

White Grass Dude Ranch

100 Years of White Grass History Part Two of Three

Created in 2015 by
Roger Butterbaugh, Ph.D.

Coordinator, the White Grass Heritage Project
2013-2022

White Grass Resident Caretaker, 2011-2018

The Philadelphia Connection

Tucker Bispham, Poet – His Father was a Physician
Galey Family was Prominent Family with Money



Frank Galey had Three Sister who
Married and Had Children – They
Came to the Ranch Often & Brought
Friends; Many Later Worked at the
Ranch; and Brought Their Children
Who Would Later Work at the Ranch

East Meets West



July 1955 - A TRAIN TRIP from Philadelphia - Chicago to Rock Springs, Wyo.



The Allure of the West

Freedom

Adventuresome

Simplicity

Rugged Individuality

Horses

Wide Open Spaces



The Mysticism of Nature

Communion with Large Animals

To Leave One's City Self Behind

White Grass Dude Ranch

And, It was Family Time



White Grass Dude Ranch

And, Being with New Friends & Old



White Grass Dude Ranch

And, Learning about One's Self - Who Am I?



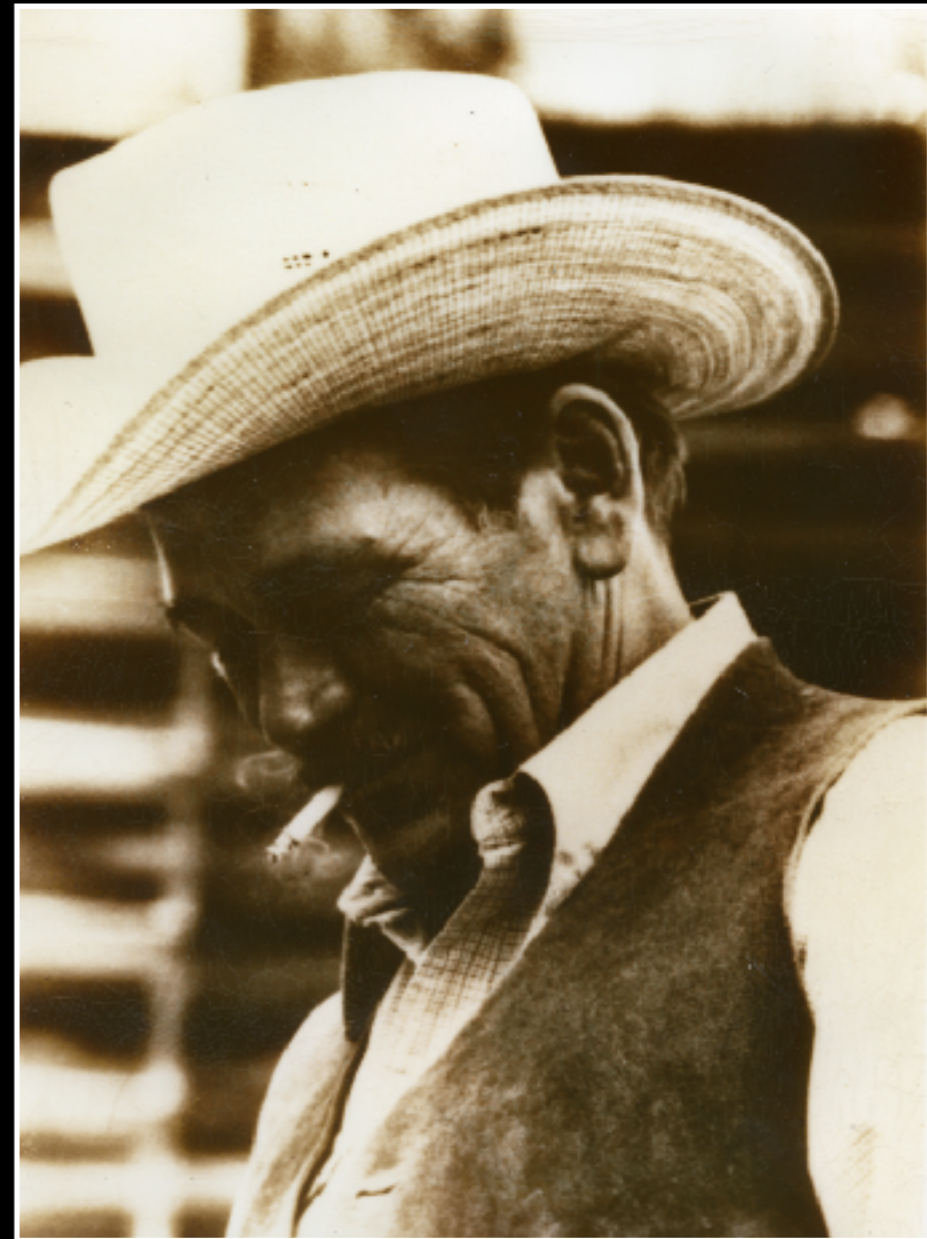
White Grass Dude Ranch

- DUDE RANCH 1913–1985
- NPS & THE WESTERN CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 - 1985 – 2003
 - 2003 – PRESENT
- WHITE GRASS HERITAGE PROJECT
 - 2013 – PRESENT

White Grass Dude Ranch

White Grass Ranch Owner,
Frank Galey, Died in 1985 and
the White Grass Dude Ranch
ceased operation.

