Aurora, CO

Buckley Air Force Base

City of Aurora Web Site

http://www.auroragov.org/AuroraGov/index.htm

The city originated in the 1880s, as the town of Fletcher, taking its name from Denver businessman Donald Fletcher who saw it as a real estate opportunity. He and his partners staked out four square miles east of Denver, but the town - and Colorado - struggled mightily after the Silver Crash of 1893. At that point Fletcher skipped town, leaving the community with a huge water debt. Inhabitants decided to rename their township Aurora in 1907, and it slowly began to grow in Denver's shadow becoming the fastest growing city in the United States during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

In 1942, the Army Air Corps built Buckley Field, which over the course of time has been renamed Naval Air Station, Buckley Air National Guard Base, and finally Buckley Air Force Base. The base, home of the 460th Space Wing and the 140th Wing Colorado Air National Guard, is Aurora's largest employer.

Aurora is split among three counties and lies distant from the respective county seats. A consolidated city and county government was considered in the mid-1990s but failed to win approval by city voters. The issue was reconsidered in 2006.