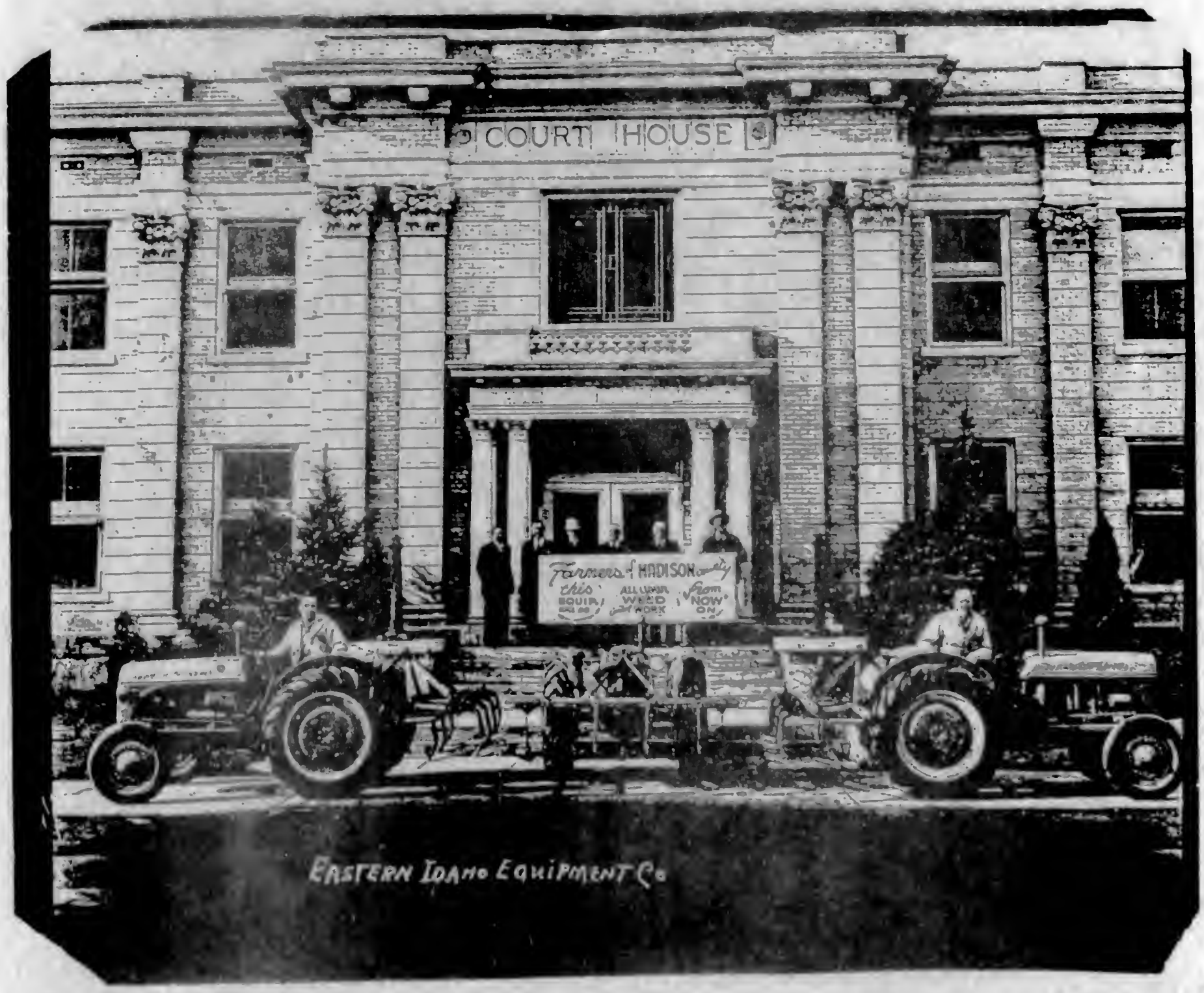
MADISON COUNTY

1913 · 1990



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URTHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

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PREFACE

The idea of compiling and printing the centennial yearbook of Madison County was conceived as a fund raising project and as a tribute to the people of the county. It was decided to highlight people and events in the first one hundred years of the current Madison County area. The funds from the sale of the book will be used in the restoration of the Madison County Courthouse.

Construction on the courthouse was started in July of 1919. C. A. Sundberg was the architect and Charles Zollinger was the contractor. The courthouse was a beautiful building. No expense was spared in the decoration and furnishings. It was completed to the point that the county offices and records were moved into it by mid-December, 1920. In was not completely finished until 1922.

The restoration of the courthouse would rescue one of the states distinguished buildings from further deterioration and misuse. It represents a period in our state's history when there was a tremendous amount of optimism and growth. It is one of the outstanding county courthouses in the state. So many of our buildings constructed in a bygone era have been destroyed and are gone forever. We would like to prevent this from happening to the courthouse.

This will be a lasting contribution to the Centennial of Idaho Statehood. It will be a tribute to the great men and women who struggled to provide opportunities for our generation and others that will follow. We hope it will stimulate pride in our people for the excellent quality of life which exists in Madison County and be a permanent reminder to those of the second hundred years, to cultivate the standard of living which we now enjoy.

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the following members of the Madison County Courthouse Restoration Committee for their dedication to this project:

Madison County Courthouse Restoration Committee:

County Commissioners:
- Doyle W. Walker
- Bruce B. Webster
- Moses Dell Barney
- Reed B. Sommer

General Chairman: Mary Lee Wolf

Committee:
- Keith L. Bentzen, PA
- Collared, Beyeler & Bentzen-Consulting Architect
- Kent Jolley, Fundraising Chairman

Committee Cont.

Randall D. Sutton, Fundraising Chairman
Dick Davis, Construction Consultant
James Long, Landscaping Consultant
Alyn Andrus, Idaho State Centennial Representative
Louis Clements, Madison County Centennial Rep
Don Rydalch, Fundraising
Richard F. Smith, Fundraising
Lee Boyle, Fundraising
Garth Flamm, Fundraising
John C. Porter, Fundraising
Richard Bird, Design Consultant
T. L. Mcrae, Design Consultant
Bernice Ricks, Centennial Yearbook
Norman Ricks, Centennial Yearbook
Brent Kinghorn, Ricks College Community Affairs
Judge Harold Forbush, Historical Consultant
Brent Bell, Window Replacement Consultant

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Madison County Courthouse Restoration

The idea to restore the courthouse evolved rather informally in a discussion one day. The more we talked about it the more enthusiastic everyone became. It was chosen as our Idaho Centennial Project because of its historical significance to the county and the state and timely need of repairs to the building. The building is one of the few historically significant structures in Madison County. It is listed on the National Register of Historical Buildings. Studies have shown it is structurally sound and will continue to meet the functional needs of the county government way into the next century.

A space utilization study was conducted by Keith L. Bentzen of the Architectural and Engineering firm, Collard, Beyeler and Bentzen of Idaho Falls. His opinion was that the building would meet the county needs now and in the future. He describes the courthouse as a "fine historical building" and suggests adjusting the work areas and reclaiming potential office space which is currently used as storage. This building will require higher maintenance and operation costs than a new one but, a new building alternative seems impractical with estimated construction replacement costs of 1.5 million dollars.

During the first year of our project we "tested the water" by questioning different groups in the county about their support with both time and money. We felt a great deal of enthusiasm from young and old, clubs, private individuals, families, etc. This is a project that we, as citizens of Madison County, can all relate to. The courthouse belongs to each of us. We all have our own personal memories of the part the building has played in our lives. This project combined the efforts of all of the people of Madison County in a variety of activities to achieve a common goal. The money spent to restore the courthouse to its original beauty has certainly had a lasting benefit and permanent value to the county and the state. We would not only like the building to look nice, we would like people to feel they are in a special place when they come here. We would hope they would feel respectful and proud of their heritage. The courthouse restoration and maintenance is an ongoing project that will transcend our lifetime and be carried on by our children's children.

The emphasis for the courthouse restoration project has been on the exterior of the building. The exterior is highly visible. We felt, if our efforts were successful, public support would be generated for further work on the interior. Funds were raised so the work could progress in a timely manner once we began.

In the fall of 1990, Zundel Tree Service removed four large spruce trees from the front entryway of the building. Immediately following this, county work crews washed the building with high pressure hoses. We had been in contact with Lloyd Sorenson, a restoration expert from Sandy, Utah. He and his crew used a variety of chemicals to remove paint from the brick and clean it. Loose paint and grime were also cleaned from the masonry and terra cotta. This thorough cleaning brought out the beauty of the brick as it originally appeared.

Work stopped for the winter while we made plans for the following year. In the spring

of 1991 Bowen Masonry repointed the brick at the top of the building. This was an extensive job as some of the brick had fallen off the chimney and were ready to fall off the walls. Lloyd Sorenson returned to stain the brick that couldn't be restored by cleaning. Dean Wilson Plastering and Drywall repaired the concrete cap at the top of the building and patched the foundation to prepare it for painting. The type and color of paint was chosen very carefully. We needed a tough coating that would wear well as well as look nice. A color sample was painted on one of the pillars as a final check before the application. Chapple Painting and Decorating worked with us to achieve a soft, monochromatic appearance reminiscent of the original building.

Saurey Construction poured the footings and replaced the abutments on the sides of the steps. They were built with a cap on top like the originals. After the concrete work was finished Bowen Masonry cleaned and repointed the granite steps in front of the building. These steps had replaced the original ones at the time of the Teton Dam Flood. They are a different style than the originals but, the granite is very durable and expensive. We tried to achieve a pleasing proportion to the entryway by adding footings to the sides. We ordered decorative period style lights to replace the original ones that many of us remember on either side of the steps. These were installed in February, 1992. Leishman Electric was the contractor.

The landscaping contract was awarded to Jerry Merrill of Merrill Quality Landscapes. He suggested plantings that would provide seasonal color and be in scale to the building when they reached maturity. The work included laying pavers by the steps and concrete edging around the beds. This was completed the summer of 1992.

At this time the work in progress includes: replacing the outer windows, covering the sills and restoring the large leaded glass window at the front of the building.

Mary Lee Wolf

MADISON COUNTY CENTENNIAL EVENTS

There are many events being sponsored around the Idaho Centennial theme. The following activities are the major events that happened or are happening in Madison County during the 1990, one hundred year, celebration of the founding of the State of Idaho.

We have concentrated on "lasting legacy" events. These are events that will last far beyond the Centennial year. These projects are: Restore the Tabernacle Organ, Restore the Rexburg Carousel, and Restore the Madison County Courthouse.

Other events include the Rexburg Post Office Stamp Cancellation, historical programs, Centennial Ball, Centennial Whoopee Days, Centennial Lion's Club Breakfast, and the Idaho International Centennial Folk Dance Festival.

Idaho's birthday will be well celebrated in Madison County for many years to come.

Louis J. Clements
Madison County Centennial Committee Chairman

IDAHO

Idaho has a tremendous and diverse history. The very size and shape of the state would suggest a variety of histories in each area and would convey a more complete story than a general history would. However, this history is a preface to the more complete history and yearbook of Madison County and will, therefore, be general and brief.

Idaho has had its share of Indian stories, mountain man adventures, lawmen and outlaw clashes, and pioneer building. From Lewis and Clark exploring in 1804–1806, to the first American Fur Post west of the Rocky Mountains at Fort Henry in 1810, to missionaries in the early 1830's, to the fur trapper rendezvous in Teton Valley in 1832, to the downfall of the fur business, to the first permanent settlers in Idaho in Franklin in 1860, to the discovery of gold in 1861 in Northern Idaho, to the Nez Perce War with Chief Joseph in 1877, to the general settlement. We have had it all.

There were three main reasons people came to Idaho after the fur trapping and exploring era. They were mining, religion, and farming. The miners came in 1861 beginning in Northern Idaho and also settling Western Idaho. The Mormons came from Utah to Eastern Idaho in the 1880's in large numbers. The southern part of the state was settled in the early part of the 1900's when the Carey Act opened large areas of desert land for farming and supplied water for irrigation.

Idaho has a fascinating history. Many books have been written on the varying aspects of the state. The reader is encouraged to search out the areas of interest to become more knowledgeable about our great State in its Centennial Year.

Louis Clements

MADISON COUNTY

At the time Rexburg became a community, Madison County was a part of Oneida County which had been organized January 22, 1864, with Soda Springs as the county seat. Later the county seat was moved to Malad City. County business was conducted there until Bingham County was created on January 13, 1885, with Blackfoot as the county seat. The Rexburg area remained in Bingham County until March 4, 1893, when Fremont County was created. This new county embraced the territory which would subsequently be divided to form the additional counties of Clark, Jefferson, Madison, and Teton.

Madison County was created by an Enabling Act of the Idaho Legislature on February 18, 1913. It was the thirty-third county of the state. At the time of creation, its eastern boundary extended to the Wyoming line and included Teton Valley. The leading legislators agreed that the territory would be separated to organize Teton County in the next legislature. This was done in 1915, resulting in the present boundaries of Madison County.

Though the legislature had passed the law providing for the creation of Madison County and the governor had signed the bill, the people needed to approve. Accordingly, an election was scheduled for November 7, 1913, to give the voters a chance of approving or rejecting what had been done. All of the voters of the then existing Fremont County were eligible to vote. The final vote was 1760 votes in favor of creating the county and 793 against. In Rexburg, 912 votes were cast and only seven voters disapproved of the creation of the county.

On November 8, the day after the election, the governor had proclaimed the creation of Madison County. A big celebration was held in Rexburg. A program was held in the tabernacle and over five thousand people attended. A big barbecue was served and two steers, six pigs, six lambs, and two thousand loaves of bread were prepared for the activities.

Governor Haines appointed the first officials of Madison County on November 14 as follows: John Taylor of Sunnydell, J. K. Orme of Sugar City, and R. G. Meikle of Clawson, County Commissioners; John Hegsted as auditor and recorder; Conrad Walz as assessor; Harry Randall as treasurer; Oliver C. Dalby as county attorney; I. N. Corey as sheriff; L. T. Perry as county school superintendent; and Ed W. Stacy as coroner. These officials entered in upon the performance of their duties on January 5, 1914.

One of the first needs that faced the new county was to provide housing for the officials. Facilities were leased in the old Webster-Winter building on East Main (upstairs above the present day businesses of Bowen Music and the Subway.) A portion of the premises had been previously occupied by the Commercial Club. The old dance hall in the building was made into a court room and public and private offices were provided for all of the officers. A jail was built at the rear of the building with four cells.

By December, 1920, the attractive and well-built courthouse seen today on the corner of East Main and Second East in Rexburg was finished. Charles J. Zollinger was awarded the contract for this structure which cost approximately one hundred twenty thousand dollars.

The average elevation in the county is about five thousand feet. The county experiences cold winters with heavy snow. The summers are warm with cool nights and the fall season is an especially pleasant time. In 1920 the population of the county was 9,167 which was increased to only 9,186 twenty years later. In 1959 the number of families was 2,030 with a median annual income of five thousand, four hundred and seventy dollars. In 1960 there were 9,417 people in the county. The 1970 census showed 13,452 residents in the county and in 1980 the census showed the population to be 18,667 in Madison County.

Louis Clements

REXBURG

Rexburg observed her Centennial celebration in 1983, one hundred years after the original townsite had been surveyed by Andrew S. Anderson. This was seven years before Idaho was granted statehood. Rexburg was established by Mormon pioneers coming here from the Cache Valley area. Thomas E. Ricks was sent to colonize the new country by William B. Preston, his LDS Stake President. Details regarding the history of the Rexburg and Upper Valley settlement can be found in a number of history books. It is not the purpose of this report to get into detailed settlement history but instead to highlight the events that have made Rexburg the community it is today. The Rexburg community owes much to the spirit of cooperation that was evident when the first pioneers reached the valley. They banded together to build homes, business buildings, schools, churches, and irrigation systems. This cooperative spirit of successful Mormon colonial policy has continued throughout Rexburg's history and is still evident today.

Rexburg was organized as a city on April 7, 1903. Henry J. Flamm was named the first mayor. He was succeeded two years later by John L. Jacobs. The new city administrations had the usual problems, streets needed to be built and maintained and law and order was a problem on Saturday nights when folks from the surrounding areas came to town and visited the three or four saloons. Also, stray animals roaming the town damaging gardens was a problem. The city fathers managed these problems rather well and they also planned for the future -- in 1906 a proposal was put before the people to have the city install a centralized water system. This plan met with approval and that same year a bond to fund the water system was approved by the voters. Work was soon started to serve nine city blocks but before it was completed another ten blocks were added which would serve all the settled areas of the city.

Rexburg has always been a progressive community. The first post office was established in 1894. Thomas E. Bassett was the postmaster. A sawmill was started in 1883 by William F. Rigby. The first bank was opened in 1901, by Ross J. Comstock and was called the First National Bank. Rexburg's J. C. Penney Store was opened in 1910 and it was the seventh store opened by Mr. Penney.

Concrete sidewalks were first installed in 1913. The first paved streets were installed in 1917 to 1919. The sewer system was installed in 1919. This progressive spirit has continued throughout the century. Today Rexburg has a population of 12,500 and is the tenth largest city in Idaho. The city has 50 miles of water mains. The sewer system totals over 35 miles and serves all areas of the city. The city has three reservoirs with a storage capacity of 3.25 million gallons of pure water pumped from underground. The pumps have the capacity to pump 7.5 million gallons daily. The waste water treatment plant can treat 5.5 million gallons of waste water per day. The city has forty miles of paved streets.

Rexburg has 60 acres of developed parks providing a variety of recreational opportunities with picnic areas, baseball and softball fields, soccer fields, football fields and tennis courts. The city also operates a heated swimming pool and water slide. The park system features a large Carousel which has been designated as the Idaho Centennial Carousel.

Two golf courses are operated by the city. The Municipal has nine holes and the Teton Lakes Course has 18 holes. A new park to be in operation this summer will feature walking and

jogging paths, a natural fishing lake and picnic areas in natural settings.

Agriculture is the economic base of the community with grains, potatoes, and livestock. Industry connected with agriculture is also important to Rexburg. There is a large Basic American Foods potato processing plant in the county along with a number of fresh pack operations. Louisiana-Pacific operates a sawmill in Rexburg using the Douglas Fir timber stands in the Targhee National Forest to provide dimension lumber products.

Rexburg was the first headquarters for Diet Center, an international health and weight control franchise business. A mail order printing firm, Artco, is located in Rexburg and employees over 500 people.

Unique to Rexburg is Ricks College. This two year college has an enrollment of 7500 and is the largest two year privately owned college in the United States. It is owned and operated by the LDS Church. Its large campus features modern and well equipped teaching facilities including a large agricultural experiment farm.

The city government of Rexburg is made up of a mayor and six councilmen. Through the years each administration has been progressive and active in improving the business and social life of the community. With the dedication of a new City Hall in 1985 the following code was adopted which has been followed since the city was founded. It follows:

As an administration we strive for the following goals:

1. To provide a city administration that serves all the people's wishes and reflects credit to the community.

2. We will strive to promote public relations between the city government and the business people, civic groups, and individual citizens with full cooperation between these groups with elected officials and city employees.

3. Provide a press relations program that keeps the public informed of city problems, projects and policies. This will enable citizens to provide informed advice to their city officials.

4. Relations with adjoining cities and all other governmental agencies should be good. Cooperation is needed for maximum advantage and harmony to effect savings and planned progress.

5. City governments should follow a planned program that recognizes the limits of practical planning and zoning, yet which aims at balancing the city's needs with its land use.

6. As a city administration we are ever aware that we are responsible for the well being of all the people who live in Rexburg, operate businesses, and above all, raise families.

One other unique claim to fame for Rexburg is the fact that it is a "dry" city. It is the only city in Idaho with a population over 5,000 where liquor by the drink is prohibited. This makes us different. We are not prudes and we are tolerant of others, but we do take pride in being "Idaho's Dry City."

Rexburg looks forward to the next 100 years.

Mayor John C. Porter

REXBURG'S MAYORS

Henry Flamm	1893	James W. Webster	1907	David W. Stowell	1937
Nathan Ricks	1895	Thomas E. Ricks	1909	Joseph DeMott	1943
G. W. Woodvine	1896	Robert G. Archibald	1911	Joseph M. Parkinson	1949
Jacob Brenner	1898	Nathan Ricks	1913	Wayne M. Smart	1951
John L. Jacobs	1899	Fred S. Parkinson	1915	J. Fred Smith	1953
G. W. Woodvine	1900	Nathan Ricks	1917	A. E. Archibald	1958
A. C. Hess	1901	John L. Balliff, Jr.	1919	Gilbert Larsen	1959
W. N. Stephens	1902	R. G. Archibald	1921	Alois H. Brock	1966
Jacob Henry Flamm	1903	Lorenzo Y. Rigby	1923	Henry Shirley	1970
Eli McEntire	1904	Peter Mickelsen	1927	John C. Porter	1974
John L. Jacobs	1905	Arthur Porter, Jr.	1929	Nile Boyle	1990
Hyrum Dewsnup	1906	Harlo B. Rigby	1935		

CLERKS

A. L. Blackburn	1893	Albert Heath	1917	Gilbert McKinley	1946
A. M. Carbine		Ray Garner	1919	Loretta M. Rigby	1948
A. M. Carter	1901	George Liljenquist	1921	Albert Smith	1965
George Emery	1904	James Blake	1927	Beulah Johnson	1967
A. L. Blackburn	1905	Tom Richmond	1933	Afton Anderson	1973
W. E. Gee	1909	Edna S. Dietrich	1935	Rose Bagley	1978
J. C. Anderson	1911	Edna P. Hegsted	1937		

REXBURG CITY HALL

The village of Rexburg was incorporated by the County Commissioners of Fremont County on July 11, 1893. The following were appointed as the first Board of Trustees: Henry Flamm, Chairman; T. J. Winter, Orson Wallman, Nathan Ricks, and James M. Cook. In 1903 the village status was changed to a city with Henry Flamm elected Mayor.

