



GEORGE S. GREEN
Rancher & Politician

George S. Green assumed the office of Jefferson County Commissioner in March 1940, when he was appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy until an election was held. He was elected to fill the term and was re-elected two more times.

The decade he served the county was one of the most pivotal in its history. The New Deal directives of the Depression and the federal regulations of the World War II period directly affected Jefferson County during his tenure. Commissioner Green help to implement the first peace-time draft and facilitated the building of the Remington Arms factory. The arms factory, now the Denver Federal Center, was successfully completed in little more than six months.

Completely dedicated to serving the county, George Green turned over the operation of his ranch to his son Kenneth and daughter-in-law Lela. The area he represented was the mountains of Jefferson County where he was very conscientious, knowing each road and every road worker. This assignment was made more difficult by the manpower shortage of the war and the rationing of gasoline and tires. Early in his political career, he anticipated the post-war growth of the county. The aging 1878 Court House, the original county seat, would no longer be adequate. Fiscally responsible throughout his tenure, he encouraged budgeting monies for a new building. The second Jefferson County Court House was completed in 1953 and served the needs of the county for 40 years.

This Golden Gate rancher, who entered the political arena at the age of 59, earned a reputation of impeccable honesty from which he never wavered. A true pioneer of the West, he spent many years in the saddle and was a self-made man. His dedication to the community did not cease after his death. Through the arrangements of his son and daughter-in-law, 2900 acres of pristine Colorado beauty in Gilpin County were deeded to the Golden Gate Canyon State Park, with a provision that it be called the Green Ranch. The land he loved and cared for is his legacy for generations to come.