

## FREMONT COUNTY

(The information written below was taken from some old books in the Courthouse. A lot of things have changed since then. I am not sure exactly when it was written but until the last census was taken around 1991, the city of St. Anthony had 3212 people.)

Fremont County was created January 4, 1893, the first after Idaho became a State.

Elevation: ranges from 4,900 to 10,500. This high point Mount Sawtell located west of Henry's Lake flat.

Area: 1852 square miles

Population: as of 1960, 8489. St. Anthony, the county seat with 2,700 and Ashton with 1,240.

Villages: Parker, Newdale, Teton, Marysville and Drummond.

Fremont County Courthouse was build in 1909. (corner stone on the east front wall outside courthouse.

Bordered on the north by Montana, on the east by Wyoming, the west by Jefferson County and the south by Madison and Teton Counties, all of which were at one time Fremont County.

Rivers: Big Springs, which rises near Yellowstone National Park, is the source of the North Fork of the Snake River, which flows almost the length and breath of the county. Teton River, forms the south border between Fremont and Madison County.

Forests: Nearly half of the county is covered with forest. The largest sale of lodge pole pine ever made by the Forest Service, was to the Idaho Stud Mill, in 1960, this mill was located in St. Anthony until it was torn down in 1994.

Another large part of the county is waste land, being lava breaks, in which are located numerous ice caves; huge underground tunnels formed by the cooling of the lave flows, that successively covered the valley floor, then another large strip of land one mile wide, and thirty miles long, called the "sand hills" wind-driven golden banks of sand, ten to a hundred feet high, all that remains of the once great Lake Bonneville.

One third of the county is agricultural, highly productive, and it is within this region that is located the famous "Egin Bench", the world's largest sub-irrigated tract. Water from the North Fork of the Snake River and it's tributaries furnishes water for surface irrigation, and of recent years, deep wells provide sprinklers with water to cultivate the rolling hills, which were once only planted to wheat and grain crops.

At St. Anthony is located the Idaho Youth Training Center. St. Anthony is the gateway to Yellowstone National Park, which is 83 miles north east (East Entrance) through which passes the bulk of travel to the most famous of all parks.

The first expedition to visit this area was that of Captain Andrew Henry. In 1810 he built Fort Henry on the North Fork of the Snake River about 5 miles from St. Anthony.

Fremont County boasts about the longest main street in the United States which runs through Island Park Village a distance of 27 miles.

Fremont County has more recreational area than any other in the State, offering skiing, fishing, hunting, boating, swimming, gold, ice skating, sand hills, ice caves, etc., The Merchants and Chamber of Commerce each year the opening day of the fishing season, give a Free Breakfast to everyone stopping by on their way to the streams, lakes and rivers. Sometimes serving as many as 10,000 a year.

A State Fish Hatchery is located at Henry's Lake and also at Ashton, Idaho. The summer population of the county swells to about 25,000 with folks spending week ends and vacationing in the beautiful Island Park recreational area.

\*\*\*\*\*