May 20, 1908, a committee was appointed to seek better quarters for the City Hall. They leased rooms under the First National Bank for two years. Early in 1909 a contract was awarded to build a new City Hall on North Center Street across from the new tithing office.

The city canal was surveyed on March 15, 1883. By 1907 the City had established the first municipal water system with a well located at Second East and First South. A second well was put into operation in 1950 and in 1960 a third municipal well was drilled on the hill near the reservoir. By 1913 the City had ten miles of paved sidewalks which connected the main business houses and the residential areas. The Rexburg sewer system was laid in 1919.

When the Post Office moved from the Grover Hemming building the City Hall moved to that location. After an explosion from a gas leak the City was forced to move to the Art Porter building. In February 1985 a new building was constructed on the old site where the present City Hall is now located.

The first Fire Department was housed in a lean-to on William Bell's Blacksmith Shop property. When the City Hall moved into the Hemming Building the old City Hall was remodeled and made to house the fire station.

Morgan Garner

SUGAR CITY

Sugar City was not settled in the typical way most other communities were in the area. Sugar City came into being because of an organized plan of the Idaho Sugar Company. The area that was to become the city had been homesteaded by Willard Ricks and C. B. Valentine. Most of the business in the area was conducted in Salem or Rexburg.

In 1903 a group of businessmen in Salt Lake City, Utah, organized the Sugar City Townsite Company and purchased a plot of three hundred and twenty acres of land directly adjacent to that purchased by the Sugar Company. They then donated the land to the public for its use as a town. The plat for the Sugar City townsite was recorded on December 5, 1903.

The sugar factory was completed and ready to receive beets in the fall of 1904. While the factory expanded with buildings the town was laid into block and lots.

The LDS Church reported, "By the close of 1904, there were thirty-five houses, two stores, a hotel, an opera house, and several rooming houses; also, two lumber yards, a meat market, and a nine thousand dollar schoolhouse."

Mark Austin supervised the planting of more than five thousand trees in the town during the first four years. A ten acre circular park was laid out for sports and other forms of gatherings.

The Townsite Company built the first structure to be used as a public building in the center of the town. This building was called the Havemeyer Building and also the Opera House. It was a two story edifice with a department store and drug store facing the south and the telephone exchange and post office facing the east. The upper floor was occupied by an opera house, dance hall combination. The first and only newspaper, the Sugar City Times, was also in this building.

The first store built was the Sugar City Cash Store in 1904. Violet M. Wallis was appointed postmaster on June 6, 1904, to become the first officially appointed postmaster in Sugar City, Idaho. The Fremont County Bank began in 1904 with a capital of ten thousand dollars. Shortly after the Sugar City Furniture Company was organized and commenced doing business in 1905.

The town was incorporated as the Village of Sugar City on January 8, 1906. By then there was a magnificent school building built at a cost of ten thousand dollars and a beautiful stone meeting house and chapel at a cost of nine thousand dollars.

The Sugar LDS Ward began in 1904. It was divided in 1935 to two wards which were reunited in 1945. In 1968 the ward was again divided.

The Sugar Factory closed down in 1942 due to the decrease in beet acreage. Many of the buildings were torn down. In 1943 the old hotels which had been built by the company were used as a German Prisoner of War Camp. The camps closed in 1946.

Of recent years, the erection of new public buildings and establishment of other city improvements, have demonstrated anew the deep and genuine civic pride which have characterized Sugar City during its history. City status was achieved in 1967.

Louis Clements

SUGAR CITY'S CHAIRMEN-MAYORS

Thomas Austin	1906	John Wilding	1952
Alfred Ricks	1907	Emery Thomas	1955
J. W. Phillips	1919	LaMar Barrus	1961
Alfred Ricks, Sr.	1924	Glenn W. Dalling	1968
J. M. Smith	1927	Lawrence Grover	1972
Charles O. Hamilton	1929	Lyle Moon	1976
Leffel A. Bean	1931	Rondo Barrus	1988
J. Kenneth Thatcher	1947		

CLERKS

J. T. Worlton	1906	Henry Eddington	1922
Fred J. Heath	1909	Rondo Barrus	1951
J. W. Stoker	1919	Margarita Ball	1988
Conrad Sorensen	1920		

POSTMASTERS

Violet M. Wallis	1904	Christian Schwendiman	1922
Mons H. Anderson	1905	Ezekiel Holman	1934
Lavina A. Williams	1905	Lloyd Luke	1955
D. Rolla Harris	1917	Charlene McLain	1985

TETON FLOOD

The most physical devastation to visit Madison County in its short history was the collapse of the Teton Dam and the ensuing flood.

There had been interest in using the Teton River Canyon for a power source and water storage beginning in 1904. Several sites were checked out but by 1962 the main emphasis was on the present location. Actual work began in 1972 with a 1976 finish date anticipated.

The reservoir began to fill in the fall of 1975. The earth-filled dam was 1,690 feet thick and 305 feet high. At the top, it was 35 feet wide and 3,050 feet long. The reservoir was 17 miles long and was almost completely full in June.

On June 5, 1976, a leak was observed at 7:45 a.m. coming from the right abutment near the bottom of the dam. By 11:57 a.m. the dam was breached and the full force of the 80 billion gallons of water was unleashed upon the valley below.

The official cause of the dam failure was the leakage of water through the canyon walls back into the interior of the dam causing erosion of dam material. This weakened the interior of the dam and allowed the pressure of the water in the reservoir to erode the dam further. When the dam was breached the reservoir water washed out the northern part of the dam clear to the bottom of the dam.

Approximately 300 square miles of the valley was inundated. The waters flooded 80 miles until it was contained by the American Falls Reservoir. There were eleven lives lost attributed to the flood. Major damage occurred in the towns of Sugar City, Rexburg, and Roberts. Between 16,000 and 20,000 head of livestock were lost. Thirty-two miles of railroad were damaged. Three thousand acres of farm land were destroyed completely. Property damage was estimated to run to nearly four hundred million dollars.

Louis Clements

MADISON LIBRARY DISTRICT HISTORY

On September 22, 1920, a group of civic minded citizens met to discuss the establishment of a public library. John L. Balliff, Mayor of Rexburg, was present and presided over this meeting. The original committee was made up of Mrs. S. H. Abbott, Mrs. L. F. Rich, Mrs. C. W. Poole, Mrs. C. A. Walfrom, and Mrs. Parley Nelson.

The County Commissioners gave the use of two connecting rooms in the Courthouse to be used for the library. The Commercial Club donated tables and chairs and the City Council voted to donate $25.00 a month to be used for the Librarians salary. Schools conducted a book drive under the direction of Mrs. J. S. Webster. Books were inspected and catalogued. Mrs. Parley Nelson was appointed librarian. On December 28, 1921, with 500 books on its shelves, the library was opened to the public.

With a growing number of books and growing use of the library, it was obvious a separate building was needed. The City of Rexburg donated a lot next to City Hall on North Center and on March 28, 1960, ground was broken for the new building. This building was dedicated February 22, 1961.

June 5, 1976, this building was destroyed by the collapse of the Teton Dam. Following the flood , library service was set up in the Ricks College Library. In September, the library was moved to a remodeled room in the City Hall building.

The new and present library on the corner of 73 North Center was dedicated on July 27, 1978. Since the construction of this building circulation has greatly increased as well as services.

Morgan Garner

ORIGINAL REXBURG TABERNACLE

The idea for a tabernacle was presented to the Fremont Stake Presidency by a group of distinguished citizens in April, 1910. The proposal was presented at the Stake Priesthood Meeting, Saturday, April 9th and approved. There was a difference of opinion as to where it should be constructed but the present location was $4,000.00 less than a Main Street location so it was accepted.

Contractors were requested to bid and when the bids were opened May 26th, F. L. McGrew of St. Anthony was the low bidder at $19,808.00. He was awarded the contract and began construction May 27, 1910. The contract called for construction to be of native stone. The building was to be completed by October 15, 1911. The funds for the building were provided by local donations. It provided a large meeting place for church, civic, educational, and community meetings. The basement was often used as a dance hall and/or banquet hall.

The Teton Dam Flood ended the Tabernacle's use by the L.D.S. Church which sold the building to the City of Rexburg for $50,000. Again local donations plus a government grant provided funds to renovate and restore the building. Today it houses the Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society Museum in the basement and serves for community functions. In the renovation process the city was able to have the building listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Norman E. Ricks

REXBURG POST OFFICE

On April 1, 1884, a Post Office was established in Rexburg. Thomas E. Bassett was the Postmaster. Prior to this time the mail had been delivered to Egin and anyone passing there brought mail to friends in Rexburg. The new Post Office received mail directly from the train at Market Lake and it was delivered by a pony express system from there.

December 31, 1885, James H. Murphy was appointed Postmaster. November 9, 1886, Walter Paul was appointed Postmaster. November 14, 1887, Mary M. Dye was appointed Postmistress and held this position for approximately five years. The Post Office was located in her home.

In 1916 the Post Office was located next to Wrights Meat Market on East Main Street. It was later moved to the corner of College and Carlson Avenue in the South East corner ground level of the Idamont Hotel Building. It then moved into the Grover Hemming building on North Center Street present location of City Hall and then moved into the Dave Withers building on the corner of First North and 2nd East. From there it moved into the building they now occupy at 140 South Center in June, 1976.

Morgan Garner

REXBURG'S POSTMASTERS

Thomas E. Bassett	23 Jan 1884	Post Office was in his home.
James H. Murphy	31 Jan 1885	Post Office was in his home.
Walter Paul	09 Nov 1887	Post Office was in his home.
Mary Dye	14 Nov 1887	Post Office with the school house, Mary lived in part of the school house.
Thomas E. Bassett	22 Apr 1893	Post Office was in his home.
Daniel Hopkins	26 Apr 1897	Post Office established on Main Street, where Valley Bank is now.
Dora Clegg	11 Mar 1901	Same building.
Lorenzo Y. Rigby	27 Jan 1914	Post Office moved to Idamont Hotel building corner of College and Carlson Avenues
Samuel P. Oldham	30 Jan 1923	Same building.
George A. Hoopes	acting 24 Apr 1935, assumed charge 04 May 1935	Same building.
Willis J. Lyman	assumed charge 05 Aug 1949, confirmed 21 Dec 1950	Post Office moved to North Center Street.
Ephraim Willmore	assumed charge 31 Dec 1962	Same building.
Parlette W. Peterson	acting 19 Jul 1963, confirmed 20 Dec 1963	Same building.
Lorin Widdison	assumed charge 27 Jan 1967, confirmed 08 May 1967	Post Office moved in 1975 to Second East while the present post office was being constructed. The post office was moving in June 1976 when the Teton Dam broke.
Bill Scouten	07 Jan 1984	140 South Center.

MADISON COUNTY SCHOOLS

The intense bitterness that had developed between the Mormons and Anti-Mormons in Idaho in the 1880's caused the Saints to be unwilling to send their children to "gentile schools." As early as 1884, the L.D.S. people organized a private school in Rexburg where their children could be taught by their own people. Non-LDS, who did not want their children to attend these schools, had to send or take their children to one of the surrounding communities.

RICKS COLLEGE

On June 8, 1888, Wilford Woodruff, the Chairman of the Church Board of Education of the L.D.S. Church, recommended to the President of the Bannock Stake in Rexburg that a local Board of Education be formed for the establishment of a local Academy. Jacob Spori was the first principal of the school which opened in the First Ward Church Building on November 12, 1888. It was called the Bannock Stake Academy.

The Stake changed its name in 1898 to Fremont. The school's name was changed at the same time. Thomas E. Ricks passed away in 1901 and it was suggested by the First Presidency of the Church that the school be named after him. It was named Ricks Academy on March 5, 1902.

The rock building (Spori) was completed in 1903 allowing the school to move from rooms in the community to the one central location. In 1915 college courses were added to the curriculum making Ricks Academy the first junior college in the Intermountain Region.

Another name change came in 1918 when the school was known as the Ricks Normal School. The new gym building to the west of the existing rock building was dedicated on November 22, 1919.

The Depression hit the Rexburg area hard. Financial woes caused the Church to abandon monetary support of Ricks in 1930 and brought an offer to give the school to the State of Idaho. This problem caused much concern to the community during the 1930's. The offer was finally withdrawn.

The future of the school was in considerable turmoil as it became a four year college in 1948 and then went back to a two year school in 1954. In 1956 the Kirkham Auditorium was finished and put to use.

In 1958 came the announcement that Ricks College would move to Idaho Falls. Not since the offer to give the school to the State of Idaho had such a notice brought such an emotional response from the community. Letters and delegations were exchanged between the Upper Valley and the headquarters of the Church. Finally came the announcement in 1961 of a building program to commence at the college property in Rexburg. This ended the attempts to move the school.

Expansion continued periodically until the present campus was achieved with about 7500 students enrolled in 1990.

MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Prior to the creation of Madison County in 1913, the schools were administered by Fremont County authorities. All of the small rural schools of this vast area of Eastern Idaho had an educational curricula which extended from first to eighth grades.

Unlike most other school districts in Idaho, the Rexburg Class A Independent District No. 1 (Madison County #321) did not have a graduating class of seniors until the spring of 1930. They did have a two year high school program beginning in 1923. The large number of Mormon families in the community took advantage of the Ricks Academy for their high school years. Students finishing the eighth grade prior to 1923 went directly to the Ricks Academy. After 1923 they moved to the Academy after their tenth year.

The phasing out of the juniors and seniors from the college began in 1927. This was the first year the school had football and the basketball team took the state championship being led by Conley Watts.

The 1947 legislature of Idaho enacted laws to implement a state-wide program for the reorganization of the schools of the state. At this time there were four Independent districts in the county with three high schools and fourteen large and small common school districts. Two Class A School Districts were proposed for the county rather than a single county unit. This opinion was based on the conviction that a large majority of the people in the Sugar City area were for two independent districts. This plan was submitted to the state and they approved the creation of the two districts.

The first business for the new District 321 was to build a new high school in Rexburg. They tried unsuccessfully during the early 1950's to pass a bond for the new building. It finally passed in October of 1953. The high school was dedicated in 1955 and consisted of fourteen classrooms, a library, a gym, and administrative offices.

In 1960 additional classrooms were added linking the gym building with the classroom section providing badly needed classroom space and office facilities. In 1963 the Industrial Arts wing was added to provide badly needed classroom area.

An attempt was made in 1966 to consolidate the Madison County and the Sugar City Districts into one unit. The proposal was presented to the voters in each of the school districts and at the polls. The Sugar City voters soundly rejected the proposition.

As a result of the vote, the Madison School District took the initiative and purchased a thirty acre tract of ground adjacent to the northeast city limits of Rexburg. The voters of the district approved the issuance of bonds for the major portion of the cost of constructing a new high school in the spring of 1972. It was completed in the fall of 1973.

Since this time there have been many remodeling projects in the district. Several of the elementary buildings have been added to. The roof of the Hibbard Elementary collapsed because of heavy snow and had to be replaced. The latest addition was to the high school. A new gym and several classrooms were added and put in use at the beginning of the 1989 school year.

The ninth grade began school as a part of the high school in the fall of 1989. The addition of more classrooms to the high school began in the spring of 1990.

SUGAR-SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

The first students in the Sugar City and Salem area went to Salem to school as early as August, 1890. The Park School was erected in 1904 at a cost of $10,000.00. It was so named because of its location in the large park in Sugar City. It housed the first high school in the county. Enrollment was so high that by 1906 some classes had to be moved to a room in the bank building.

There were schools in Moody in August, 1900, and at Edmunds in February, 1986. In 1908 a large rock building was built west of the railroad tracks. By 1914 it had reached the requirements of the State of Idaho to become a standard high school. The name given to this school was "Sugar-Salem High School." It was this same year in which the first class graduated having completed a full four year curriculum.

In 1916 the high school was moved to the upper floor of the Townsite Building. Eventually the high school occupied the whole building. During the years, improvements were made. A gymnasium was added.

In 1939 an auditorium was bought for the high school for one dollar. It was the old bank building.

In 1953 the Rock Elementary building burned down. The building was only partially covered by insurance but the community rose to the occasion to provide more classrooms.

In 1966 a very modern elementary school building was built in the eastern part of the town. This building was destroyed in the Teton Flood in 1976. In its place was built the Thomas D. Kershaw Intermediate School dedicated in 1980.

Added to the high school complex in 1967 were the bus shop and an industrial art building.

Tremendous growth in the population of the schools in the 1980's created the need for more buildings. A new high school was dedicated on July 14, 1989 in the southeast corner of the town.

Louis Clements

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

L.D.S. (Mormon) Church

The Bannock Ward was created on December 18, 1882, as a part of the Cache Valley Stake. Thomas Edwin Ricks was chosen bishop. This was the largest ward in the whole Church at that time. The boundaries of the ward extended north, east, and west of the mouth of the Portneuf Canyon.

The ward status was changed to a stake on February 4, 1884. Bannock Stake was created then with Bishop Ricks named as the Stake President. On April 27, 1884 the Rexburg First Ward was the first to be organized in the new stake. The following communities existed at that time and were made wards within the new stake: Lewisville, Menan, Lyman, Teton, Wilford, Iona, Parker, and Salem.

The Bannock Stake continued to grow and expand during the next decade so that by 1890 there were twelve more wards and three thousand, eight hundred and sixty-one people in this stake of Zion. A division of the stake took place during the conference on June 9, 1895. The territory south and west of the forks of the Snake River was organized into the Bingham Stake leaving the northern part as Bannock Stake.

The Bannock name was changed to Fremont Stake on August 6, 1898. The newly created stake south in Gentile Valley was to get the name of Bannock. The name Fremont came from the early explorer. The continued growth of the Church population in the Fremont Stake (Rexburg) resulted in further divisions with the Teton Stake being created on September 2, 1901 and the Yellowstone Stake on January 10, 1909.

A proposal to construct a tabernacle in Rexburg was made on April 7, 1910. The building was to be sixty by one hundred and twenty feet and would cost twenty-five thousand dollars. It was dedicated on January 7, 1912.

Although the headquarters of the stake had always been in Rexburg, the name of the stake continued to be Fremont. This caused some confusion as the Fremont Stake was located in Madison County and not in Fremont County. To solve this problem the name was changed to the Rexburg Stake on June 23, 1935.

Ten years later, on October 28, 1945, owing to an increased stake population, it was divided into the Rexburg and North Rexburg Stakes. Further divisions have created the Rexburg East Stake on June 1, 1975, the Sugar City Stake on May 4, 1980, and the Rexburg Center Stake on October 24, 1982.

The above five stakes are the home to thirty-four wards of approximately four hundred persons each. There are also four stakes and thirty-three wards to serve the students of Ricks College.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

The St. Patrick's Catholic Church is located at 38 South Third West in Rexburg. In August, 1901, Samuel Ricks gave a portion of his property at the above address to the church and shortly after a building was erected. In 1967-68 the former church was torn down and immediately replaced with a new and attractive edifice located in the same place. The church provides adequate facilities for the Catholic membership in the valley.

Jehovah's Witnesses

The Rexburg Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses was organized in the middle 1940's, when members from the counties of Teton, Fremont, and Madison commenced to meet at Rexburg. The site for a regular meetinghouse was acquired and a one room log structure was erected in 1954 on South Fifth West in Rexburg. Since then a modern building has been built in St. Anthony to serve the needs of the valley members.

Rexburg Community Presbyterian Church

The members of the Rexburg Community Presbyterian Church meet in a historical brick building located on College Avenue and First South. Reverend James C. Garver was appointed by Kendall Presbytery in November, 1910, to serve the area. There were enough community members in Thornton by 1917 that they decided to build a building there to hold Sunday School. The Thornton church building was used on May 25, 1919, when the Thornton Congregation met for organizing. On August 12, 1962, the two groups merged into the Rexburg Church. At present there is a move to have this building listed on the National Register for Historical Sites.

Grace Baptist Church

The Baptist Congregation started meeting in Rexburg in 1976. The first Pastor was Jerry James. Richard Hartman is the present Pastor and their services are held at 262 North Second West in Rexburg.

Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church has been meeting for several years in the Catholic Church located at 38 South Third West in Rexburg. Reverend Ken Schaver of Ashton is in charge.

Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church

The Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church was started on the North Highway near Sugar City in 1987 by Reverend Randy Everett.

Louis Clements

CLUBS

Rexburg Lion's Club

Fifty years ago the Rexburg Lion's Club was chartered. The date was June 20, 1940. Charter members were: Floyd L. Adams, Walker W. Admire, John M. Anderson, James D. Barrett, Eldred L. Braithwaite, Howard M. Cullimore, Louis J. Woolsworth, Coleman B. Ensign, C. S. Green, Ross Harris, Burt O. Howard, Dan B. Hoopes, Joseph H. Horkley, Robert M. Kerr, Jr., Howard L. Levine, J. Harold Matson, Arthur M. Morris, T. Ray Payne, Ralph Peterson, Dr. Blair C. Rich, O. V. Robinson, Henry M. Shirley, John J. Skelton, William Burton Smead, Roland G. Weiser, and Irving A. Woodmansee.

