

The Radio Range at Site 32, in Medicine Bow, was the last station to be put into service. This completed the transcontinental route between New York and San Francisco. Prior to building the transcontinental route there were beacons placed every three miles across the country. By completing the transcontinental route, it allowed pilots to fly at night and in bad weather. They did this by listening to a succession of coded signals that were transmitted from each radio range.



Photo 33: Office building looking SW (Steve Wolff-

Originally the ranges were controlled by the Bureau of Commerce, Lighthouse Division, and manned by Airway Keepers. Mr. Wolff stated that, “Your father, Edwin, was one of these Keepers and figures prominently in the Medicine Bow Range.” Steve went on to say, “They [Keepers] had an extremely important job as many of a pilot’s life depended upon accurate and timely information made available by the Keepers.”



Photo 34: SW corner of the field with boundary cone, U.S. boundary marker and stanchion for wood field markers. (Steve Wolff-2006)

His praises also brought to light that in the event of an emergency, the Keepers were required to render all assistance available, including gassing the plane, feeding the pilot and passengers if any, and providing accommodations if necessary, (which my father did very well). This is all an important part of U.S. history and these ranges were the precursors to the modern Flight Service Stations.

It is Mr. Wolff’s desire to see that Site 32 be restored to its 1930 condition.



Photo 35: SW corner with boundary cone and lamp socket. (Steve Wolff-2006)