Golden City to Boulder City. Thomas Golden did not live in Colorado in 1870. Census research puts Thomas L. Golden back in Knox County, Kentucky in 1870 at a town called Flat Lick. Living with him is his wife, Mary, age 52 and three children; Mary, age 16, Amanda, age 14, and Moses, a boy, age 12. Surrounding his farm are properties owned by other Golden's which by age could possibly be his children. Stephen III, age 33 with his young family. In nearby Barbourville, Kentucky, other Golden's lived in 1870,

George, William, Stephen, and Farris. Did Thomas L. Golden return to his family in Kentucky and spend the rest of his life as a farmer? It appears so.

Historians give their attention to Thomas L. Golden and his contribution to the Golden area. He did have an impact. However, Thomas was not the only "Golden" who came to the Pike's Peak region looking for gold in 1859. The 1860 census of Golden City shows J.G. Golden, a 21 year old miner from Maryland, living in Golden City. It is more probable, but not likely, that Golden was named for this young prospector from

the east coast. Keep in mind, however, in this same census, there is no mention of Thomas L. Golden of Kentucky.¹

¹ Information sources for this article include Georgina Brown's *Shining Mountains*, *The Miner's Register*, and *Golden, the 19th Century*. Legal documents to support this opinion are found in the Colorado Historical Society, the Federal Records and Archives and the Colorado State Archives, including the quick claim deeds in the Manuscript Collection No. 23. Family information on Thomas L. Golden was obtained from a great-great-grandson of Thomas L. Golden who resides in Peoria, Illinois, and who visited Golden some years ago. Further research on Thomas L. Golden as well as other Jefferson County pioneers is underway by the Historical Commission and discovered information will be published in future issues of *Historically Jeffco*. This article was contributed by the Editor.

Know all Men by these Presents
that we Tho^s L Golden H. P. Hawley Mahlon
Davis Lewis Connolly Leander Jinks U Belford
have this day made a claim for an
addition to the town of Golden Gate
bounded as follows Commencing at
the North West Corner of Golden Gate
running thence North eighty rods thence
East one hundred and Sixty rods thence
South eighty rods to the North East corner
of Golden Gate thence west to the place
of beginning and containing eight acres
more or less and we have laid a foundation
for a house on said tract of land with
the intention of building and occupying
the same
Golden Gate Nov^r 26th 1859

Jefferson County Historical Commission

Box 659

Morrison, Colorado 80465

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage

P A I D

Permit No. 148
Golden, CO