This club has been a force in the development of many major community projects. Some of those which they initiated are fund raising for the Madison Memorial Hospital, the Rexburg Golf Course, the Rexburg Swimming Pool, shelters at the city parks and repairs and improvements to the rodeo grounds. They have raised countless amounts of money through their annual Lion's Club breakfast, Lion's golf tournament, and the various food booths at fairs and rodeos. They donate all money received to numerous community projects. Local projects of the Rexburg Lion's Club include: sight and hearing screening for school children; assist in or purchase of eye glasses and hearing aids for local residents; receive and donate eye tissue for cornea transplants and provide programs to schools such as "skills for adolescence" and "Patriotism."

Records indicate the following men have served as President: Burton Smead, Blair Rich, Coleman Ensign, Ferrel Nelson, Robert Archer, T. Raymond Payne, Roland Weiser, Edward L. Powell, Lavar Peterson, Rolland Lovgren, L. Eugene Peterson, Jesse Welker, Merrill Skinner, R. W. Purrington, Volney Oldham, Joseph Horkley, Carl Smith, Roy Summers, Charles Beesley, Reed Bell, Bill Weber, John Hasley, Glen Wood, Clinton Hoopes, Frank Webster, Dave Hall, Rex Ard, John H. Smith, Earl Hoopes, Jim Woods, Garr Gibson, A. Lyle Smith, Darrell Bell, Jim Howe, Verl Wilding, Robert Carlson, Don Ard, Ralph Huskinson, Tom Crosson, Dell Reed Carlson, Thomas Ricks, Bryce Bell, Garth Flamm, Steve Nelson, Bill Murry, Robert Carlson, Thomas Ricks, Paul H. Drake.

Five past presidents of the Rexburg Lion's Club have served as District Governors to Lion's International. They are: Roland G. Weiser, R. W. Purrington, Carl Smith, Rex Ard and Robert Carlson.

There is a saying in Rexburg "if you want to raise money for a project, give it to the Rexburg Lion's Club."

Rotary Club

The Rexburg Rotary Club is a member of Rotary International. Rotary International was organized in Chicago in 1905 by Attorney Paul Harris with the lofty aim of bettering the world through weekly community meetings and discussions.

Interest in forming a Rotary Club in Rexburg began in March of 1920 when Frank Turner and E. L. Walker were in Idaho Falls on business and unexpectedly met their mutual friend, M. B. Yeaman. Yeaman informed them that he was on his way to Boise to attend the Rotary Conference of District 20. He suggested that a club be organized in Rexburg and said that the matter could be presented to the Boise conference if they thought it was a good idea. Turner and

Walker were sure Rexburg wanted a club.

Returning home they contacted Ross J. Comstock and the three of them set about to recruit a representative group of Rexburg businessmen for membership in a Rotary Club. Comstock called Joe T. Young at the Boise conference and informed him of what was being done and Young, Yeaman, and Joseph Cardon then presented the application for a charter to the District conference. The application was accepted and the charter was granted.

The Rexburg businessmen who had expressed interest met and it was agreed that from them there be chosen 25 who would be charter members. This was done by picking the 25 who had been in business longest in Rexburg. The rest of the men were placed on a waiting list and were brought into the club, three each week, after the formal presentation of the charter. The group selected Ross J. Comstock as the club president and he held several meetings during the summer to discuss fundamental principles of Rotary in order for everyone to have an understanding of what Rotary was and what it stood for.

The first regular meeting of the club was held on September 29, 1920, in the W.O.W. Hall. At this meeting the Rotary Clubs of Pocatello, Blackfoot, and Idaho Falls were present. The charter presentation was made by Joe T. Young, a former Rexburg man, who was the District Governor of Rotary at that time. Thus the Rexburg Rotary became Club #749 of Rotary International and the first service club to be organized in Rexburg.

Over the years the Rotary Club has supported many good causes in the community. Annually they sponsor students to attend Boys and Girls State in Boise. They have donated money to health drives, restorations, community pride projects, the publication of the "History of Rexburg," as well as many other worthwhile projects.

One of their most notable accomplishments was the purchase of the property for Beaver Dick Park and its original development in partnership with the Madison County Sportsmen Organization. They also have added to the Rexburg City Parks with the building of a picnic shelter on the North side of Porter Park in 1973; the building of the Rotary Kiddie Park in Smith Park in 1983; and the construction of the Rotary Gazebo, also in Smith Park in 1987.

Rotary is a service organization whose reason for being is to provide substantive service in our communities and around the world. The club motto is "Service Above Self." Current membership in the Rexburg club is 55.

Charter members were: W. Lloyd Adams, attorney; John X. Anderson, grain elevators; Roscoe L. Bigler, druggist; Alfred E. Carlson, plumber; Ross J. Comstock, banker; Ralph J. Comstock; Haz C. Duffin, wagon & machinery; Henry J. Flamm, merchant & legislator; William E. Gee, banker; Victor W. Grace, garage; C. Arthur Harris, farm equipment; Ed J. Jacobs, contractor; Chris Jensen, general merchant & legislator; George R. Larson, music; Samuel P. Oldham, postmaster; Charles W. Poole, attorney; Hyrum E. Poole, oil business; Steve J. Skelton, meat market; Richard H. Smith, farmer, legislator; Clint Sundberg, architect; Abe M. Thorp, merchant; Ernest Thorton, car business; Esmond L. Walker, real estate; Joseph Walker, M.D.; James R. Young.

Rexburg Soroptomist Club

The Rexburg Soroptomist Club was chartered on May 27, 1957, under the sponsorship of the Idaho Falls Soroptomist Club, with 19 charter members. Annette Porter was the first president. Club presidents through the years have included 10 charter members.*

57-58 Annette Porter *
58-59 Viola Dick *
59-60 Yordis Wilding *
60-61 Vera Larsen *
61-62 Alice Tout
62-63 Ruth Henderson *
63-64 Helen Bauer *
64-65 Edith Thompson Peterson *
65-66 Mildred Thompson *
66-67 Maxine Prestwich
67-68 May Davenport
68-69 Yordis Wilding *
69-70 Darlene Blackburn
70-71 Carma Bird
71-72 Cara Newman
72-73 Myrle Engberson
73-74 Donna Ellis
74-75 Marilyn Sommer
75-76 Darleen Hollist
76-77 Betty Rowan
77-78 Iola Jeppesen
78-80 Marilyn Sommer
80-81 Ethel Mae Reese
81-82 Judy Davis
82-83 Rose Bagley
83-84 Colleen Roundy
84-85 Marilyn Fife
85-86 Mary Lee Hill
86-87 Elizabeth Bossard
87-88 Bettyann Ostertag
88-89 Judy Eckman
89-90 Joyce McBride
90-91 Patti Thibault

Meetings were held in the basement of the "Rainbow Sport Shop" on Carlson Avenue. DeWayne and Yordis Wilding owned the building and the shop. In the Fall of 1968 the meetings were changed to the Idamont Hotel. Meetings were also held at Stockman's Cafe, Walker's, Me 'N Stans and the Raintree. In the fall and spring following the flood of 1976, we held meetings in Mary Smith's office, brown bagging for lunch.

While meeting in the Rainbow Sport Shop basement, the luncheons were prepared by the members. The meals cost $1.25 and these funds were put into the general fund to be used on service projects. The club purchased a piano, dishes, and silverware which were used for the meetings. The club has been meeting in a variety of places including Golden Corral, Frontier Pies, Me 'N Stans and the County Library.

Service projects have been many, all of which include time, energy, and money given to the handicapped, the needy, the youth, and senior citizens. The first major project was a TV for Madison County Hospital. Other donations to the hospital included Christmas tree, Hoyer patient lift, refurnishing of foyer, $1000 for heart equipment, $500 for snack bar, and $200 to State Hospital in Blackfoot.

Through the years Rexburg Soroptomist Club has contributed to: Boise Childrens Home, Satellite Development Center, Opportunity and Retarded Schools, Madison Junior Miss Contest, Rexburg Senior Citizens, Ricks College Scholarship, Ricks College Student Loans, "Make it with Wool" Contest, Municipal Swimming Pool, Parties at Nursing Home, County and City sponsored Health Programs, Madison County Public Nurse Scholarship, BYU-Ricks Education Week, Madison High School signs and stage lights, Soroptomist Road Insignias in the city, record albums to schools, Crosswalk signs, Goodfellow Project, Handicap Ramps, Safehouse for Battered Women and Children, Nampa School for Retarded, Public Library, Johnstown flood victims, Musical Heritage Fund, The needy, Rapeline, Girls State, Fair Board, Merry-go-round, Beaver Dick Park, Jaycees, Rexburg Chamber of Commerce, Youth Training Center, and Centennial Carousel.

Community projects to which we've donated include City-County Library, Bleachers at Madison County Fairgrounds, Little League Baseball, Jr. League Bowling, Girls State delegates, Teen Town, Deaf Blind School at Gooding. We have helped as a club in community projects such as immunization clinics, annual community Bar-B-Que, Harvest celebrations, Red Cross blood drive, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, CARE, Industrial Training School, and the Stella Bell School for the Handicapped in Rexburg.

Each fall, about Christmas time, is the club's yearly efforts to administer, donate and receive donations for the Goodfellow Fund. The food, toys, and gifts donated or purchased with collected funds are distributed to needy families in the county.

From the first major project to the present, the club's activities and donations to the community projects have earned for them the reputation as an outstanding and effective service club.

Each year a scholarship is given to an outstanding young man or women called the Youth Citizenship Award. Another scholarship is given to a woman who is seeking to further her education called the Training-Re-Training Award. This award is given to older women who are going back to school and usually have a family to support.

The Ways and Means projects have been numerous with the rummage sale being the best money maker. A spring luncheon each year, fashion show, bridal shows, concessions at fairs, chili cook-off, craft bazaar as well as other small projects have helped to generate funds. A major project is the highly successful Christmas Home Show.

The Rexburg Soroptomist Club hosted the State meetings in 1964 and 1982.

Madison Lions

Madison Lions was chartered in August of 1983 by the Rexburg Lions Club and was originally planned to be Lions Monarch Club for those past Lions (and other members of the community) who are over the age of 60. While getting the members for the club it was learned that there were other people that would like to join. The charter idea was changed to have a morning club because it was a much more convenient time for members to get together.

Presidents over the years include: J. D. Hancock, 1983-84; Ron E. Moss, 1984-85; Jim Sessions, 1985-86; Dave Pincock, 1986-87; Michael Rowberry, 1987-88; George Quarez, 1988-89; Richard Bird, 1989-90; F. Martell Grover, 1990-91.

Projects that we have been involved in encompass Diabetic Screening, Miss Upper Valley Pageant, Picnic in Park, Fair Booth, Easter Hunt, Patriotic Essay Contest, Premier Movie Show, Building Stage at Tabernacle, Rexburg's 1990 Service Club of the year, and we also assisted with The Whoopee Days Parade, Red Cross Blood drawing, Goodfellows, Sight & Hearing Screening, and Radio Service for the Blind.

Meetings are presently being held at Heritage Manor Lounge at 7:00 a.m. on the first and second Wednesday of each month with board meetings on the last Wednesday.

Rexburg Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Rexburg, Idaho was chartered in November of 1958 with Richard L. Davis as its first president. Club presidents in the order that they served are as follows:

1959 - Richard Davis
1960 - Harold Hill
1961 - Gordon Thatcher
1962 - Weston Lawrence
1963 - Warren Porter
1964 - Tommy Miyasaki
1965 - Terrell Arnold
1966 - Blaine H. Passey
1967 - Ross N. Reese
1968 - Barton Jensen
1969 - Kay W. Beck
1970 - Nile L. Boyle
1971 - Joe Sellers
1972 - Keith Larsen
1973 - Charles Grant
1974 - Ronald Fife
1975 - Bill Jones, Alan Clark
1976 - Alan Clark
1977 - G. Farrell Young
1978 - Gary Archibald
1979 - David L. Crowder
1980 - David Adams
1981 - Kent Archibald
1982 - Jeff Walters
1983 - M. Rex Bennion
1984 - H. Brent Hill
1985 - D. Joshua Holt
1986 - Dean Dalling
1987 - Randall D. Sutton
1988 - Jerry Merrill
1989 - Ed Hill
1990 - Brian Korth, David Taylor
1991 - Jim Sipp

In the tradition of service clubs, the Rexburg Kiwanis Club has been a great asset and contributor to the area with community projects and financial assistance to many projects over the years, including the following: Helping create the sportsman park West of Rexburg, Erecting basketball standards at both city parks, Horseshoe pits at Porter Park, Helped construct the new library before the flood, Painted and helped maintain the picnic area at Smith Park, Sent students to boys and girls state from both Sugar-Salem and Madison School Districts on an annual basis, and Sponsored Circle K and Key Clubs at Ricks College and Madison High School.

Our current membership is 48 members. An interesting highlight during Richard Davis' administration (1959) is the fact that they were meeting at the old Idamont Hotel dining room at the same time Eleanor Roosevelt was registered there for a speaking engagement and she very graciously came and spoke to the club.

The Rexburg Jaycees

The Rexburg Jaycees was chartered on the 30th of August, 1948 as membership charter #2467. Jaycees was the shortened name of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce for young men between the ages of 21 to 36. In the seventies the age was changed from 21 to 18 through 36. Along with the equal rights movement at this same time, women were admitted to the Jaycees. Jaycees helped to teach its members leadership skills through community action projects. As you can see from the list of past presidents they are the leaders of today.

The following were presidents:

John A. Atkinson	1948-49
Howard Fritzpatrick	1949-50
Sterling Rich	1950-51
Jim Hadlock	1951
Ben Shirley	1952
Jerald Holley	1952-53
Vern Liljenquist	1953-54
Merlin Liljenquist	1954-55
Ted E. Ellis	1955-56
Robert Webster	1955-56

The following were projects:

Scoreboard at Porter Park
Handicap Olympics
Merry-Go-Round
Jr. League Baseball
Jr. League Golf
Jr. Miss Pageant
Goodfellows
Radio Days
Back Stops at High School
Fix up baseball dug outs

Terrell L. Arnold	1956–57	Farmer of the Year
Ted Walters	1957–58	Educator of the Year
Charles Zollinger	1958–59	Christmas Lighting Contest
Keith Larsen	1959–60	Businessman of the Year
Leon Searle	1960–61	Bag of Oranges Sales
Wallace Bell	1961–62	Drug Abuse Program
Harry M. Brunson	1962–63	Bicycle Safety Program
LeRoy Zollinger	1963–64	Built South Shelter at Porter Park
Terry M. Brunson	1964–65	Roofing Library Building
Frank Bell	1965–66	Miss Rexburg Pageant
Stephen A. Smith	1966–67	4th of July Food Booth
Ted J. Mortensen	1967–68	Back Stops at Parks
Ron E. Moss	1968–69	Patriotic Program
Ron Gibb	1969–70	1976 State's Best Club
John H. Magleby	1970–71	Two Henry Giessenbier Memorial Awards
Boyd H. Webster	1971–72	Haunted House
F. Martell Grover	1972–73	Funds for NRA Rifle Range
Larry Boehner	1973	Shopping Spree
Ron Gibb	1973–74	One National Young Farmer Winner
Albert Knutson	1974–75	Two State Young Farmer Winners
J. D. Hancock	1975–76	
Wendel Lewis	1976–77	
Stephen R. Bryant	1977–78	
Alan Gallup	1978–79	
Craig Byington	1979–80	

The charter was dropped in the summer of 1980 after 32 years of service to the Rexburg Community. Many great projects have been done by the Jaycees through the years. Some of these are still here today.

The Rexburg Civic Improvement Club

The Rexburg Improvement League, now known as the Rexburg Civic Improvement Club, was organized on September 22, 1920. On that date Mrs. S. H. Abbott and Mrs. Sarah Ahlstrom Nelson, recognizing the great need for a public library in Rexburg, recruited a number of interested women to attend a meeting at Mrs. Abbott's home. The club was organized with the express purpose of working for "a library and other civic improvements."

Mrs. S. H. Abbott, who became the first president of the club, had been a teacher before her marriage. She and her husband moved to Rexburg from Iowa and she soon became part of the community, working in the Presbyterian church as well as participating in civic affairs.

Mrs. Sarah Ahlstrom Nelson had moved to Rexburg with her husband, a medical doctor, from Manti, Utah, in 1918. She was a published poet and the recipient of several literary awards during her lifetime. With the establishment of the library the following year, Mrs. Nelson became the first librarian.

Other charter members of the club were Mrs. C. W. Poole, Mrs. T. P. George, Mrs. C. A. Walfrom, Mrs. John Hunt, Mrs. John X. Anderson, Mrs. W. W. Barker, Mrs. J. W. Butte, Mary M. Corey, Mrs. Frand Davidson, Mrs. W. H. Faucette, Mrs. Bliss Gee, Margaret George, Mrs. George R. Larsen, Mrs. Nathan Levine, Mrs. John F. McMahon, Mrs. L. W. Nims, Mrs. Charles Proctor, Mrs. Homer Reed, Mrs. L. F. Rich, Mrs. H. A. Roemish, Mrs. Ray Tompkins, Mrs. P. O. Thompson, and Mrs. Roy Yearsley. Joining within the year were Mrs. J. S. Webster, Mrs. E. O. Fitton, Mrs. O. M. Engdahl, Mrs. George W. Worthen, Mrs. W. H. Walker, and Mrs. Ed Ricks.

The first library in Rexburg was formally opened on December 28, 1921. This was the beginning of the work of the Civic Club. To add books to the library, each year they held cooked food sales, card parties, and in 1927 they started what became an annual rummage sale. This sale which lasted for a whole week became well known and was looked forward to by people in the community. It raised an annual income for the club of about $350 – pretty good for those days – and this money went to support the library.

In 1928, the group voted to join the General Federation of Women's Clubs. This was a logical union as the General Federation has been responsible for the establishment of 75% of the public libraries in the United States. Having them as a parent organization helped the Rexburg club which continued for the next thirty years as the chief source of revenue and management for the Rexburg public library.

In 1955, when it became possible to receive matching federal funds to build library buildings, the Rexburg Civic Club, under the chairmanship of Mr. K. S. (Lola) Webster, determined to raise the money to do this. For their efforts in this project, the club received national recognition from the Federation.

In fulfilling its two-fold purpose, the Rexburg Civic Improvement Cub has been involved in a great many projects for civic improvement, most notably the beautification of downtown Rexburg with planting of trees and flower beds. In 1978 they sponsored Mrs. LaMar (Ruth) Barrus as Idaho Mother of the Year, a contest which she won and in which she competed nationally. They initiated the writing of "History of Rexburg" by Dr. David Crowder in 1983 and did much of the collecting of historical material that went into that book. They sponsor an annual Art and Poetry Contest in the local schools, giving many school children the opportunity to compete in a statewide contest. They have been active in services to the senior citizens as well as to the young people of the area and were co-sponsors and contributors to the shelter for battered women when it opened in Rexburg.

In 1989-90, as a Centennial project honoring both the Idaho Centennial and the Centennial of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the Rexburg Civic Club has restored the vandalized pipe organ in the Rexburg Tabernacle Building at a cost of over $25,000.00. After being in storage since 1978, this fine instrument is once again in use in the beautiful and historic building.

The Rexburg Civic Improvement Club is open to all women in the area. At present they have a membership of over 100 women.

Terrell and Margaret Arnold

Past Presidents Include:

Mrs. S. H. Abbott
Sarah Nelson
Floetta Webster
Mary Corey
Mabel Warner
Lola Webster
Elizabeth Poole
Ann Graham
Margaret Davis
Mrs. C. L. Hillman
Adeline Levine
Meriam Rigby
Ivy Hoopes
Margaret Payne
Amy Hogge
Mary Doherty
Angie Lyman
Annie Kerr
Chloe Nelson
Teddie Lou Wood
Luceba Petersen
Marguerite Hasley
Mabel Jensen
Thelma Potter
Mae Huskinson
Viola Porter
Faye Clarke
Karma Hoopes
Geraldine Jacobs
Erna Sellers
Dawn Weick
Lois Covington
Sue Huskinson
Sharon Hinckley
Marilyn Hansen
Oriole Beesley
Elizabeth Lewis
Norma Garn
Belle Webster
Raya Lewis
Geraldine Jacobs
Denice Rammell
Ann P. Zollinger
Lola Petersen

MADISON COUNTY'S PARKS

Porter Park

At a meeting of the Rexburg L.D.S. Stake Conference, Arthur Porter, Jr., Mayor of Rexburg from 1926 to 1932, heard the Relief Society president speak about the "disgusting condition" of the City Park. This park which covered Block 46 of the original townsite had been planted with poplars which were cotton bearing. Irrigation for the park was unsatisfactory which resulted in dust and cotton blowing about to the extent that the place was filthy to walk in and impossible to use for any other park activities.

As a boy, Mayor Porter had worked in a nursery in Logan and he had a very great love for trees as well as a good idea of what would grow well in Rexburg. In his autobiography, he writes: "I visited parks in Salt Lake City and elsewhere and devised a plan for a new design and planting. . . . The council decided to adopt the plan. We decided to root up the trees (poplars) and plow up and re-level the east half to begin. Kenneth Webster agreed to remove the trees for $250.00 which we paid out of city funds. Most of the leveling was paid out of relief funds to men for whom we had to find work."

