

Your Name

Mr. Larson

Intermediate Computers

July 4, 1776

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- Make at least 10 words bold and 10 words italic.

Idaho History

Early Idaho History

The region occupied by present-day Idaho was originally part of the Oregon Country, a vast tract claimed in the early 19th century by the United States, Great Britain, Spain, and Russia. Indians indigenous to the area included the Shoshoni, Bannock, Nez Percé, Pend d'Oreille and Kutenai. The region's first white explorers were the Americans Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in 1805-6. Fur traders from several countries soon followed, and built trading posts at Lake Pend Oreille and a branch of the Snake River. The British assumed complete control of the area during the War of 1812, but in 1818, agreed to joint occupation of the region with the United States. Spain, and Russia relinquished their claims to the Oregon Country in 1819 and 1824, respectively.

British and American commercial rivalry in the Oregon Country was resolved in 1846, when the two countries concluded a treaty recognizing American jurisdiction over the entire region south of the 49th parallel. Two years later Idaho was made part of the newly organized Oregon Territory.

Large-scale immigration to Idaho began in 1861, following the discovery of gold in a tributary of the Clearwater River. In 1863, the U.S. government declared the region consisting of present-day Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and parts of South Dakota, North

Dakota and Nebraska as Idaho Territory. The territorial economy expanded steadily during the 1870s and 80s. Raising livestock became a major industry, railroads were constructed and new, rich mineral deposits were discovered. Between 1870 and 1880 various Indian tribes, resentful of encroachments on their ancestral domains, attacked Idaho settlements. Federal troops suppressed the uprisings, and the Indians were ultimately confined to reservations. On July 3, 1890, Idaho became the 43rd state of the Union.

Idaho's Middle History

Already a leading silver state, Idaho began to develop a major commercial lumber industry in the late 19th century. Federal irrigation projects turned large desert tracts into arable land, creating an agricultural boom during World War I. During World War II Idaho produced large quantities of food for the armed services.

Although agriculture has remained central to Idaho's economy--the state ranks first in the nation's potato production--a post-World War II population shift from rural to urban areas reflected Idaho's industrial expansion. In 1951, a nuclear reactor testing station in Idaho Falls generated electricity from atomic power for the first time in history. By the mid-1970s, this station had become an important national engineering laboratory under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Idaho Today

The Gem State has traditionally been known for its agricultural, forest and mineral resources. By the 1990s, however, services and manufacturing had supplanted agriculture as the state's leading economic sectors. Tourism is one of the state's fastest growing industries; visitors are drawn for the outdoor recreation activities and key

attractions include the Sun Valley ski resort; Hell's Canyon, the deepest gorge in North America; the World Center for Birds of Prey; and parks, including Craters of the Moon, Lava Hot Springs, Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

Famous Idahoans include politicians William E. Borah, Frank Church and Fred T. Dubois; Mt. Rushmore sculptor Gutzon Borglum; writer Ezra Pound; Sacagawea, a Shoshone woman who traveled on the Lewis & Clark expedition; Olympic skier Picabo Street; and actress Lana Turner.

Fun Facts

Want to know what it's like on another planet? Try Idaho's Craters of the Moon National Monument. Strange porous, volcanic rock, dotted with steam vents and caves, makes it look out of this world!

The famous explorers Lewis and Clark were the very first non-Indians to visit Idaho. In 1805, Clark started down the Salmon River, but he turned back after 50 miles of churning white water and sudden turns.

Idaho's Hell's Canyon is North America's deepest river gorge, even deeper than the Grand Canyon. The gorge is 10 miles wide, and its floor plunges nearly 8,000 feet below the Devil Peak in the Seven Devils Mountains.

The Annual Idaho Spud Day is celebrated every year in Shelley, paying homage to the state's most famous export, the Idaho potato.

Idaho's treacherous Salmon River is known as the River of No Return.

The famously spotted Appaloosa horse was first bred in the area that is now known as Idaho by the ancestors of the Nez Perce people.

From Idaho's Heaven's Gate Lookout in the Seven Devils Mountains, visitors can see into four states--Washington, Oregon, Montana and, of course, Idaho.

In 2005, the town of Santa, Idaho, agreed to change its name for one year to SecretSanta.com in return for a \$20,000 fee.

White sturgeon are the largest freshwater fish in North America--the largest ever, weighing in at 1,500 pounds, was taken from Idaho's Snake River, near the town of Weiser, in 1898.

"The States." July 4, 1776. <http://www.history.com>.