

Lincoln County Stockmen's Ass'n

"For the Promotion and Protection of the Livestock Industry"

Lincoln County, Colorado

AUGUST 1, 1966

KARVAL, COLORADO



DEAR MISS GILPIN,

SINCE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY STOCKMAN'S ASSOCIATION WORKING ON THE HISTORY OF THE GROUP IN CONNECTION WITH THE COLORADO CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CENTENNIAL YEAR OF 1967. THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION WAS ORGANIZED IN 1898, BUT IN TELLING THE STORY OF THE CATTLE INDUSTRY IN LINCOLN IT SEEMED NECESSARY TO GO BACK TO THE EARLY RANCHES OF THE COUNTY, WHICH WERE OPERATING DURING THE OPEN RANGE AND PRE-HOMESTEAD DAYS.

MY SOURCE FOR THE HISTORY OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY STOCKGROWER'S ASSOCIATION AND THE EARLY RANCHES, HAS BEEN THE FILES OF THE "RANGE LEDGER", ESTABLISHED IN 1891 AND THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STOCKMEN AND WOOLGROWERS ASSOCIATIONS. IN ONE OF THE PAPERS OF 1897 I FOUND AN ITEM ABOUT BERNARD GILPIN, JR., FORMER OWNER OF THE "1st" RANCH NEAR SANBORN IN LINCOLN COUNTY. KNOWING THAT THE RANCH HAS BEEN IN THE FAMILY OF SAMUEL ALTMAN SINCE 1898 AND THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY, I FOUND IN THE COURT HOUSE RECORDS THAT BERNARD GILPIN, JR. AND BROTHER FRANK OF THE MARYLAND LAND AND CATTLE CO. HAD SOLD THE PROPERTY TO BENJAMIN F. NEWCOMER OF BALTIMORE WHO IN TURN SOLD IT TO MR. ALTMAN. WHEN I WAS IN COLORADO SPRINGS LAST WEEK I CALLED MR. HOMER JONES, MR. ALTMAN'S SON-IN-LAW AND HE TOLD ME THAT YOU WERE THE DAUGHTER OF FRANK GILPIN. I REMEMBERED YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY FROM WHEN I WAS AT COLORADO COLLEGE IN THE '30'S AND SO GOT YOUR ADDRESS FROM THE JACKET OF YOUR LATEST BOOK SO I COULD WRITE TO YOU TO ASK IF YOU CAN ADD ANY INFORMATION TO THIS HISTORICAL PROJECT.

I KNOW THAT THE "1st" RANCH WAS ORIGINALLY OWNED BY DOCTOR SANBORN FROM ABOUT 1876. I THINK, AND BELIEVE IT WAS ACQUIRED BY THE MARYLAND COMPANY ABOUT 1883 OR 84. I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT ANYTHING ABOUT SANBORN OR WHERE HE CAME FROM, EXCEPT THERE WAS CAMERON SANBORN AND JEREMIAH SANBORN WHO HAD HOMESTEAD PATENTS ON SOME OF THE WATER SECTIONS, AND I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE OF THEM WAS DOCTOR!. ANYTHING THAT YOU MAY HAVE HEARD ABOUT THIS FROM YOUR FATHER OR UNCLE I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, OR IF YOU COULD REFER ME TO ANYONE ELSE WHO MIGHT KNOW MORE DETAILS IT WOULD HELP ME.

I HAD ALSO BEEN WORKING ON THE GILPIN NAME TRYING TO CONNECT IT IN SOME WAY WITH WILLIAM GILPIN, THE FIRST TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR OF COLORADO IN 1861. HIS BIOGRAPHY HAD VERY SKETCHY GENELOGICAL REFERENCES ABOUT ANYONE ELSE BUT HIM, BUT I FINALLY FOUND THE BERNARD GILPIN FAMILY OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND AND THEY WERE INDEED DESCENDED FROM THE SAME ENGLISH ANCESTORS. ALL VERY ILLUSTRIOUS.

I AM ENCLOSING MATERIAL EXPLAINING THE COLORADO CATTLEMEN'S CENTENNIAL PLANS AND THE BRAND BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED FOR THE YEAR SO THAT IF YOU WISH TO CONSIDER A MEMORIAL TO YOUR FATHER OR UNCLE YOU WILL KNOW OF THIS OPPORTUNITY. THEY CERTAINLY WERE OUTSTANDING PIONEERS IN THE CATTLE INDUSTRY IN COLORADO. I AM ALSO ENCLOSING A SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR YOUR USE IN SENDING ME ANY HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE RANCH DURING THE PERIOD THEY HAD IT, *or before*.

VERY TRULY YOURS, *Mr. Jack Owen*