"I wrote the state nursery and got plenty of shade trees of a better quality. These were free. They had maple, ash, locusts, some birches, Russian olives and pea trees available in ten or twelve sizes. The state was very cooperative and at the time had a pretty good selection suitable for public parks. We got plenty of evergreens of some varieties, but they were small. I wrote to several nurseries and offered to sell them advertising space in the Rexburg Journal in exchange for nursery stock. I obtained different varieties in this way and donated them to the park."

"We bought lawn seed and planted lawns. The planting was done by relief labor. I got Alf Carlson to put in the sprinkling system. He donated much of the material also. He later contributed material and built some swings. He was very cooperative."

"We built tennis courts, wading pool, and rest rooms mostly with relief labor. We had to buy some cement out of city funds, also some pipe. Some funds for material were contributed by service clubs, etc. The Utah Power and Light Company contributed the services of their surveyor to locate points or boundary lines. I spent much time at the park, supervising all planting." In his statement on the condition of the City in 1930, Porter was very proud of the work that had been done in the park describing it as "a beauty spot that attracted the attention of everyone passing along the highway."

In 1952 the carousel was added to the southwest corner and later the municipal swimming pool was put there also. Picnic shelters have been erected at both the south and the northeast corners. Bleachers and night lighting of the ball diamonds have added to the popularity of the park. The original design of the walks and plantings have remained as they were first drawn by Porter.

In May, 1952, at the request of the Rexburg Civic Club, the Rexburg Lions Club and the Rexburg Planning Board, the city council passed an ordinance which designated this city park as the "Arthur Porter, Jr. Park."

Smith Park

Between Third and Fourth East, just north of Main Street is beautiful Smith Park. This block was originally owned by the L.D.S. Church and had been cultivated and farmed for many

years by the Rexburg First Ward or by people to whom they had rented it. In 1954 the Rexburg Planning and Zoning Commission recommended that it be converted to a city park.

With the cooperation of Bishop Russell Flamm and North Rexburg Stake President O. P. Mortenson, the offices of the L.D.S. Church in Salt Lake City were contacted. They approved the idea and made a gift of the entire block to the City of Rexburg. The Presiding Bishop's Office handled the transaction and a Quitclaim Deed was provided with the reservation that the property should be used solely as a park and that no organized games should be permitted on Sundays.

Mayor J. Fred Smith actively pushed the creation of the park, using city employees for much of the labor. A sprinkling system was put in and before the year was over grass had been planted and many trees purchased and donated by individuals. With combined efforts of employees and volunteer groups, lighted ball diamonds were developed on the north side of the park, playground equipment was installed and picnic shelters with fire pits were added.

In 1962 an antique steam engine was placed in the park adjacent to Main Street. This engine was donated through the Rexburg Lions Club by Tom, Frank and Bill Webster. It had been owned by their grandfather, James W. Webster and was used on the Webster–Woodmansee farm in the early days of dry farming on the Rexburg Bench.

Lighted tennis courts and basketball courts have been added to the park and in 1983 the popular Rotary Kiddie Park was built in the playground area. In 1987 the Rexburg Rotarians built a beautiful gazebo near the hill on the south side of the park.

Because of the generosity of the L.D.S. Church in gifting the property, and through the activities of many individuals, groups, and service organizations, this park has become a valuable asset to the city. Its use continues to increase each year.

Beaver Dick Park

In the spring of 1960 the Madison County Fish and Game Association became very interested in establishing a park on the North Fork of the Snake River. The "Sportsmen," as the Association was popularly called, arranged to buy about 13 acres on the west side of the bridge on highway #33 from Alex Neiwirth and they needed help with the funding. The Rexburg Rotary Club was approached and agreed to join in the project. Legal work was done, and the park, to be known as the "Rotary–Sportsmen Park," became a reality. During the development of the park, the name was changed to "Beaver Dick Park" in honor of Richard Leigh, early fur-trapper of the region who had buried his entire family near the park in 1876 when they died from smallpox.

A cement boat dock was constructed, a well drilled, boat docks put in, and public rest rooms. Fireplaces were built from native stone salvaged from the Rexburg Third Ward and Lyman Ward church houses when these buildings were being demolished. Most of the labor was donated by service clubs and by the Sportsmen who held regular work nights every Wednesday evening. D. D. Wilding, who was president of the Sportsmen as well as a member of Rotary, supervised the project while his wife Yordis cooked meals for the workers. Some money from the improvements came from the Idaho Department of Parks as well as from private donations.

In June of 1976 the Teton Dam flood completely inundated Beaver Dick Park destroying virtually all of the improvements. Kent Marlor of the County Civil Defense Committee was appointed by the commissioners to re–build the park. Working with the Comprehensive Employment Training people new boating facilities were built with restitution funds from the

B.O.R. and Waterways grant which was obtained. New grass was planted, picnic tables replaced, and fireplaces restored. In addition, the C.E.T.A. workers hauled in timber and built sturdy playground equipment, making the park more beautiful and useful than it had been before the flood.

As a result of having to restore this park at the same time as they were refurbishing Quayle Lake Park and creating Twin Bridges Park, the county officers became aware of the importance of having a Parks Department. An ordinance was passed which created one.

Quayle Lake Park

Quayle Lake Park is situated on the northwest boundary of Madison County and contains a boat dock, rest rooms, and a pump house which operates a good sprinkling system for watering the lawns. It was originally owned and operated on a limited scale by Fremont County. In 1977 Madison County Commissioners under the direction of Chairman Keith Walker approached the Fremont County Commissioners with a proposition to join forces and upgrade the facilities, making it a first class park for the two counties. The suggestion was taken under advisement and Fremont Commission Chairman, James Siddoway, notified Mr. Walker that their decision was to offer the park to Madison County for the consideration of $1 and let them be solely responsible for it.

Following transfer of the deed for the ground, Kent Marlor of the county civil defense office, coordinator for obtaining federal grants following the Teton Dam Flood, took charge of the renovation and upgrading of this park. Existing rest rooms were dynamited by county workers. New ones were built along with a pump house to take water from the lake and water lawns which were planted. A picnic shelter and boat dock were also built. Utah Power and Light assisted with bringing power to the park. All construction and landscaping labor was financed by the Comprehensive Employment Training Act of the federal government. A Waterways Grant provided funding. This made it possible to employ people who were unable to find work in Madison County as a result of the Teton Dam Flood Disaster.

This park is a popular spot for summer recreation enthusiasts, particularly boaters and water skiers.

Twin Bridges Park

Twin Bridges Park is nestled on a 31 acre plot situated on the South Fork of the Snake River just west of Ririe Highway at the southern edge of Madison County. This pristine land is rich with wild life including ruff grouse, moose, deer, and elk. It is often used by scouts and by school units for the study of plant life native to this area.

About five acres of the park have been developed with a well, camp sites, rest rooms, a covered picnic shelter, and a boat dock. A gateway with rock pilasters frames this section.

This park came into existence following the Teton Dam Flood when the County Commissioners, under the direction of Chairman Keith Walker, authorized Kent Marlor to seek federal funds for this purpose. The work was accomplished under his direction and with the use of workers paid from the Comprehensive Employment Training Act. These workers were mostly young people unemployed because of economic conditions brought on by the flood. The Bureau of Land Management gave the land to the county for the purpose of creating a park.

Ann and Keith Zollinger

HISTORY OF BROADCAST RADIO IN MADISON COUNTY

In 1950 a group of local men formed a corporation called Upper Snake River Valley Radio and Television Company, Inc., with the intended purpose of building a radio station in Rexburg. They were Seth Wood, Dr. M. F. Rigby, Russell Flamm, Edward Flamm, Dr. E. L. Soule, Tom Webster, and Howard Chapman. That these men were looking to the future is evident in their corporate name since there was no television in Eastern Idaho or, for that matter, in the entire state. A large building was erected on South Second East, high on the hill which was at the time a very remote site without a paved road. The building is now a student housing unit called The Chaparral.

A 400 foot tower was built . . . at least 200 feet more than necessary. The intent was to build both an AM and FM station. Thus the extra tall tower. They called it KRXK since they felt the "RX" sounded like "Rexburg." KRXK went on the air in January of 1951 with both AM and FM transmitters. At that time the only radio stations in Eastern Idaho were: KSEI and KWIK, both AM stations and both in Pocatello, and KID AM in Idaho Falls. KBLI AM in Blackfoot also went on the air in 1951 but it was later in the year.

KRXK FM was not successful at that time primarily because it was too new an idea and there weren't more than a half dozen FM receivers in all of Eastern Idaho. When KRXK was sold to Alfred Eugene (Gene) Shumate in October of 1956 he immediately dismantled the FM equipment. In June, 1968, Shumate sold KRXK to an employee, Don Ellis. He sold the land and building separately so Ellis moved the station studios and office to a location on College Avenue.

By this time radio and television stations were abundant. KIGO AM had been added in St. Anthony, KZBQ AM in Pocatello, KIFI AM, KTEE AM and KUPI AM, all in Idaho Falls, and KBLI in Blackfoot. An interesting shuffling of stations in Idaho Falls occurred in 1965. Owners of KIFI AM built KIFI TV in 1961 and in 1965 they relinquished their radio frequency to KTEE AM who wanted to change their spot on the radio dial. They moved to the dial location formerly occupied by KIFI and KIFI ceased being a radio station.

Following close behind the AM stations FM stations began to jump up like springtime flowers . . . most under the same ownership as the AM stations.

KID TV was the first television station in Eastern Idaho followed by KIFI TV and KPVI TV. In Madison County an FM station, KADQ, owned by Ted Austin Sr., was built in 1975 and KRXK added its FM in 1986. In addition Ricks College installed its own FM Station, KRIC, which is a non-commercial station licensed by the FCC as a part of public broadcasting and, as such, is not allowed to sell advertising.

The Teton Dam Flood wiped out KRXK. The station was rebuilt and back on the air in five days at its present location North of Rexburg on the Cemetery Road. KADQ, which was in a second story location at the time survived. KADQ FM is now at 90 South 100 West, currently under the ownership of Ted Austin, Jr.

KIGO AM in St. Anthony is now off the air, probably never to return. Station KTEE AM in Idaho Falls also has recently gone "silent." Both KIGO and KTEE were victims of the growing popularity of FM broadcast and the over saturation of broadcast stations in the valley.

In October, 1981, KRXK owner Don Ellis sold the property to a Montana corporation called Tri County Radio, Inc. Tri County Radio operated the station until mid 1989 when Ellis again took over ownership. One of the first things Ellis did was request a call letter change for the FM, which was called KKQT FM. The FCC approved the request and now it is KRXK AM and KRXK FM.

Don Ellis

REXBURG AIRPORT HISTORY

The first airport was located on what is now Ricks College property. This was a 160 acre farm on the west side of Second East directly west of the current Rexburg City Reservoir beginning at approximately Sixth South. This airport was established as near as we can determine in the early 1940's. There is still on this property a cinder block building which was the original hangar and the only one on the field. The runway began about 100 feet south of this cinder block building and ran to the southwest along the hill for about 1800 feet. Most of the time there was only about 1300 to 1500 feet useable, because of the weeds and rocks on the end. This was strictly a dirt strip with no gravel base, so it was used after it had dried out in the spring or in the winter for airplanes equipped with skis.

Ricks College started using this field for training with two Ercoupe airplanes in the spring and summer of 1946.

Most of the labor in keeping up the airport was done by volunteers. Airplanes began increasing in horsepower and number of seats so it was felt there was not enough room to expand at the present location. In 1948 a 40 acre farm on 7th West and Main became available so it was decided to move the airport to its present location on the west side of town, provided funds could be made available. The Rexburg Mayor asked Eldon Hart if he would approach the President of Ricks College, John L. Clarke, to find out if they would buy the old airport near the college at the price of $5,500.00. John L. Clarke agreed and the purchase was completed.

The new airport was started by volunteers. The main grading was done by Lowell Barrick who owned Lobnitz Construction Company and was in the land leveling business. The first building on the new airport was built by Samuel Hollist of Teton, who was killed about one year later in an airplane accident in Montana. This is the present building being used by Merrill Christensen doing business as Rexburg Airservice. The next building, which at first was only two strong walls, was built by Eldon Hart furnishing all the materials and his masonry students doing some of the labor in 1948.

In 1973 the airport received funds from the Federal Aviation Administration to improve the runway and put in lighting. Private individuals in the mean time had built their own hangars on the field. In October 1972 Ricks College decided they were going out of the aviation business at the close of school in 1973. Therefore, at the request of Henry Eyring, the president of Ricks College, Eldon & Julina Hart formed a non-profit corporation, Aero Technicians, Inc., to carry on the Ricks College Aviation Department. This required the construction of the present facility. Construction began in October 1972 and was used by Ricks College January 1st until May 15, 1973.

The airport is currently operated by an airport board consisting of two members appointed by the county and two members appointed by the city and one member jointly appointed.

Eldon Charles Hart

TRANSPORTATION

In the nineteen twenties you walked to school. In the nineteen thirties you walked or rode a farm bus. Very few of these operated. One such bus was Walter Muir's bus. Taking his children to school he picked up everyone along the way. It was a made over sheep camp, having a stove for heat in the front and a bench on each side for students to sit. If you got on last you stood in the middle and in winter it seemed a long way from any heat. This bus was horse drawn with wheels in fall and spring and sleigh runners in winter. Several other farmers around the area would put a shell or canvas on their trucks and transport their children and neighbors to school.

Wells Grover purchased his first school bus (Studebaker) in 1938. He continued purchasing buses until he owned all of the school buses for the Madison School District. He operated these buses for the school under contract until his terminal illness in 1974.

By September 1947 Wells had bought his fifth bus. Students were brought to Rexburg from Archer, the dry farms, Sugar Cemetery section, Thornton, Burton and north of Rexburg. The total number of miles traveled each day by the buses was 314 and over 250 students enjoyed this service.

Wells remembered the winter of 1949. That was the time he brought a bus load of Burton kids into a basketball game at Rexburg. The evening started out uneventful enough but during the progress of the game a wind came up and closed every foot of road between Rexburg and Burton. The youngsters were marooned in town for several days. Some of them didn't get home for five days. Four of them slept those nights on the floor of a bowling alley.

By 1951 Wells had increased his bus fleet to sixteen buses. Fourteen were on regular school routes and two were reserved for charter service. The charter trips were contracted by Rexburg, Sugar Salem, St. Anthony, and Idaho Falls Schools. The school buses traveled over 140,000 miles each year.

In 1953 he purchased Teton Stage Lines. This would give him the permit he needed to take trips he wanted. He could travel in four states; Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Montana. In the early 1960's he was able to purchase the Bear Lake Stage Lines. The Bear Lake Stages gave Wells the right to originate charters in any city served by that line. With the two permits, Wells was able to originate charters within a 50 mile radius to anywhere in the United States.

Wells loved to travel and these charter trips became a major part of his bus business. He had this business until nine months before his death in 1974. At that time it was sold to Lynn Williams. While Lynn Williams had the business, Madison School District had a special election and decided to acquire their own buses and to no longer let out contracts.

The bus business Wells had built up during thirty five years of operation is now non-existent.

Dean Grover

RAILROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Before Rexburg was planned, a Narrow Gauge Railroad had been constructed from Utah to Eagle Rock (Idaho Falls) and north to Montana. Rexburg was settled in 1883 by a group of Latter-Day-Saints from the Logan, Utah, area. Six years later a group of local citizens organized a Railroad Company, purchased a right-of-way, and constructed a Branch Line from Idaho Falls to Rexburg then on to St. Anthony and finally to Yellowstone Park.

This Branch Line aided farmers by providing transportation to markets which before required a tedious trip west across the Snake River to Market Lake (now Roberts). By 1915 Branch Lines were built across the valley on the east and west.

Another transportation milestone was reached in 1913 when a group of citizens organized and prevailed upon the state authorities to extend a highway from Pocatello to Yellowstone Park. By 1930 this highway was oiled as far north as Sugar City. Today it has been improved to a freeway north from Idaho Falls through Rexburg and St. Anthony.

Highway 33 connects Rexburg with the Atomic Energy Facilities (INEL) and is part of a system of State Highways to recreational areas such as Sun Valley and Craters of the Moon. This is also a short cut to Boise. Extending east from Sugar City this highway forms the boundary between Madison and Fremont Counties for many miles. It also gives excellent access to Teton Valley, Green Canyon, Grand Targhee, and Jackson Hole.

Within the county we have an extensive system of oiled farm to market roads serving every community in the county. This system serves the school bus system as well as commuters and farmers.

Norman E. Ricks

NEWSPAPERS

Rexburg was fortunate to have a newspaper as early as 1887 when Phineas Tempest and Judge John Donaldson opened the Rexburg Press. After problems developed the Rexburg Press ceased and was followed by the Kaintuck Bugle published by Charles E. Arney. This paper lasted briefly and was followed by the Silver Hammer, published by Ben E. Rich.

Another paper, Fremont County Journal, was begun in 1898 under editor Thomas E. Bassett. This paper lasted until May 30, 1900. A short time later the Snake River Current, a Democratic paper was started. This paper soon joined with the defunct Fremont County Journal to become the Current Journal. In 1906 Arthur Porter, Jr. gained control of the Current Journal and in 1917 renamed it the Rexburg Journal. This Democratic paper was followed in 1907 by a Republican paper, the Rexburg Standard, published by the Adams family of Ogden, Utah.

In 1905 Lloyd Adams started the Sugar City Times. In 1909 Lloyd Adams purchased the Rexburg Standard and consolidated the two papers. He built a modern plant where the Standard Journal is presently located.

In 1942 John C. Porter purchased the Rexburg Standard and Arthur C. Porter purchased the Rexburg Journal. In 1953 John C. Porter purchased the Journal and since that time the two papers have been published in the Standard plant as a bi-weekly each Tuesday and Thursday. Rexburg is fortunate to have this excellent paper which carries county, regional, state and some national news. Roger Porter, son of John C. Porter, is the current Editor.

Norman E. Ricks

REXBURG, IDAHO HOSPITALS 1900 TO 1990

A dear friend of Dr. Parley Nelson, Dr. Joseph Walker, wrote to Lloyd Adams, a lawyer in Rexburg, extolling what the doctors of Rexburg did for the people in the community and the outlying areas. He wrote this: "I want to mention the names of some unknown men who, for thirty years, have always been with you in the Upper Snake River Valley. They were there when trouble came. These men never promised you anything, except that if you were sick, weary, broken and with a heavy burden, they would be with you . . . they were the good doctors. They came even though dark the night and stormy; and they came also when the warmth and gladness of Spring beckoned them to more pleasant places." They are the men whom Robert Louis Stevenson spoke when he said; "When the final curtain drops on civilization and a wiser and juster one, looking over the rubble, chooses from it something worth remembering and cherishing, it will be the doctor." Dr. Walker was in medical school with Dr. Nelson.

Dr. Lorin Rich came to Rexburg directly from medical school in 1902. Dr. Rich attended medical school in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He sought further education at the Jefferson Medical College.

Dr. Joseph Walker practiced in Rexburg and had a small hospital. He had purchased and converted the Sharp Residence on South Center into a hospital. Dr. Parley Nelson had been practicing with Dr. Walker who took over the hospital. Dr. Rich rented two rooms in the Graham Boyle building on East Main Street on the second floor. At that time, there were eight families living in small apartments on the second floor. Gradually, as the tenants moved, Dr. Rich would rent their space until he finally had the 19 rooms from which he made a small hospital.

The country doctor had to be innovative, resourceful, and entrepreneurial in order to handle situations by themselves. They found a way to handle serious patients in a controlled situation. Thus, the small hospitals they devised served a purpose. Most babies at that time were delivered at home. Gradually, the need for more support of babies and mothers brought about the establishment of maternity homes. Again, suitable houses were purchased and the rooms made suitable for birthing care. These homes were generally run by a practical nurse. One of the early hospitals in Rexburg was called the Middleton Nursing Home.

Dr. William Sutherland came to Idaho in 1922. Two rooms above the Graham Boyle building on East Main Street were his first office. He and Dr. Rich worked well together sharing the work load and taking turns going on the emergency calls far out in the country. Just getting to patients became a challenge. Mrs. Sutherland had been taught how to administer ether by her husband and monitored the sterilization of equipment when in unusual places. The early physicians and their wives were masters of improvisation. When something needed to be done, they'd figure out a solution with whatever supplies were available. Dr. Sutherland rented some space above what is now Inkleys on Main Street and decided to make the whole upper area into a hospital, with a small surgery and an X-ray room.

Dr. Harlo B. Rigby and his registered nurse, wife, Elsie, opened a six-bed hospital upstairs in the Porter Building on College Avenue in September, 1922. Six months later they opened a fine hospital at 118 College Avenue. This medical center provided, after building expansion, a fourteen bed capacity, medical and surgical facilities, delivery room, and a small nursery. Dr. and Mrs. Rigby provided such service for nearly thirty years, until the county hospital opened. Dr. Rigby stated in 1949 "We have been glad to do our part but the time has come when both Mrs. Rigby and myself feel that the responsibility of running the hospital is too

much for us. We will be glad when the county hospital is built so that we will be relieved of our task. We hope that the hospital can be built in the not too distant future. The people need it." May 3, 1949, the Rigby hospital was 26 years old. There were approximately 3500 babies born at the hospital. The hospital averaged 425 patients per year for treatment. About half were surgical cases and the other half were medical or obstetrics.

