

THE STORY BEHIND THE NAME “FRISCO”

In 1875, a scout named Captain Henry Learned attached a sign to a cabin declaring this area “**Frisco City**”. His intention was to draw a railroad line into the area, which was already slated to be a vital stagecoach stop serving the transportation needs of pioneers and miners.

Henry Learned, a railroad agent representing the State of Colorado, was hired by rail companies and stakeholders who had interests in expanding railroad lines to the West. One capital stakeholder was the *St. Louis-San Francisco Railway*, a.k.a. **The Frisco Line**, incorporated in 1876.

“**Frisco**” was not named after San Francisco, CA. The name Frisco was derived from a combination of letters associated with the *St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company*:

the “**F R**” from FranRcisco the “**I S**” from St. Louis the “**C O**” for ComPany,
which produced...**F R I S C O**

This *Frisco Line*, originating in Missouri, never made its way into Frisco, Colorado. It eventually ran south and ended up in Frisco, Texas instead. By 1882, two different railroad companies did service Frisco; the Denver, South Park & Pacific (D. S. P. & P.) and the Denver & Rio Grande (D. & R. G.).

Captain Henry Learned stayed in the area and went on to serve as a prominent community leader in Frisco.

Brief Timeline:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1875 | Captain Henry Learned selects “Frisco City” as a town site for the <i>Frisco Line</i> . |
| 1879-1880 | Town of Frisco incorporated -“City” was dropped |
| 1882 | Two railroads establish lines through Frisco; the D.S.P. & P. and the D. & R.G. |
| 1885-1900 | Learned begins his service in public office as Frisco mayor, and also serves as school board member, notary public, justice of the peace, post-master and as a store proprietor. |