Grand Teton National Park
took Control of the Property.



White Grass Dude Ranch



“Sadly, our favorite place, White Grass is gone. Its owner of many years, Frank Galey, whose parents had the ranch before him, died (1985) and the National Park Service has taken over the land. The ranch will be missed, and most of all, Frank Galey.”

Bill Shout, Anchorman,
KCAS, Los Angeles

Los Angeles Times, 1986

White Grass Dude Ranch

Jackson Hole News

BUSINESS & Sports Wednesday, September 18, 1985



This bidder gets down to the serious business of checking horse's mouth. Sixty mature horses were offered for sale.

White Grass Ranch auction big event

By George Gladney

It was one of the major events, and maybe the event, of the season, if numbers are used in determining such things.

As you drove into the large meadow temporarily marked as a "parking area," you would have thought Bruce Springsteen was preparing to do a concert. There were people whose only job was to flag their arms to point motorists down as side

vice in Afton estimated at the end of the busy weekend that more than 1,500 persons stopped in at the ranch, either to buy or just to get one last glimpse of the White Grass. Blue sky and warm sun helped, too. "There's no question a lot of former guests were here," said Frome. "And there were a lot of former guests who couldn't be here but who had others bidding for them—for a saddle

last," the auctioneer explained. "It should have been a three-day auction but we didn't feel we could get people back for the third day," he said.

Saturday was devoted to sale of items in the buildings, as well as mechanical items and farm implements. For the most part, Frome said, the prices bid were roughly equal to market value and much of it was salvage.

White Grass Dude Ranch



NPS Auctioned the Barn in 1985 for \$1. It was Dismantled, Resold, & Restored by Carole and Norm Hofley at their home in Wilson, WY. The Barn, while at White Grass was not Placed on the National Register.

White Grass Dude Ranch



Frank Galey's Cabin was Destroyed by a Suspicious Fire Five Months after his Death.

White Grass Dude Ranch



The Messler Cabin

Burned to the Ground, Perhaps by Hunters

White Grass Dude Ranch



My desire was "that the entire area (of the Ranch) would revert to the natural part of the park, which would mean the buildings would be removed or allowed to fall down on their present site"

Jack Stark, Superintendent
Grand Teton National Park

White Grass Dude Ranch

Between 1985 - 2003, The National Park Service Removed from the White Grass Ranch the following:



The Archway
at the Main Gate
& the Guest
Driveway up to
the Main Cabin

White Grass Dude Ranch

Removed Shop Buildings, the Wranglers' Cabin,
a small Recreation Hall & all Remnants of the Tent Cabins



White Grass Dude Ranch

Removed the Drinking Water Source, all irrigation ditches to the Meadow, the Swimming Pool & drained Lake Ingeborg



White Grass Dude Ranch



Cabin 1155 in 2003

Under Two Grand Teton National Park Superintendents,
the Remaining Structures Deteriorated, 1985 - 2003

White Grass Dude Ranch



What was once the Girl's Cabin,
now is Referred to as 1154

White Grass Dude Ranch



Once Called the Triple Cabin
Now Called 1160 A, B, & C



White Grass Dude Ranch



Main Cabin - Exterior,
Roof & Foundation

White Grass Dude Ranch



Main Cabin
Kitchen



White Grass Dude Ranch

“In 1989, the Park completed Section 106 Compliance for Removal of 14 Structures at White Grass and Determined that 13 Cabins were Eligible for the National Register . . . Over the course of the 1990’s, the remaining 13 Cabins Deteriorated to the Point where Restoration seemed Hopeless.”

Quote from Peaks, Politics & Passion by Robert W. Righter, 2014

White Grass Dude Ranch

- DUDE RANCH 1913-1985
- NPS & THE WESTERN CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 - 1985 - 2003
 - 2003 - PRESENT

White Grass Dude Ranch

Agents of Change - "People Who Act as Catalyst for Change"

George Couros

There were many Agents of Change who converged to Preserve, Protect, and Rehabilitate the White Grass Dude Ranch. They include:



Al Williams, NPS, Western Center For Historic Preservation, Project Manager of White Grass Rehabilitation - "A Man Who was Saving Old Buildings Before Saving Old Buildings was Cool."

White Grass Dude Ranch

And More, White Grass Agents of Change . . .



Former White Grass Dude, Wranglers and Special Friends Consistently Challenged Park Superintendents to Save Important Cultural Resources, i.e., White Grass Ranch.



Sheila Bricher-Wade, SHPO Officer Who Challenged the Park to follow the Regulations as Stated in the National Preservation Act, 1966.

White Grass Dude Ranch

And More, White Grass Agents of Change . . .



Barb Pahl, National Trust for Historical Preservation whose Campaign Raised \$970,000 for the Rehabilitation at White Grass



Carole Hofley, Teton County Historical Preservation Board which Helped Organize Local Support to Preserve Park Cultural Resources.

White Grass Dude Ranch

100 Years of White Grass History

End of Part Two of Three

Created in 2015 by
Roger Butterbaugh, Ph.D.

Coordinator, the White Grass Heritage Project
2013-2022

White Grass Resident Caretaker, 2011-2018