Dr. M. F. Rigby opened a maternity hospital at 156 East 2nd South in the early 1940's. Margaret Baker was the nurse that lived in the home and helped deliver the babies. The home was already at this location and is still at the same location. It is now used for college housing.

The 32 bed Madison County Hospital located on East Main opened for service in December, 1951. The structure and furnishings were financed by taxation and donations at a cost of three hundred forty thousand dollars. The hospital was a county hospital governed by a board and an administrator.

A new Madison County Hospital was built in 1978. This hospital has 54 beds and also serves the surrounding rural communities of Ashton and St. Anthony in Southeast Idaho. The growth of Madison Memorial Hospital has directly been due to the doctors who staff it. The interest they have shown in residing in Rexburg and in setting up their practices in Rexburg has spurred an increase in important health care facilities for the Madison County area. Previously, Rexburg or Madison County residents had to travel 30 miles or more to receive the proper specialized health care they needed.

Specialized clinics such as orthopedics, podiatry, urology, dentistry, ophthalmology, ear-nose-throat, speech and hearing, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, pathologist and radiologist, as well as the general practitioners are now available in Rexburg.

Betty S. Johnson – Lola and Lester J. Petersen

Following are the names of doctors who were practicing at the hospital in 1979:

Steven L. Fielding	OBG	Lester J. Petersen	GP
Mark O. Gehmlich	GP	LaVar M. Withers	GP
Daniel A. Johnson	Pediatrics	Murland F. Rigby	GP
Orson H. Mabey Jr.	GP	Clifford B. Rigby	GP
Rex G. Mabey	GP	Aldon Tall	GP
Alden M. Packer	GP	Asael Tall	GP
Blaine H. Passey	GP		

Doctors practicing in Rexburg in 1990:

Hyrum Blackburn	Family	Michael J. Larson	Orthopedic
Stephen Cheyne	Family	Robert C. Lofgran	Pediatrics
Dave C. Crandall	Eye	Gary L. Lovell	Obstetrics
Max J. Crouch	Obstetrics	Jud E. Miller	Family
Marc Englis	Ear, Nose, Throat	Lester J. Petersen	Family
Robert D. Gerrie	Surgeon	Ann Reynolds	Internal
Milton Goldman	Urology	Newel K. Richardson	Radiology
Craig D. Heiner	Internal	Bradley B. Spaulding	Family
Mahlon Hiestand	Family	LaVar M. Withers	Family
		C. Jeffery Zollinger	Family

COUNTY, CITY & STATE OFFICIALS

The lists of elected and appointed county and city officials were copied from Louis J. Clements and Harold S. Forbush's book, Pioneering the Snake River Fork Country. The recent names of officials since publication of the book were supplied by Marie Hoopes and others in the Madison County Courthouse.

State Senators

Nathan Ricks	1914
John E. Pincock	1916
W. Lloyd Adams	1918
R. S. Hunt	1920
R. G. Archibald	1922
I. N. Corey	1924
L. Y. Rigby	1926
James W. Webster	1928
George A. Hoopes	1930
L. Y. Rigby	1934
James E. Graham	1940
J. Kenneth Thatcher	1950
Claude Burtenshaw	1958
Dick Smith	1960
Ray W. Rigby	1964

Legislative District No. 28

Ray W. Rigby	1966
Dick Smith	1974
Mark G. Ricks	1978

Legislative District No. 31

Richard E. Egbert	1974
William L. Floyd	1982

Legislative District No. 33

Dane Watkins	1984
Ann Rydalch	1986

State Representatives

William Taylor	1914
R. S. Hunt	1916
Royal Garn	1922
Jacob Magleby	1924
Frank D. Turner	1928
Lorenzo Jensen	1932
Arnold Williams	1936
Arthur Porter	1942
Sterling Magleby	1946
Ernest Blaser	1948
Peter J. Ricks	1950
Claude J. Burtenshaw	1952
Steve Meikle, Sr.	1954
Karl C. Klingler	1958
Melvin Hammond	1968
Linden B. Bateman	1976, Dist. 31
John D. Sessions	1976, Pos. B
Doyle C. Miner	1976, Pos. B
Richard Stallings	1978, Pos. A, 31
Rich E. Orme	1980, Pos. B
Linden Bateman	1980, Pos. A, 31
R.L. (Dick) Davis	1984, Pos. A, 31
Cyril O. Burt	1984, Pos. B, 31
Stan Hawkins	1984, Pos. A, 33
Golden C. Linford	1984, Pos. B, 33
Kent Remington	1986, Pos. A, 33

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

First District

Nahum Curtis	1914	Harry V. Graham	1946
James W. Webster	1916	Dick Smith	1958
Royal Garn	1918	Roy J. Summers	1960
Homer Reed	1920	Ray L. Pocock	1964
John Taylor	1922	Morgan K. Garner	1970
Arnold Williams	1932	Keith Walker	1972
O. R. Anderson	1936	J.H. (Snuffy) Smith	1978
Vernon Mortensen	1942	Doyle Walker	1982
Lee L. White	1944	Dell Barney	1988

Second District

John K. Orme	1914	Lee L. White	1942
Alfred Ricks	1916	Emil Nef	1948
John E. Pincock	1918	Robert H. Frew	1950
Hiram Dille	1920	Farrell Rock	1954
Eph Peterson	1922	Grant M. Bowen	1966
John W. Hamilton	1924	Dean Ricks	1968
Martin L. Nave	1926	Mark E. Peterson	1972
John W. Hamilton	1928	Dell Klingler	1978
Ernest Blaser	1930	Bruce Webster	1986
		Reed Sommer	1990

Third District

John Taylor	1914	George Briggs, Jr.	1938
David Spaulding	1918	William I. Holley	1944
S. W. Hall	1922	Angus Peterson	1950
C. R. Hansen	1926	Lalovi Rigby	1958
Frank Spaulding	1928	John D. Parkinson	1964
Andrew A. Nelson	1932	Leo M. Smith	1970
James E. Graham	1934	Wayne Beck	1980
Theodore Simmons	1936	Doyle Walker	1986

COUNTY CLERKS

John Hegsted	1914	F. L. Davis	1942
Samuel P. Oldham	1918	Gilbert T. McKinlay	1950
John Hegsted	1922	Maxine Nave	1962
P. C. Winter	1930	Aurora Bunnell	1966
John T. Elliott	1934	Nellis Garner	1969
Leland E. Raybould	1942	Marie Hoopes	1986
		Beth Reese	1991

COUNTY SHERIFFS

I. N. Corey	1914	E. A. Hansen	1948
Harry A. Munns	1918	Ford Smith	1958
Ursel H. Bigler	1933	Lionel Koon	1980
J. Harold Matson	1940		

COUNTY TREASURERS

Harry Randall	1914	Don R. Grover	1948
E. W. Johnson	1920	Agnes Bird	1950
Emogene Manwaring	1924	Joy Meng	1954
Jessie W. Smith	1938	Agnes Bird	1958
Edith Saurey Hoskins	1940	Jayne Green	1974

PROBATE JUDGES

James A. Berry	1914	C. Marion Hacking	1962
A. J. Hansen	1922	**1971 changed to Magistrate Judge**	
Frank L. Davis	1932	C. Marion Hacking	1973
Daniel Ricks	1944	Harold S. Forbush	
Vernon C. Mortensen	1946	Brent J. Moss	1985

COUNTY ASSESSORS

Conrad Walz	1914	M. G. Koon	1938
John Blackburn	1918	Ephraim Willmore	1940
John W. Clements	1924	Ben E. Summers	1962
Fred M. Fisher	1928	R. E. Hall	1978
L. Y. Rigby	1930	Lyle Saurey	1982
Carl J. Johnson	1936		

SUPERINTENDENTS OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

A. F. Rasmussen	1914	Willis G. Nelson	1942
William B. Oldham	1918	C. Drew Cooper	1944
Lottie Worthen	1922	Willis J. Lyman	1946
Arnetto Goodliffe	1924	Arthur Porter, Jr.	1947
D. W. Nelson	1928	(Office Discontinued)	

SURVEYORS

Neil A. Anderson	1914	Dan Whittimore	1942
Clinton Sundberg	1918	Marion Hacking	1946
N. A. Anderson	1928	Boyd Beckett	1948
Raymond Anderson	1932	A. E. Harris	1952
D. R. Larson	1934	C. A. Powell	1956
N. A. Anderson	1936	Clayter Forsgren	1958
Neil Anderson	1938	Richard L. Davis	1960
Alvin E. Harris	1940	(Office Discontinued)	

MADISON COUNTY PHYSICIANS

O. C. Ormsby	1914	H. B. Rigby	1933
Joseph Walker	1917	W. L. Sutherland	1937
J. R. Supe	1918	O. D. Hoffman	1947
G. T. Parkinson	1919	Albert C. Truxall	1952
Parley Nelson	1929	Lester J. Petersen	1969
		(Office Discontinued)	

CORONERS

James R. Young	1914	Russell Flamm	1942
John Phillips	1916	Victor S. Chandler	1944
James R. Young	1920	Kenneth Flamm	1952
John Phillips	1922	Victor S. Chandler	1954
W. L. Young	1924	Russell Flamm	1958
H. J. Flamm	1926	Edward Richardson	1960
F. Schwendiman	1928	Gray I. Clawson	1970
Vern Keller	1930	Rick Davis	1980
Jean A. Keller	1938		

PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS

T. W. Smith	1914	Ray W. Rigby	1950
C. W. Poole	1916	J. Kent Jolley	1964
C. J. Taylor	1920	J. D. Hancock	1972
C. L. Hillman	1924	M. B. Kennedy	1974
C. W. Poole	1930	Brent J. Moss	1980
Leonard Kingsford	1949	Dale Thomson	1986

COUNTY NURSES

Sybil Smith	Margaret Fillmore
Leone Weiand	Esther Choules
Goldwyn Wimmer	Carma Bird
Margaret Barnes	Jackie Cushman
Bernice Shirley	

COUNTY AGENTS

David P. Murray	1923	Harold Ball	1942
Delbert T. Bolingbroke	1926	Nile Taylor	1948
George Cleveland	1939	Frank Jacobs	1953
		Gale Harding	1981

COUNTY ROAD OVERSEERS

Roman Siepert	David Hunter	
William Ricks	Horton Row	
Alfred Berger	Vern Davidson	1965
Vernon Powell	LaVar Pfost	1971
David Hunter	Roy Collier	
Ray Kele	Dustin Cureton	1987

MADISON HOME ECONOMISTS

Cara Newman	1954	Edith Sue Weighall	1971
R. Joyce Carnahan	1957	Kathryn Scott	1974
Phoebe Williams	1959	Cara Z. Newman	1976
Marlene Stegelmeier	1967	Mary Lee Wolf	1984
Cara Z. Newman	1967		

EARLY HOMES

Typical of the early homes in this area was the first log home of Neil Henry Anderson and his wife Emma Smith. They arrived in the Spring of 1885 and settled just west and south of Thornton. They had stopped near what is now Blackfoot for a few months and lived in a covered wagon.

The logs were usually put up in one day with the help of family and friends. A mixture of clay, hay or grass and water was used to fill the cracks between the logs. The floors were hard packed dirt. Glass was scarce so there were few windows. The roof was also of logs or boards with dirt put on top.

As the family increased and goods were more available; families added onto the first home or built a larger and better home.

Henry J. Flamm

The Henry J. Flamm home is located on First West in Rexburg. It was built before 1915 and was one of the finest in the city when built. It is still in excellent condition. It and several homes built from the same local rock survived the flood in good condition.

Mr. Flamm came with his father, Jacob Henry Flamm to Rexburg when 12 years of age. He has the distinction of being the first boy on the townsite in 1883. He was born in Logan, Utah, July 14, 1870 and died in Rexburg in 1935.

Conrad Walz

The farm home of Conrad Walz was built in the country at Burton, west of Rexburg before 1915. This area was the center of one of the richest agriculture regions in the west. Mr. Walz was assessor of Madison County and Bishop of Burton Ward. His house was damaged in the Teton Dam Flood and now has siding over the brick. Rex and Dora Lee Walz now reside in the home built by Rex's ancestor.

John L. Jacob

Another beautiful, early home is the one built by John L. Jacobs. He was the son-in-law of Jacob Henry Flamm. The house is on Main Street near the Flamm home. It is a beautiful, well kept home and built of local stone.

Diet Center now owns the home and uses it for offices.

Mark Austin

The Mark Austin home is located on the corner of Main Street and First West. The Austin, Jacob and Flamm homes were all built before 1915 near each other. The same local or native stone was used in the construction. Mr. Austin was born near London, England, in 1864. He was one of the people responsible for getting the sugar industry established in this area. His home is now used for Ricks College student housing.

John Smellie

John Smellie bought 2½ acres of land on the corner of 1st East and 1st North the day after he arrived in Rexburg in 1885. He grubbed the sagebrush and prepared it for cultivation. He planted potatoes. His first home was of logs with an earth roof but with boards under the earth. In 1886 he dug a well 33 feet deep and curbed it with red pine. There was only 3 or 4 others in town at this time. John made some adobe bricks to build a better home but decided to wait until he could afford better. The summer of 1891 he began to gather rocks and lumber and built a 40 by 20 foot house. They used the log cabin for a stable. He first worked in a log cabin store for Thomas E. Ricks, the ZCMI. He went into the sheep business, managed flour mills several times during his life, and also farmed.

He sold his new home to A. S. Farnsworth, a sheepman. He moved to Raymond, Alberta, Canada, in 1904 with his family. He was a son-in-law of Thomas E. and Tamar Ricks. This home is now owned by Pam and Stephen Blackburn.

James W. Webster

James W. Webster was born in Franklin, Idaho on November 29, 1862. He moved to the Rexburg area in 1895. He and his wife, Mary, first lived in a log cabin in Plano. They later owned two lovely stone houses in Rexburg. The first was built in 1901 and was torn down and the second built on the same location in 1930 on the corner of 1st North and 1st East.

Doyle and Lola Walker now own and live in this home.

BUSINESSES ESTABLISHED IN MADISON COUNTY PRIOR TO 1920

We are featuring some of the businesses that were established prior to 1920 that are still in the original family, on the original location, or have the original name. The first store in Rexburg was opened in 1883 by Thomas E. Ricks and William F. Rigby on the south side of Main Street facing where the courthouse now stands. This business ceased a few years later and was torn down.

In the 1990 phone book there are over 400 Madison County businesses listed.

Thompson Plumbing and Heating

Thompson Plumbing and Heating was established in Madison County in 1901. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: P. O. Thompson I, 1901–28; P. O. Thompson II, 1928–58; Pump Thompson, 1928–56; Ralph Thompson, 1930–71; R. Larry Thompson, 1971–present. The goods and/or services offered include plumbing, pumps, sheet metal, heating, and air conditioning.

As one of the oldest businesses in Madison County, the third generation owners are doing work for 5th generation customers. Early wells were hand dug and open not like the newer pumping wells of today. The first furnaces were one central vent type with no blower as compared to high tech gas heating and electrical air conditioning systems of today. Plumbing has advanced from outside privies to convenient fixtures inside the home today.

J. C. Penney Co.

J. C. Penney Co. was established in Madison County in 1910. The managers and partners in this business since being established are: Howard Gentles, Walt Ririe to 1963, Russ Latimer 1963–68, Paul Carver 1968–89, and Ray Barber 1989–present. The goods and/or services offered include clothing, shoes, accessories, appliances, etc., and also catalog sales.

The J. C. Penney that started in 1910 in Madison County was store #7 when it first opened. That store was destroyed by the Teton Dam Flood in 1976. The store then relocated to where the Roller Skating Rink is now. The store at the location they now are in, was built in 1978.

Flamm Funeral Home

Flamm Funeral Home was established in Madison County in 1888. The owners and partners in this business since being established are as follows: Founded by Jacob Henry Flamm then operated by Henry's sons Henry J. and J. Daniel. In 1936 it was operated by Daniel's sons Russel and Edwin Flamm along with their brother Kenneth and in 1976 to present it is operated by Garth and Bert Flamm (Ed's sons). The goods and/or services offered include funeral services, monuments and markers and funeral pre–planning.

Flamm Funeral Home began as a department of the H. Flamm and Company, a mercantile store, that was established in Rexburg in 1886. It was said in those early years that, "Flamm's sold everything from a needle to a threshing machine and they could serve you from the cradle

to the grave." The funeral home has been at several locations in Rexburg and the current Flamm Funeral Home building was built in 1967. Flamm Funeral Home is the oldest family operated funeral firm in the state of Idaho.

Bell's Blacksmith and Ornamental Ironworks

Bell's Blacksmith and Ornamental Ironworks was established in Madison County in 1888. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: William Alfred Bell, 1888–1934; William Vernon Bell, 1934–1963; and Robert Newby Bell, 1963 – present. The goods and/or services offered include horseshoeing, building of wagons, repairing of all kinds of farm equipment, and sharpening plow shares. W. V.'s long suit was forge work. Robert N. introduced ornamental ironworking as part of the business in 1951, making stairways, railings, spiral stairways, ornamental posts, etc.

William Alfred was among the first pioneers to enter the Snake River Valley. He homesteaded 40 acres of land that included the present site of the fair grounds and land east and south of there. Bell's Blacksmith has moved four times in its history. Three shops were located on the north side of Main Street. One faced down College Avenue. W. V. built the shop that was located across from Rexburg Food Center in 1934. Robert Newby built the new shop that is located on Highway 191 South in 1971. Two shops were located in the area where the parking lot for Rexburg Food Center is located now.

Anderson Photo Company

Anderson Photo Company was established in Madison County in 1900. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: Stanley Anderson, Ralph and Elaine Anderson, Ralph and Joyce McBride, and Jeff and Rosemary Smith. The goods and/or services offered include portraits and all kinds of photography (weddings, commercial, etc.), camera photo supplies, accessory sales, camera repair, photographic copying and restoration, and film processing.

Anderson's began purely as a portraiture but later developed into a number of branches of photography with the development of technology in the field into all kinds of sale and services. Now it is basically a studio and camera store. Three generations of Andersons owned the business until the McBrides and Smiths purchased the business in 1983 – expanding the business into a new building and additional photographic services.

Herdti Electric Company

Herdti Electric Company was established in Madison County in 1918. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: R. G. Herdti, Steve Herdti, and Darnell Weekes. The goods and/or services offered include electrical contracting and related business.

R. G. Herdti wired many of the houses and buildings in the area and was active in the promotion of Rexburg.

Zollinger Construction Company

Zollinger Construction Company was established in Madison County in 1914. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: Charles J. Zollinger, Charles W. Zollinger, and Jack T. Zollinger.

Zollinger Construction Company was founded by Charles J. Zollinger in the early days of Rexburg. Its office has been located at North Center Street throughout its history. The Zollinger family was involved in building construction from the time they came to Rexburg in 1883. Charles J. Zollinger studied carpentry at Ricks Academy and began contracting on his own in about 1914. His autobiography records that he hired carpenters to work for him that year and contracted to build a log barn on the Wilding Farm near the Sugar City Cemetery. That barn stood as a landmark until it was torn down after the Teton Dam Flood.

In 1919 he was given the contract to build the Madison County Courthouse. This building was completed in 1922 at a cost of $150,000. It remains one of the finest buildings in the area. He also built the Farmer's Implement Building on East Main Street and in 1924 he built the Teton County Courthouse.

The first bridge across Canyon Creek was built by the company in 1929. The road and grading was done by hand with scrapers and teams of horses. They contracted to build head walls and bridges on the road from Green Timber to Cave Falls in 1932, the first major improvements of this road.

Over the years, Zollinger Construction has built many homes, commercial buildings, schoolhouses, churches, and bridges, not only in Rexburg and Madison County, but also in many parts of the state. Charles W. Zollinger took over active management of the company with the building of the Rexburg Army Reserve Building in 1956. Charles J. Zollinger continued to work after his partial retirement, overseeing the remodeling of the Rexburg Tabernacle Building in 1957. This was gratifying work to him as he had worked on the original building in 1911, had contracted to finish the basement in 1916, and had added the balcony in 1927. This building is now on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

Zollinger Construction Company now includes the next generation of the family with Jack T. Zollinger as president and Thomas A. Zollinger in management. Charles W. Zollinger remains active as secretary of the corporation.

Sugar City Furniture and Hardware Company

Sugar City Furniture and Hardware Company was established in Madison County in 1920. The owners and partners in this business since being established are: Leffel A. Bean, Manager, with partners Harold Bean and Cleo H. Browning. Present owners are Melvin J. and Winona H. Bean and Dwayne Bean, partner. The goods and/or services offered include furniture, hardware, appliances, floor coverings, lawn and garden equipment, and supplies. They also furnish some building materials and paint related supplies.

Leffel A. Bean started the business in 1920 with prominent men as stockholders. The business weathered slumps and depression and grew sometimes by sheer force of will and hard work. Leffel finally obtained complete ownership by buying up the stock of other stockholders as they wished to sell and continued to manage and operate the business until 1958. At this time Melvin and Winona Bean became managers and owners of the business with their son Dwayne coming into the business as a partner in 1974.

Porter's Department Store

In 1916, as an adjunct to his publishing business, Arthur Porter bought Squires Bookstore from his old friend from college, Conley Squires. Porter had not planned on ever being in the retail business and probably would not have except for a rather unusual circumstance.

He had stopped by the business owned by his friend to sell him an ad for the Rexburg Journal newspaper which he owned. One of Mr. Squires' creditors was in the store and was threatening legal action against him because of an unpaid bill for Valentine Merchandise. Mr. Porter remonstrated with the creditor to let the store have more time to settle the bill, but the creditor stated that the only way he would do so would be for Porter to sign on a note with Squires. Because of his long standing friendship with Mr. Squires, he did so.

A few months later Mr. Squires told him that he had decided to move back to Logan and that he had not paid the note off that Porter had co-signed on. He further informed him that if he would be responsible for settling the note and for another small consideration in cash that the store would be his. Thus, Arthur Porter became a rather unwilling owner of a book store.

He re-named the store Porter's Book & Gift Store and demonstrated his faith and optimism about the future of Rexburg by expanding his business into the retail selling of a variety of merchandise. By 1920 Porter's Book Store was one of the largest outlets for L.D.S. Church Books outside of Salt Lake City. When College Avenue was completed around 1918 the store was moved to that location in a small corner of what is now the present store.

In 1947 Warren Porter purchased the store from his father and immediately began to expand the business. From its small beginning it has grown to a department store type operation and one of the largest stores of its kind in the area -- encompassing most of College Avenue from Main Street to Carlson Avenue with a large parking lot and entrance on 1st East Street.

Garth Flamm

A HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE IN MADISON COUNTY

Agriculture in Madison County started at the time Rexburg was settled. In 1883, the area was part of Oneida County, and later became Bingham County with Blackfoot as the county seat. In 1893, Fremont County -- St. Anthony being the county seat -- was established from what was the present day counties of Teton, Madison, Jefferson, Fremont, and Clark. Madison County, as a separate entity, was first created in 1913 and included all of Teton County until Teton County became a separate entity in 1915. It was at this time that the physical boundaries of Madison County as we know them today were also established.

Not many people lived in the Madison County area before 1883. By this year, many people from Cache Valley, Utah, began arriving due to the availability of land in this area and the fact that Cache Valley was already becoming fairly developed creating less opportunity in that location.

The geography of Madison County has three major divisions: (1) the flat furrow irrigated land adjacent to the rivers; (2) the mild rolling bench ground; and (3) the forests above the bench ground.

The flat land was the first to go into agricultural production. Construction of the Rexburg City ditch, the first irrigation canal, was started on March 15, 1883. Canal companies were soon organized in every section of the valley between the forks of the Snake River. By 1901, there were a total of seven canals in old Fremont County which represented 975 miles of total length.

Willard Ricks plowed the first ground in Rexburg on a tract lying just west of the Third Ward meeting house. The record in 1884 showed 1,582 acres planted. Two years later, this amount had increased to 7,744 acres. By 1895, 4,253 people were living north of the Snake River Fork.

The history of any specific area is always affected by the region or nation in which that area is located. In terms of background, the following dates are interesting to note:

1831 -	New York State's first railroad
1834 -	McCormick's reaper is invented
1834 -	Mechanical threshers were developed
1860's -	Transcontinental railroad
mid 1800's -	Portable steam engines and steam tractors being used
1910 -	Grain combines being used
1912 - 1925 -	First all purpose tractors suitable for use.

Since grain was, and still is, one of the mainstays of human nutrition, it was probably the main crop in Madison County. Sometimes we think of the 1880's as old and very primitive, but there was probably no grain of any consequence that was cut by hand or threshed by hand as the industrial revolution that affected agriculture was very much on the move during this period. The irrigated ground was usually plowed with one to three bottom plows pulled with horses and was later harrowed to form the seed bed and then sowed either by hand or with a drill. Neighbors were very good to share their machinery in those early days.

In the fall the grain was cut with reapers and put into bundles. The bundles were pitched in wagons and either stacked or taken to a mechanical thresher for threshing. These threshers

were powered by horses, that is by horses walking in a circular motion transmitting the power of that motion through a drive shaft to the threshers. Threshers were also powered by steam power. In 1893, there were 27 threshing machines operating in Fremont County.

The initial source of fertilizer was cattle waste and legume rotations. Chemical fertilizers were developed during the decade between 1930 and 1940 and their use became firmly established during the 1950's. The main crops on the flat land were for flour production, hay and pasture for livestock, and rotation for better grain crops. By 1902, sugar beets were planted and the Sugar City sugar factory was built in 1904. With the production of the sugar beets, we see the first fieldmen working in conjunction with the farmers to promote more successful beet crops. These first fieldmen came from the sugar companies.

The flat land was developed for crops during the 1880's and 90's with the mild rolling bench ground being used for pasture until the early 1890's, when it was broken out and put into wheat and barley production. In 1905, James W. Webster and Charles H. Woodmansee began operations on a big scale. They introduced modern machinery and scientific techniques, which established dry farming upon a permanent basis. For the first few years of farming on the bench, horses were the main source of power. However, steam engine tractors had their role from about 1920 and continued through that decade. In the 1920's, gasoline powered wheel tractors were used on a limited scale on the bench but became established as the primary source of pulling power on the flat land in the mid to late 1930's. During the 1930's, diesel "caterpillar" truck type tractors became the popular tractor on the bench for the next 30 years or until about 1960. Plows, disc plow, harrows, rod weeders, and drills were the main implements for tilling soil in the dry land areas.

The practice of summer fallowing was followed from the early 1890's up through the 1970's and is still in use to a degree. The purpose of summer fallowing is to combine two years' rainfall into the production of one year's grain crop. By deep tilling in the fall after harvesting and tilling more shallowly in the following spring combined with two to three rod weeder operations during the intervening summer, the soil should nave a nice mellow tilt and be ready for seeding in the fall with sufficient moisture to germinate the seeds. Summer fallowing also helps to replace nitrogen in the soil and to distribute the labor load throughout the season.

The grain combine was mostly used on the bench ground while the thresher was used on the flat ground from the early 1900's. These early combines were either pulled by horses or steam engines. The threshing mechanisms of the first combines were powered by pullies connected with the traction wheels. Later on, gas engines were used to power the separator. All the grain was put into burlap sacks at the thresher or combine and hauled to private bins and public elevators. It was not until the late 1930's that grain began to be handled in bulk, that is, stored in a bin on the combine until full and then augured onto a truck for transport to the storage facility. By the late 1930's, many trucks had hydraulic hoists.

In 1938, the Massey self-propelled combine was developed and the pull type combine machines were totally replaced by the late 1950's and early 1960's. The big combines used on the bench were capable of harvesting 1500 bushels of grain per day. That production was not surpassed until the late 1960's or early 1970's when the self propelled combines became larger and more efficient. In the 1980's, due to improved threshing mechanisms, 4,000 bushels per day could be harvested per day per machine.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, irrigation wells were drilled which enable former

dryland bench ground to become irrigated. Due to this development, old dryland yields of 30 to 40 bushels per acre were improved to 80 to 100 bushels per acre. These improved yields were equal to the yield obtained on the flat ground. With the advent of irrigation on the bench ground, malt barley and potato cultivation were introduced to these areas.

The Sugar Beet had a period of glory in Madison County beginning in 1904 with the completion of the Sugar Factory in a newly platted community which became Sugar City. It ended shortly after 1942 when the factory was closed. For a few years longer beets were raised and shipped to the Lincoln factory but that also ended.

The sugar beet was a cash crop for the farmer and a boon to the youth who earned money thinning, hoeing, and topping the beets. The by-products of pulp and syrup made excellent cattle feed and contributed much to the economy of the county. The operation of the factory was employment for many workers during the processing season. By the time the sugar beet went out the potato had filled its place.

For a number of years seed peas were raised in Madison County. Pea houses were almost as plentiful as potato warehouses are today. The peas put nitrogen into the soil and fit into a rotation with sugar beets or potatoes. For farmers beginning with little machinery, peas were a crop that could be raised economically as a cash crop. As potatoes became more specialized peas faded away much as the sugar beet and about the same time.

Presently corn fields are beginning to spring up around the county. It may be some time before the verdict on this crop will be in. The climate isn't always cooperative for a maximum yield but with study this may become a good feed crop partly replacing the by-products of beets and peas.

The years during World War II saw many advances in technology and chemicals. Weed control before World War II was strictly mechanical. In 1947, 2-4D was introduced as one of the first herbicides used for control of broad leaf weeds in wheat. From that year until the 1980's, a myriad of other chemicals were introduced to control weeds in grain, potatoes, sugar beets, peas, alfalfa, and to control wild oats in grain crops. During the 1940's and 1950's, chemical fertilizers began to be used more with phosphate and nitrogen being the main chemicals used.

Bob Parkinson

THE POTATO INDUSTRY IN MADISON COUNTY

Potatoes have been an important part of the history of the Madison County area almost from the beginning. In the earliest days, potatoes were grown from seed brought from Utah. Everyone would save the peelings from their potatoes in the winter, and dry them in bags for planting in gardens the next spring. Only small tracts, usually less than one acre, were grown due to the intensive labor requirements. The first potatoes grown outside of individual garden plots were planted by dropping seed pieces in the furrow behind a walking moldboard plow. Hand weeding and irrigating during the growing season and then harvesting by once again plowing the row with a handplow and picking the tubers from the dirt were all done by hand.

The advent of the railroad opened the door for export of other high quality potatoes grown in the Upper Snake River Valley to the markets of the eastern United States. Potato acreage expanded rapidly as new equipment became available to make this expansion possible. The Hoover one row horse drawn potato planter increased the ability of Madison County farmers to do in a day what took several men a week to do. Also this same company manufactured the Hoover one row horse drawn potato digger. This machine was ground powered and pulled by four head of horses. It laid the potatoes on top of the ground where they could be hand picked into sacks for transport to the storage cellars. This all took place in the 1920's and early 1930's.

Increased potato production brought a new industry to Madison County. The potato "Packer & Shipper." Some of the first to handle and ship potatoes to the East from Madison County were; H. W. Jacobsen at Rexburg, E. L. Peterson at Plano, and Harvey Schwendiman at Newdale. In these early times, these men not only provided a market for potatoes, but also provided community storage facilities where farmers could rent individual bins to store their crop until they were ready for market.

All of the farming areas of Madison County were involved in potato production. The sandy soil and "sub" irrigation of the Plano area made it the foremost potato production area of the county because of the ease in which potatoes could be harvested and the high quality of the crop. The first "Sacker Combines" were used in this area. The loam soils of the Archer, Moody, and Newdale areas also produced high yields and high quality potatoes, but required surface irrigation. The flat country (Burton, Hibbard, Salem, Sugar City, and immediately around Rexburg) made potato production more difficult due to the heavy and sometimes gravelly soil. But in all of Madison County potatoes were grown very successfully and fit into the alfalfa, grain, and sugar beet rotation.

During the years of the second World War, potatoes were very important, and again new

and improved machinery allowed further expansion of potato acreage in Madison County. Potato harvesters called "Bulkers" that dug the potatoes and loaded them directly onto moving trucks were coming into use in the sandy and loam soil areas. However, harvesting by hand still prevailed in the heavy soil areas.

At the end of the 1950's the potato industry took a dramatic turn in Madison County. The first deep wells were drilled on the Rexburg Bench, east of Rexburg. This dry farm area had been famous for it's high quality hard red winter wheat. Now irrigation made possible the growing of potatoes in this rich loam soil. The first well was drilled by J. Fred Smith, the Mayor of Rexburg, and his son John in 1958. In the next two years K. W. Huskinson & Sons, Summers Brothers, Bowen & Thomason, and Ed Parkinson all drilled wells. This was the beginning of the opening of thousands of acres on the Rexburg Bench from Newdale to Archer to potato production. This area has become famous all across the United States for its high quality fresh potatoes.

Modern sprinkler irrigation has taken the place of surface irrigation and in some instances in replacing sub irrigation. This has made possible the increase of potato acreage in the heavier soils and many of the farms that could not produce potatoes any more because of increased labor costs are now coming back into potato production.

Increased acreage, not only in Madison County but in all of the neighboring areas, made it possible for new shipping facilities and processing plants to come into the eastern part of Idaho. In 1960, Rogers Brothers built a processing plant just north of Rexburg. This plant produces dehydrated slices, dices, and granules. Sun–Glo of Idaho has a plant near Sugar City that produces Frozen Baked Potatoes. This plant produces over 8 million pounds of frozen baked potatoes per year. They are shipped to every state and throughout the Eastern Rim Countries of the Orient. There are eight operating fresh packing plants in Madison County, shipping millions of hundredweight of Idaho Potatoes throughout the United States.

In 1988 Madison County produced 9,583,000 hundredweight of Russett Burbank Potatoes. This amounts to almost 60 million dollars of income to Madison County agriculture. Potatoes have replaced livestock and grain as the most important crop in the county. In addition to the high cash value of potatoes at the farm, the processing, fresh shipping, and supplying the needs of the farm community has added greatly to the economy of the entire area. Madison County has become the hub for potato marketing for several Eastern Idaho Counties, and the potato industry is the chief source of income for many of the residents and businesses in the area.

Dell Raybould

FOOD AND FAMILY LIFE

Food--the way it is purchased, the way it is prepared and the way it is consumed has changed, as much as any other commodity in this past century. Before the time of "Fast Foods" pre-packaged and frozen foods, meals, and all that we associate with "Family Dining" was, indeed, one of the finer arts of the time. Pride was taken in the way food was prepared and enjoyed and the time preparing it was of no essence. No long, white counters of pre-packaged meat can even come close to the satisfaction of stepping into the "old-fashioned butcher shop" with its aroma of smoked meats, the strings of fat wieners hanging from the ceiling, sawdust on the floor and an honest to goodness "Butcher" asking you how thick you would like your steak cut or your home-cured ham or bacon sliced, holding it up for your approval then wrapping it in butcher paper and handing it to you, along with a wiener, or a big fat dill pickle scooped out of his pickle barrel, to much on.

I also think back when I look in the cheese section of a supermarket, at all the neat little square packages of cheese stacked according to type and weight and wrapped securely in cellophane casements, of the way cheese was selected and purchased in the earlier part of the century. A clerk would follow you to the cheese table where there would, generally be three big round wheels of cheese, mild, medium, and nippy. He would take a knife and slice off a sliver of each so you could decide which cheese you wanted, then he would cut a good sized wedge, weigh it, wrap it in wax paper and put it in your brown paper bag.

Cheese was very inexpensive and people used a lot of it. A plate of sliced cheese was, usually, on every table with every meal without any thought of cholesterol or its fat content.

The same with butter, my mother churned twenty-five pounds of butter a week, which we took to the local grocery store and traded for our weekly groceries. The butter, after being churned was tightly pressed into a one-pound mold, then wrapped in a parchment paper, called a butter wrapper. This had the woman's name printed on it. When you handed the butter to the clerk, he stacked it on the shelf of an old ice refrigerator with the woman's name facing the customer, so that you could choose the butter you preferred. There wa quite a difference in each person's butter according to the amount of butter coloring, salt added and the length of time the butter was churned.

There was no label as to its' cholesterol content and there was certainly a very high fat content in each pound. It was not processed in any way for a long shelf life and had to be used in a short period of time before it turned rancid. But no packaged butter, margarine, or manufactured butter today, in their plastic tubs or cartons, can even come close, in comparison to the taste of fresh churned, sweet cream butter.

Eggs, too, were taken to the store to exchange for groceries. Nearly every one had a small flock of chickens. They usually had some Rhode Island Reds, which laid brown eggs and were a better eating chicken, and white leg horns which were better layers of white

eggs. I remember, when I wanted a bag of candy, I would run to the "hen house" and grab several eggs to take to the store to trade.

When I take my white eggs out of their styrofoam cartons today, I wish that I had a choice of white or brown. Brown eggs were always thought to be nicer for baking because the yolks were a deeper color.

Even to this day, one of the things I dislike most about packaged foods are the cookies. I miss the cookie containers with glass lids set on wire racks. There were, generally, about twelve of them, each filled with delicious cookies. You could look through the lids at the coconut bars, the big round raisin ones, the chocolate covered marshmallow, the pink and white coconut, Fig Newton's and the new varieties that kept appearing, then make your selection. You could choose one of these, two of those, and soon you had a wonderful assortment in your brown paper bag. The clerk would carefully put them in so that there was no way you could sample one before you paid for them. Now you pick out one package, all of the same kind, sometimes they are fresh, sometimes not. But, always a poor substitute for the wonderful variety we knew, so long ago.

Women, during the early part of this century, would never have thought of making a cake, pie, or biscuits from a package mix. That would have been a disgrace they could never have lived down. They took a lot of pride in their own recipes and when they finally achieved the perfect product through trial and error, that recipe was filed away in their memory or handwritten in a notebook and put in a secret place. They guarded their own creations jealously and enjoyed the prestige of hearing complimentary remarks about how good Mary's rolls were, or Eva's lemon meringue pie or Jane's watermelon pickles.

Women were not the only ones who enjoyed the recognition of a fine meal. Men, also shared in this. It was indeed a status symbol to be able to set a fine table. I heard my father remark, once, about a certain man, "That he had never obtained much of a fortune but was known, throughout the valley, as setting as fine a table as you ever sat down to."

Time meant little in food growth and preparation. Nothing was rushed, nothing was pushed along faster than nature could prepare it. Chickens, today are force fed to mature them and get them on the market in a hurry. Not so, during the earlier part of the century, they were grain fed and each had its' own growth potential. Fryers were killed early, while they were young and
tender. Stewing hens were fattened naturally, so that when you boiled them the broth was rich and yellow and the gravy made from it, into which home-made noodles or dumplings were dropped, was rich with flavor.

Some of the chickens were raised for roasting hens and there was nothing better than one of these large chickens stuffed with home-made dressing (not the prepared package stuffing) but real sage dressing made with home-made bread crumbs. It was usually, about an hour from the time the chickens head was chopped off, the feathers scalded and plucked,

and completely cleaned until it was boiling in the pot, frying in the skillet or roasting in the oven.

When I was growing up the term "fast foods" would have meant how quickly we could prepare a meal or put a sandwich together. Today it means how fast we can purchase it, put it on the table and eat it. It is a fast and busy world with very little time for the pleasure of food preparation and the leisure of eating it. In busy households, today, it is quite rare for a family to sit down together and enjoy their meal. Each member, generally, eats at their own convenience and at various places. They grab a TV dinner, a frozen meat pie or a previously prepared plate and heat it in the microwave. Then eat alone in front of the television, at a kitchen bar or on the way to a ball game. Occasionally, a family does sit down to the table together, but it is more like a marathon race with each one concentrating on finishing their own plate so they can get to a certain event at a certain time.

They say this is the age of finger food, and silverware and china will soon be obsolete. The dinner generation is being replaced by the fast food and snacking generation. How different from the way each family dined in the early part of the century, when they all assembled around the dining room table. It became a place of active conversations, where the events of each day were discussed by all present. It was a combination of group therapy, a confessional booth, a history class, a critics forum, a travel agency and the supreme court. It is an accepted fact that the main reason for family problems and misunderstandings is because we no longer communicate with each other. Most family members have their own separate rooms, separate television, separate phones and separate cars. It seems we all live in one house, but separately, and are only drawn together by the accident of birth. It all goes to show you how far we have pulled away from the big dining room table where communication with each other was as natural as eating the good old fashioned meat, potatoes and gravy.

Dawna R. Derr

A SOCIAL HISTORY OF SUGAR CITY

The development of Sugar City was started in 1903 by the Sugar City Townsite Company of Salt Lake City, Utah. Nearly a whole section of land was purchased. The south half was to be used as a town site and on the north half a sugar factory was to be built. The land was purchased from the following people: Willard Ricks, Christian Johnson, Amos C. Jacobs, Conrad Miller, C.B. Valentine, Hyrum Bell and John Dalling. The laying of the cornerstone of the factory took place on December 8, 1903. It was laid by Joseph F. Smith, the company director. Idaho's Governor Morrison spoke at the ceremony. Once the factory was completed, the L.D.S. Church brought three men from Germany to teach the company workers how to make sugar. Mark Austin, considered the founder of Sugar City, was named assistant general manager of the sugar company. An interesting feature of the company charter is Article Twelve which states:

"No intoxicated liquors shall ever be sold or otherwise disposed of, nor shall gambling or prostitution be permitted..."

In April 1904, the Sugar City streets were graded and board sidewalks were built throughout the town. Buildings had to be at least 30 feet from the sidewalk line. When property was acquired there was a clause in the deed stating that "within so many days after the purchase and the completion of the house, a white fence had to be erected and ditches placed in front of the house." The only sugar factory house still standing today is the residence of Dewey Furness located on North Fremont.

Sugar City had some advantages when it started out. It was centrally located in the richest part of Fremont County; it was laid out beautifully; it was on the line of the Oregon Short Line; and, it was within a reasonable distance from many beautiful attractions. Yes, the sugar factory brought money into the city. Many sheep men came because of the open range and the beet industry made an animal feed called pulp, which was good for the sheep. Every year the sugar company would have a large number of cattle shipped in because the pulp also provided a good feed for them.

The village board had its first meeting January 9, 1906. The first ordinances adopted outlawed disturbing the peace, which carried a $30 fine or a 50 day jail sentence; and, drunkenness, which was punishable by a $25 fine or 30 days in jail. Young men were required to spend two days a month working on city streets (one day with a team and horse) between April 1 and October 1 or they had to pay a delinquency tax. Another ordinance prohibited "bikes, trikes or other equipment on the sidewalks." A 9:00 p.m. curfew was set for children under 14 years of age and a bell rang each evening at curfew time. Immoral dancing was also prohibited. Among the outlawed dances were: ragging, turkey trot, bunny hop, grizzly bear and the three-step. Violators faced a fine not less than $10 and not more than $60 or one day in jail for each $2 of fine. The first marshal of Sugar City was David Sanders. The jail house was located where the city pump house is today.

Other community services included Dr. Shoup's eight-room hospital on Teton Avenue. In 1912 he had the first car in Sugar City. Anna Harris was the town nurse. A picture of a funeral in 1919 shows one white horse and one black horse pulling the funeral coach. This meant the deceased was not rich. Two white horses denoted wealth. In the early days of Sugar City much of the entertainment was provided at the Opera House. One of the groups that came to entertain was the E. Forest Taylor Company. Theatricals were also provided by the Community Drama Society. There were home parties, candy pulls, dances and hay rides. One lady recalled a Fourth of July celebration when her mother won the plump ladies' race and a dollar prize. Dancing was one of the main activities. Many were held at the Fremanida Dance Hall. In 1905 the Commercial Club was organized. In 1906 the ball park was moved to the block directly adjacent to the northeast part of the city park.

In 1908 the school had outgrown the building which was erected in 1904. It became necessary to build a much larger rock building west of the railroad tracks. The large rock building had two floors, large class rooms, an office and a central heating system. When this building was finished and ready for use a big celebration was had by all. It was in this building the school hot lunch program was started. Our P.T.A. president, Lottie Ricks Smith, would make hot soup and put it in a milk can. Then they would put it on a small wagon, or in the winter on a sleigh, and deliver it to the school. Each child had their own soup bowl. Students liked to go to Harrison's Meat Market to buy big dill pickles for two cents, large chocolate bars for two cents or chunks of bologna for five cents. Some of our first teachers were Mrs. Luella McQuiston Garner, who taught for 43 years and who "wasn't scared of anybody or anything;" Henry Eddington, a one-armed teacher "who didn't have a handicap at all;" Jennie Waldram, a teacher and seamstress; and Agnes West was our music teacher. All of these teachers went the extra mile to help students.

Sunrise stocking dances were held at the high school. Students wore mismatched socks to dance from sunrise unto school started. On January 22, 1921 a group of young Sugar-Salem High School students formed the Ladies Glee Club. Lorin Ricks, a student, played for them. They paid five cents monthly dues. This club continued singing for 26 years. After their high school years were over they would meet at the home of Winiefred Ricks each Thursday at 5 p.m.

The girls would met for just one hour and practice different songs. They put on concerts and took the money from the sale of tickets to buy instruments for the men in the service. At the time the Idaho Falls Temple was being built they put on musicals and used the money to buy furnishings such as: curtains, covers, etc., for the temple.

Our first school paper was called "Commencement." It was dedicated to John K. Orme to show our love for him for the devotion he had for the students. He was also president of the Sugar-Salem School Board. The author of the following poem was Christi Schwinderman. He was a noted artist and writer. He came to Sugar City with his mother and brothers from Switzerland in the early 1900's. The poem was written on the stair wall

of our high school. It was destroyed along with the building at the time of the Teton Flood, but it will always live on in the memories of many of us who walked the halls of Sugar-Salem High School.

School Creed: **When A Man Is Really Educated**

He will know that success or failure in life is caused more by mental capacities.
He will cultivate his manners as well as his brains.
He will not think his diploma is his passport to success.
He will appreciate the higher, finer things.
He will not be a snob; he will be kind to a considerate of others, rich and poor.
He will know the value of spare time for self improvements.
He will be willing to take advice of the more experienced.
He will control himself under provocation.
He will not always think of himself.
He will know that it is more important to make a life than it is to make a living.

The late Thomas C. Neibaur, a Sugar City resident, was the first Idahoan to be presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor. The award is the nation's highest military honor. He was cited for bravery in the Battle of Argonne in World War I on October 18, 1918. General John J. Pershing, supreme general of U.S. forces in World War I, presented the medal to Neibaur and invited the young private to dinner. When he returned to Idaho, Neibaur received a hero's welcome. The state declared May 17, 1919, Neibaur Day. Neibaur died in a veteran's hospital in 1942.

The Sugar Ward was created as a division of the Salem Ward on July 24, 1904. Victor Hegsted, the bishop of the Salem Ward, conducted the meeting. The Stake President, Thomas E. Bassett, and his counselor, James W. Webster, were present. The new bishop sustained that day was Mark Austin. J. B. Gaddie and Alfred Ricks Sr. were sustained as his counselors with Hans M. Hansen as clerk. The membership of the ward was about five hundred at that time. For a short time the meetings were held in the Park School Building. A building project was started for a new meeting house. No financial assessments were made for the building fund. Each contributor was his own judge of what and how much to give. In eight months time the meeting house was completed and dedicated. The architect that drew up the plans for this fine building was Franz Salzner. He also built the Idaho Falls Temple. A pump organ was installed in the new church and a young priesthood boy was appointed to work the pump. Alfred Ricks Sr. succeeded Mark Austin as bishop. He served for 23 years.

In 1979 a Maverick Gas Station opened for business in Sugar City. The business district consists of a grocery store, a post office, a hardware store, a real estate office, two gas stations and a number of potato based industries. A new park was built on the southwest of town, just west of the railroad tracks. It was completed in 1981. It has a double tennis court, two large lights for the baseball fields and a hill for the children to play

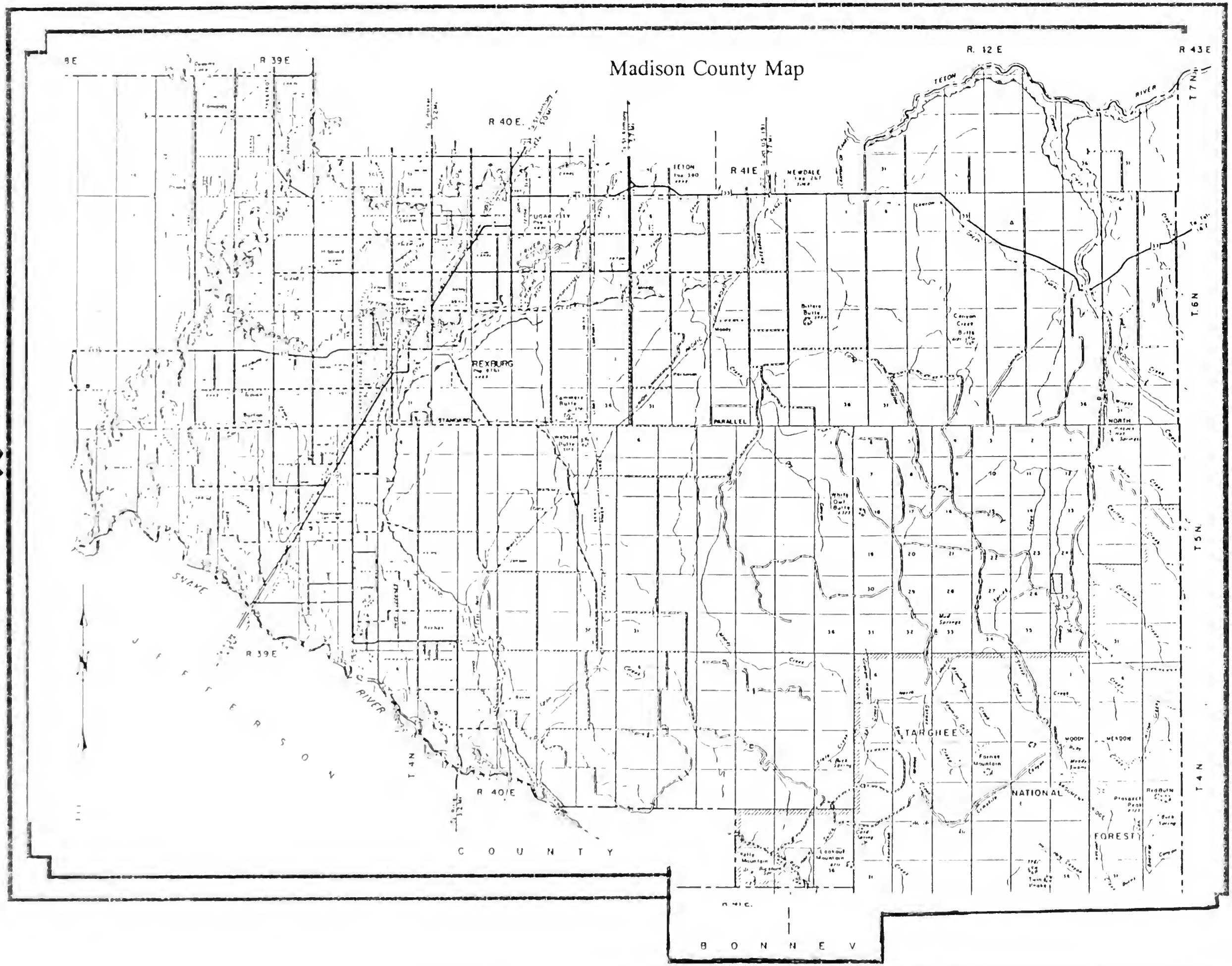
on. The other city park is more for family picnicking and community parties. The population of Sugar City has increased with many lots for sale to be used for new homes. We have five new school buildings but still the schools say they are in need of more class rooms. On October 12, 1980, four new wards were organized in Sugar City making a total of nine wards in the Sugar City Stake. Sugar City looks forward to growth and prosperity in the future.

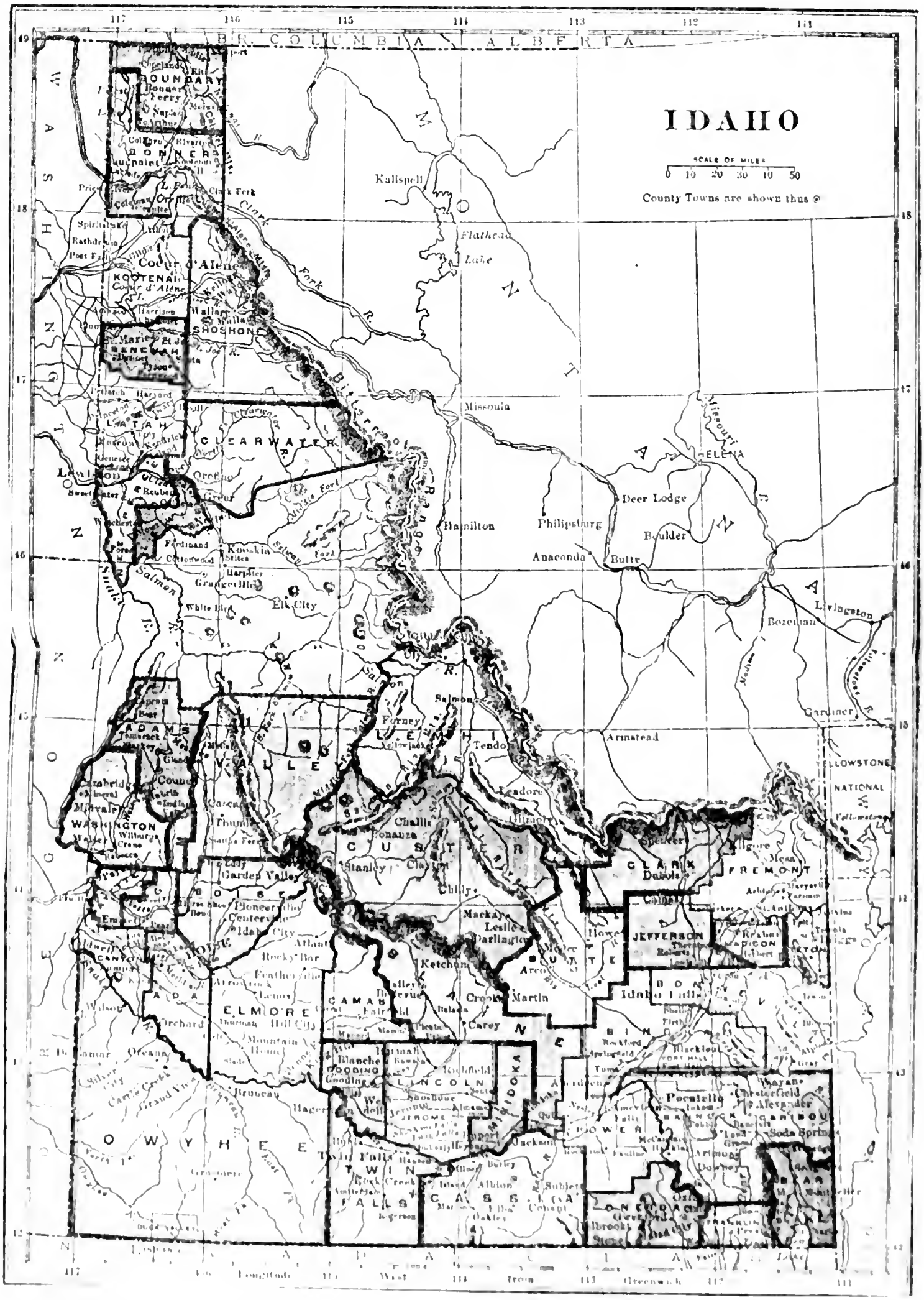
Marjorie Ricks Romrell
Excerpts from news article: *"Residents Recall History Of 'Sweetest City,'"* Laurie Luke and Faye Petersen

IDAHO CENTURY FARM PROGRAM

The following list was compiled from applications sent to Boise to qualify as Century Farms in Madison County. There may be others that did not apply which would also be eligible but they are unknown to the Committee.

Last Name/Business	First/Spouse	Address 1/Address 2	County/City	Year	Acres
Archibald	Reo S.	1421 North 1000 West	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1886	138
Brown's Land & Cattle Co., Inc.	Randolph	Randolph/Mildred/W. Theron 6028 West 4000 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1889	260
Byrne	James Ross Joyce	8747 South 1600 East	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1890	425
Dalling	Lyle	1316 East 3500 North	MADISON Sugar City, ID	1884	50
Fisher	Robert Blair Todd Blair	P.O. Box 264	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1883	160
Hemsley, Jr.	Mrs. Edward	4042 West 6000 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1883	62
Mortensen	Maud M. James G.	4795 North Salem Road	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1862	80
Peterson	George P. Faye Johnson	4613 North 3000 East	MADISON Sugar City, ID	1887	160
Pond	Lois L. Gaylen S.	3546 West 6800 South	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1889	83
Rigby	Alice Alden	3156 West 3000 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1889	70
Rigby	Harold L. Vaudys J.	2234 West 2000 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1888	118
Saurey	LeFoy	3276 West 4000 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1883	160
Squires	Sarah Elizabeth	961 East 7800 South	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1885	60
Steel	Paul C. Shirley M.	4425 North 5631 West	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1883	80
Sutton	Stanley Pauline	578 East 7000 South	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1889	230
Thomson	Linda M. Jay R.	4980 Bitterbrush	MADISON Boise, ID	1883	52
Gladys G.W. Blanchard Trust		Westover/Newman/Hathaway 489 West 1500 North	MADISON Rexburg, ID	1888	45
Wilding	Milton S. Mona Pincock	2936 East Highway 33	MADISON Sugar City, ID	1883	80


Madison County Map
R 39 E
R 40 E.
R 41 E
R. 42 E
R 43 E
T 7 N
T 6 N
T 5 N
T 4 N
TETON
RIVER
SNAKE
RIVER
REXBURG
NEWDALE
TARGHEE
NATIONAL
FOREST
C O U N T Y
B O N N E V


IDAHO
SCALE OF MILES
0 10 20 30 40 50
County Towns are shown thus ◎
BR. COLUMBIA
ALBERTA
WASHINGTON
OREGON
MONTANA
WYOMING
NEVADA
UTAH
BOUNDARY
BONNER
KOOTENAI
Coeur d'Alene
SHOSHONE
BENEWAH
LATAH
CLEARWATER
Lewiston
Salmon R.
Elk City
ADAMS
WASHINGTON
VALLEY
BOISE
CUSTER
LEMHI
CLARK
FREMONT
JEFFERSON
MADISON
BUTTE
BONNEVILLE
BINGHAM
CAMAS
ELMORE
ADA
CANYON
GOODING
LINCOLN
JEROME
MINIDOKA
BLAINE
TWIN FALLS
CASSIA
POWER
BANNOCK
CARIBOU
ONEIDA
FRANKLIN
BEAR LAKE
OWYHEE
Kalispell
Flathead Lake
Missoula
Hamilton
Philipsburg
Anaconda
Deer Lodge
HELENA
Boulder
Butte
Bozeman
Livingston
Gardiner
Armstead
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
Salmon
Challis
Stanley
Ketchum
Pocatello
Twin Falls
Idaho Falls
Longitude West from Greenwich

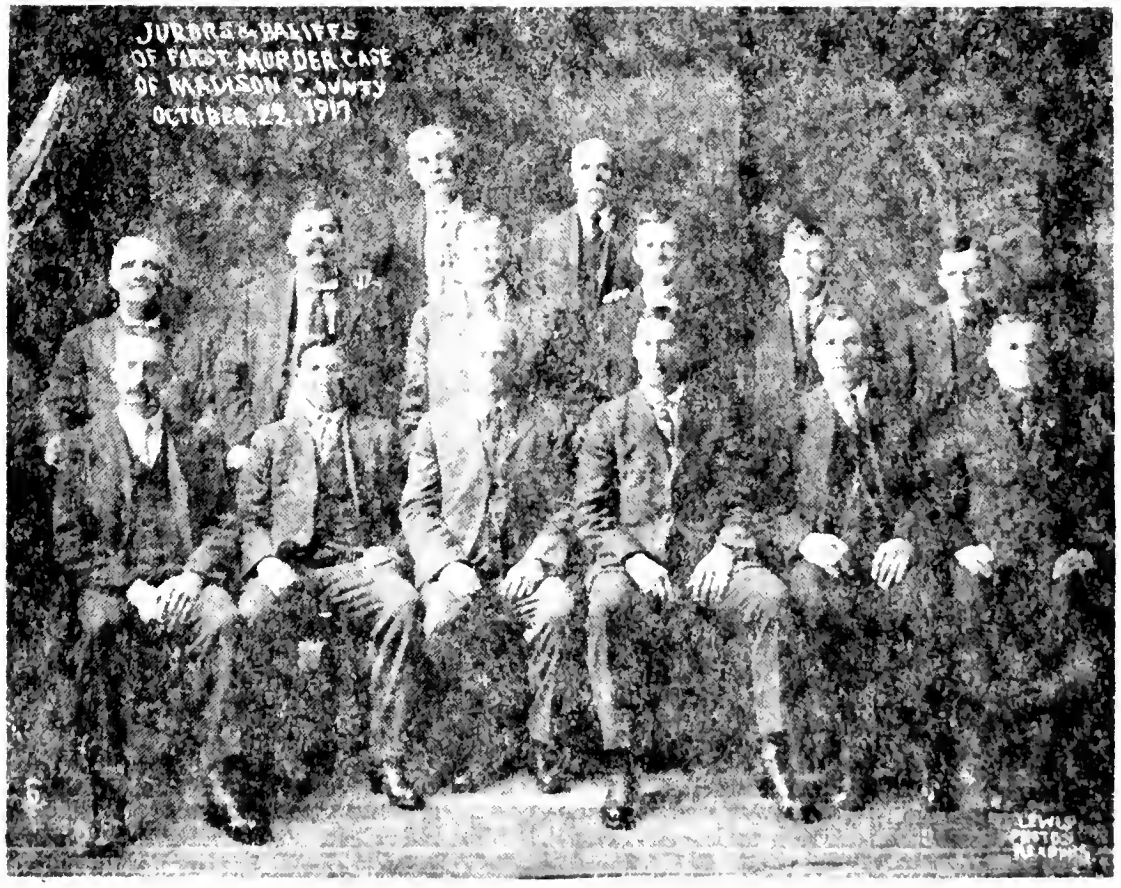
Idaho Map

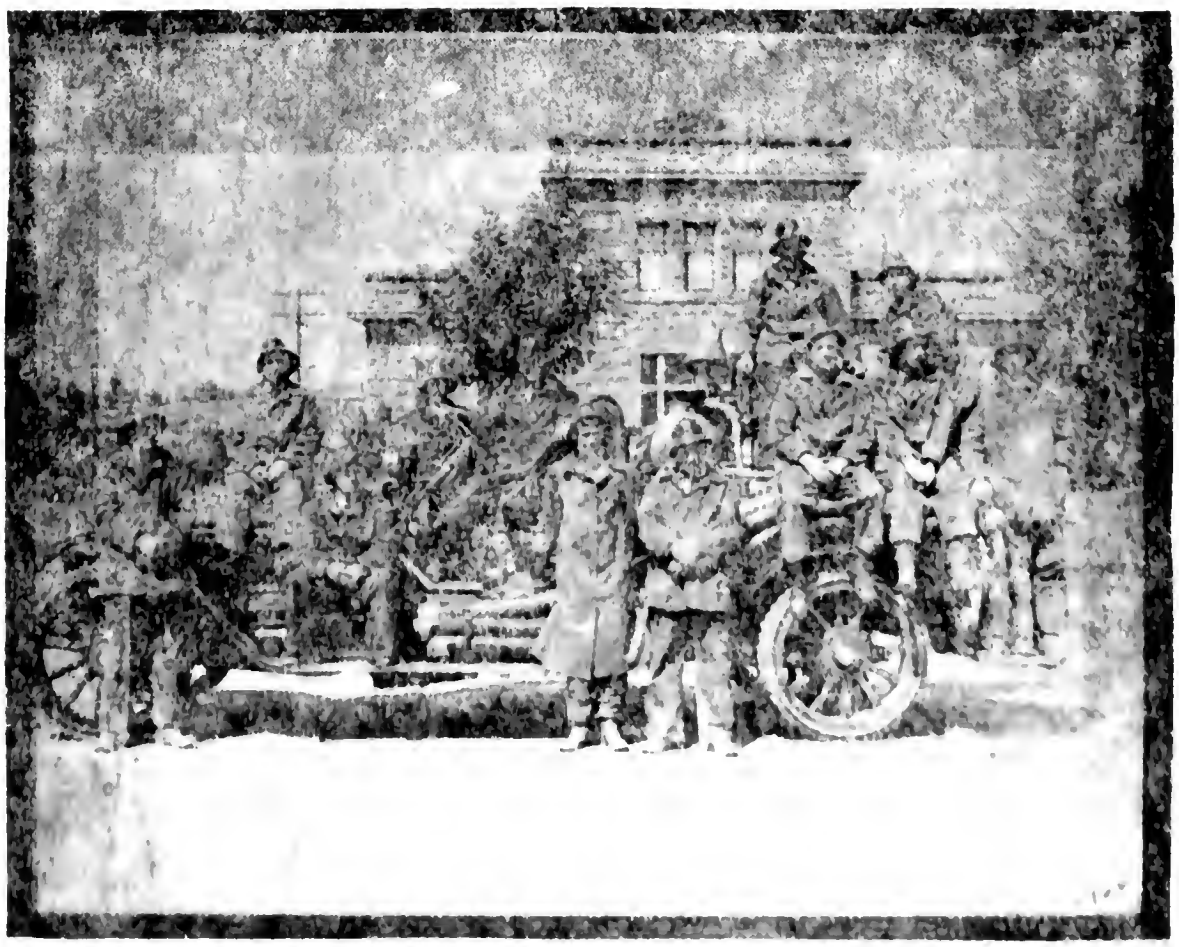
MADISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Madison County Courthouse 1988

Early Main Street looking West

Looking South on Main Street 1930

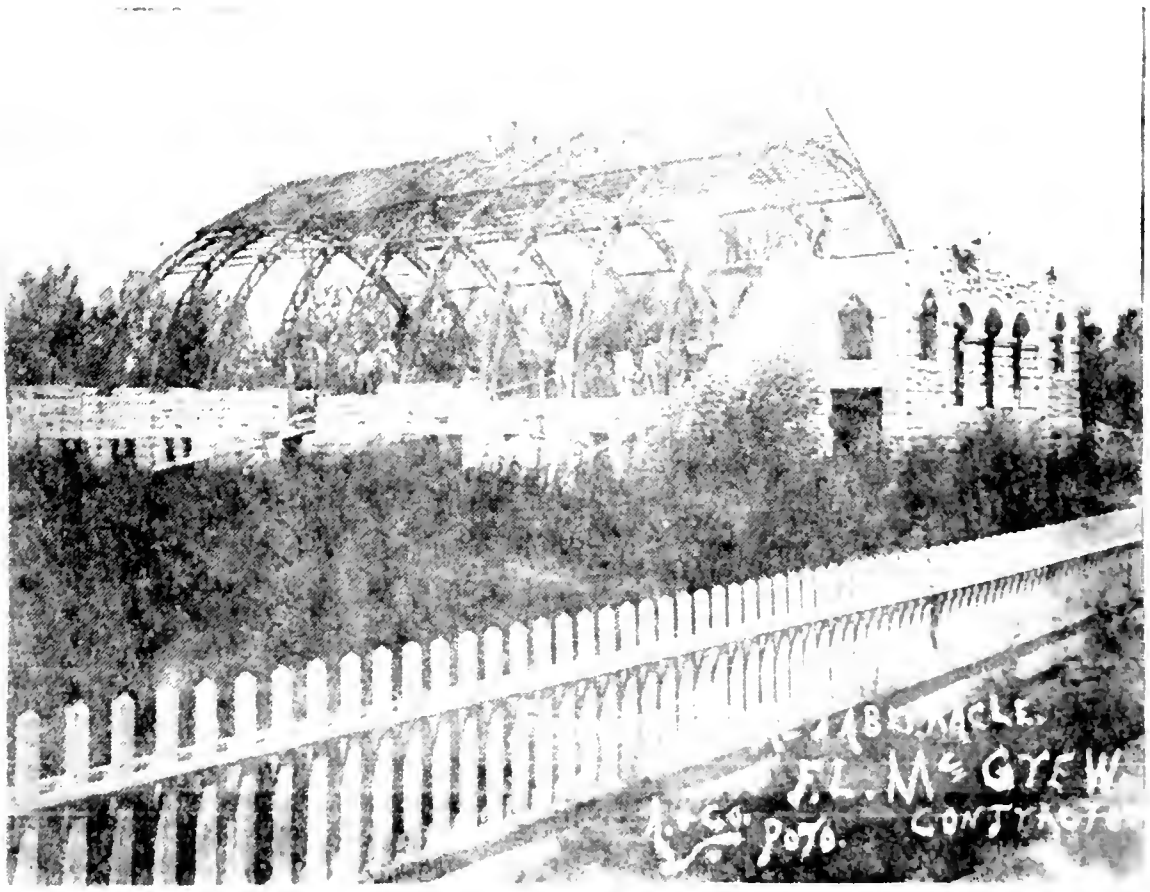




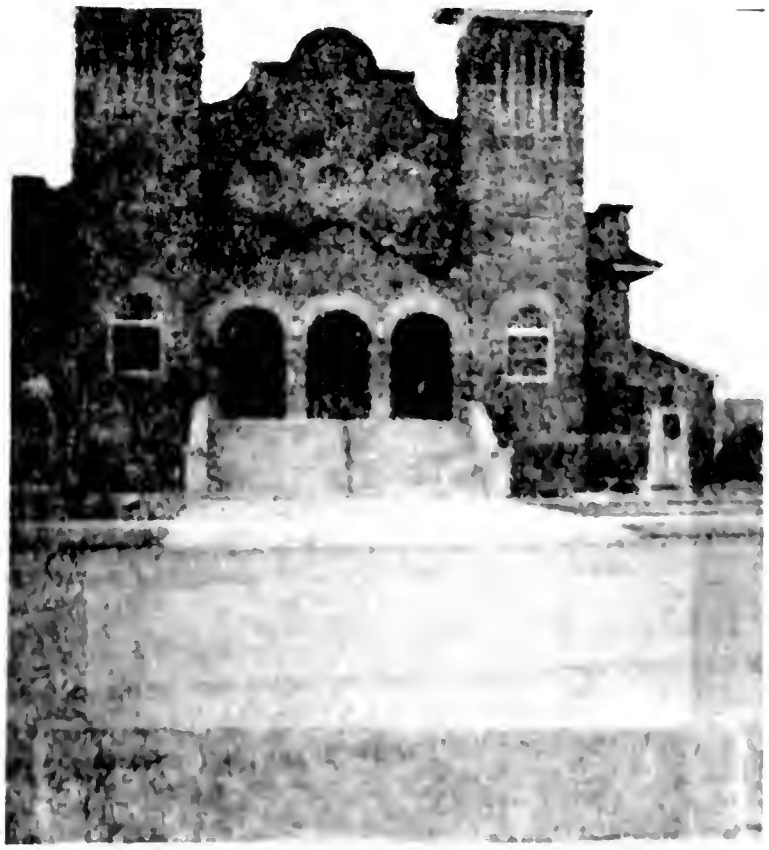
Volunteer Fire Department 1936 – Picture taken in front of the Stake Office Building that was next to the Tabernacle

Rexburg Chamber of Commerce 1950

County Officers being sworn in



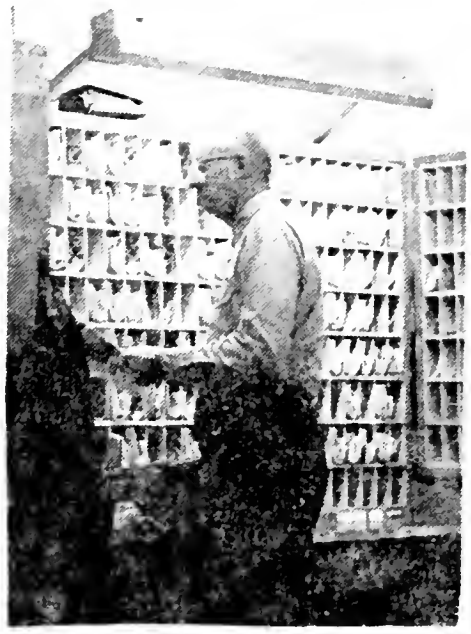
Building the Tabernacle



Tabernacle 1991

Main Street looking West 1991

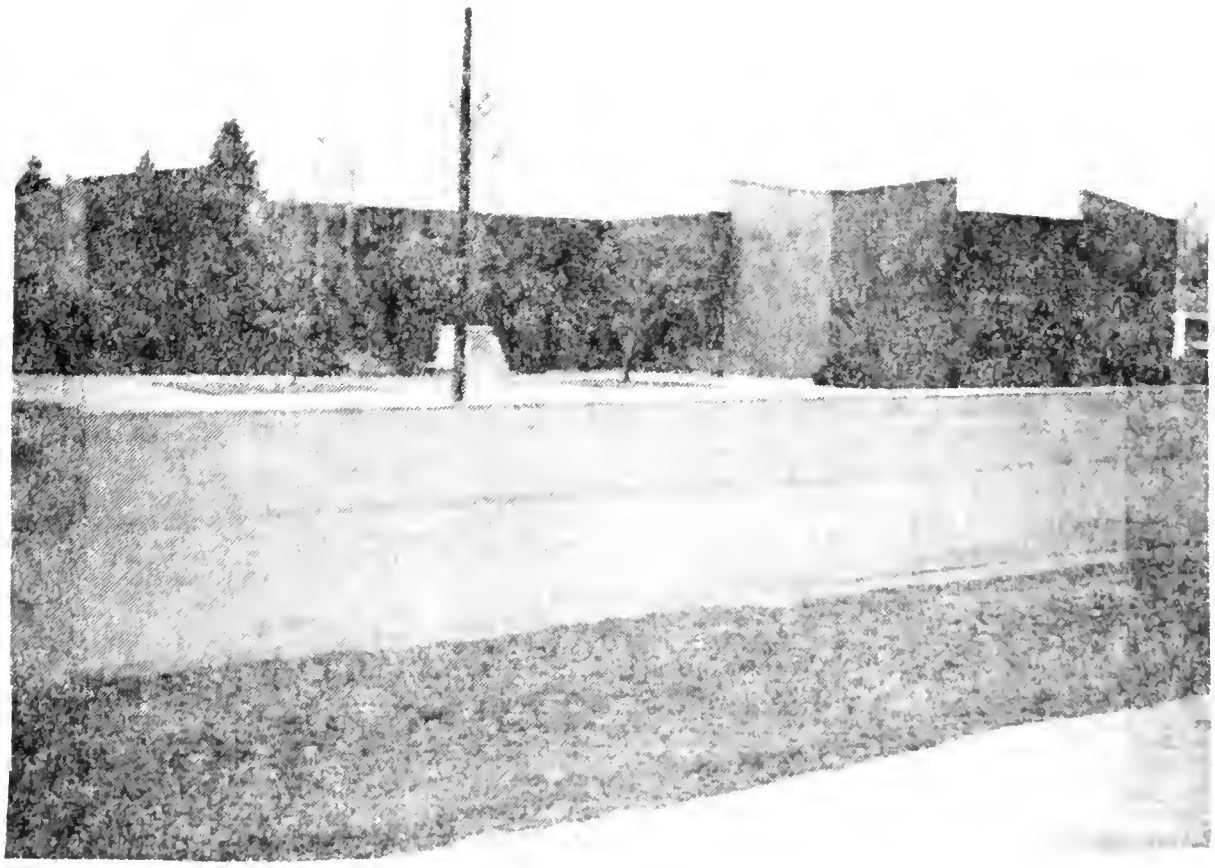
Rexburg City Hall 1991



Post Office Clerk Joe Barber

Post Office Clerk Jesse Stephensen

Postmaster Parlette Petersen third from right



Madison County Library 1991

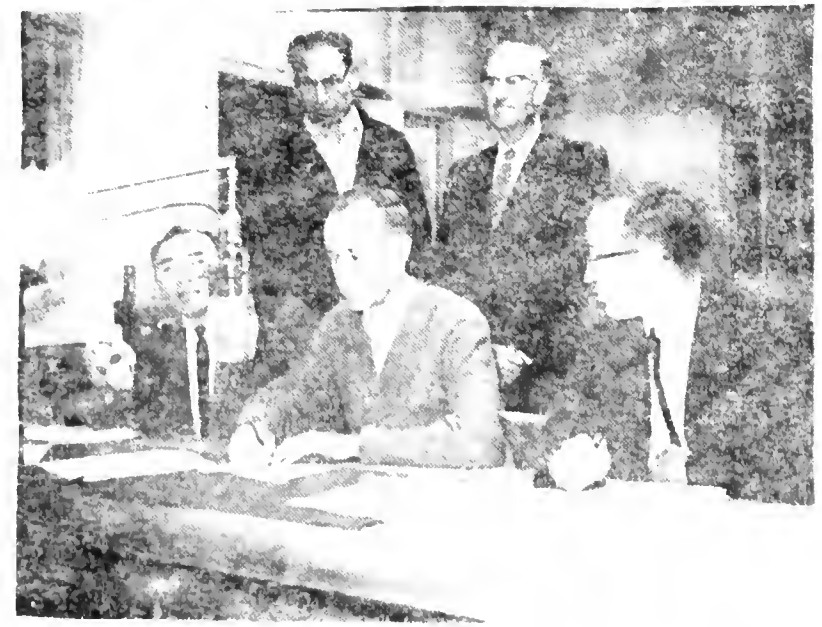
Rexburg Post Office

Madison Memorial Hospital 1951 under construction

Madison Memorial Hospital

Train Depot in background

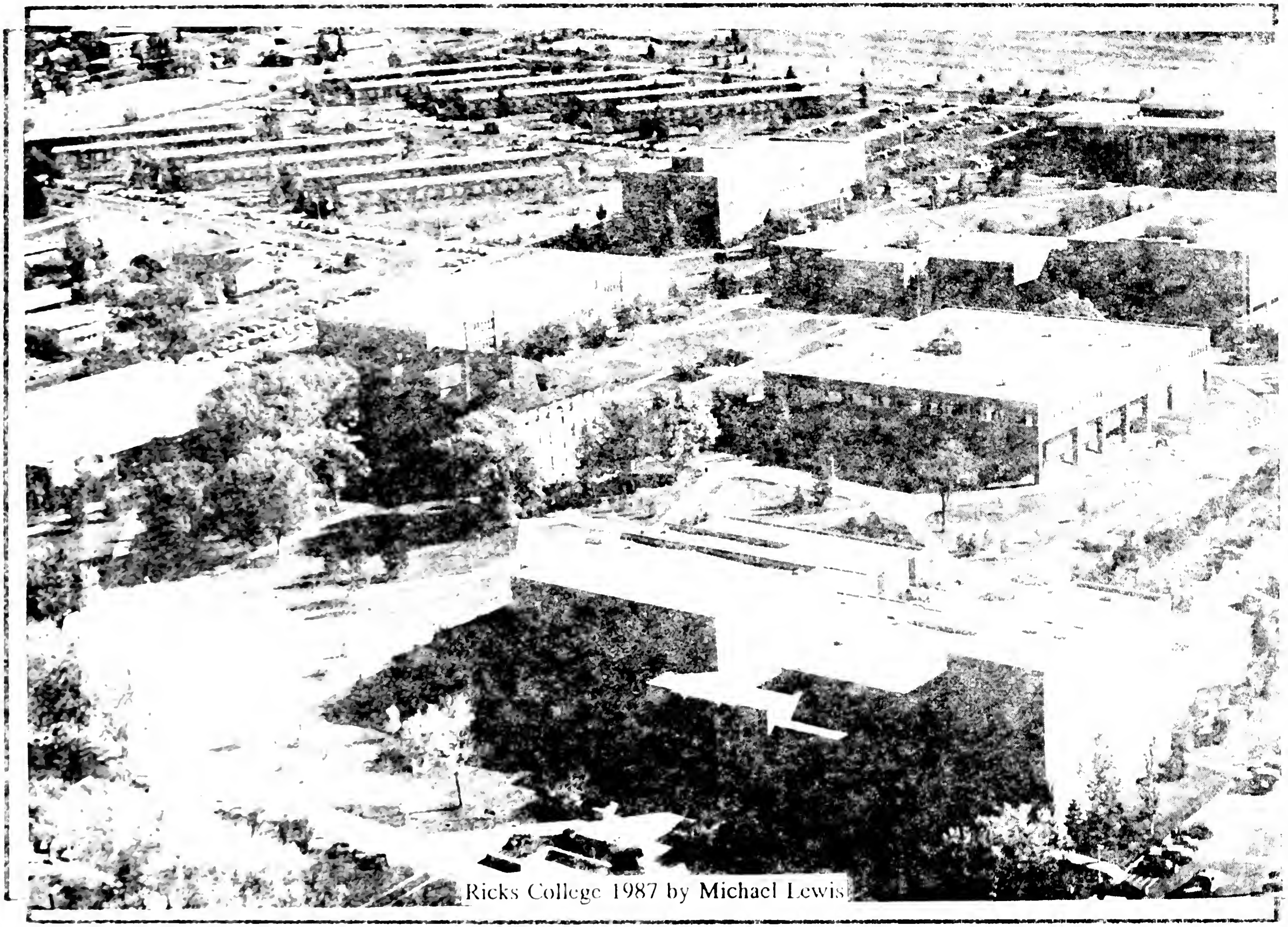
4 July 1942 Parade



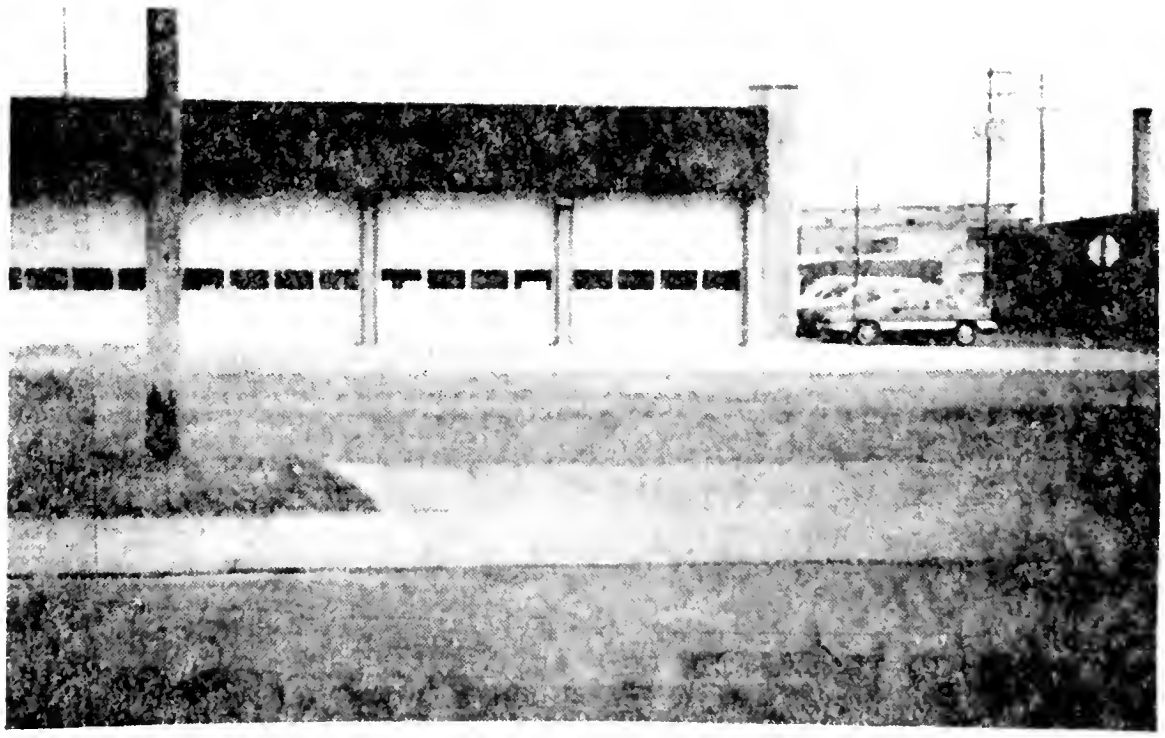
Radio Day at KRXK by the Jaycees

Men working at County Fairgrounds

Idaho National Guard Armory



Ricks College 1987 by Michael Lewis

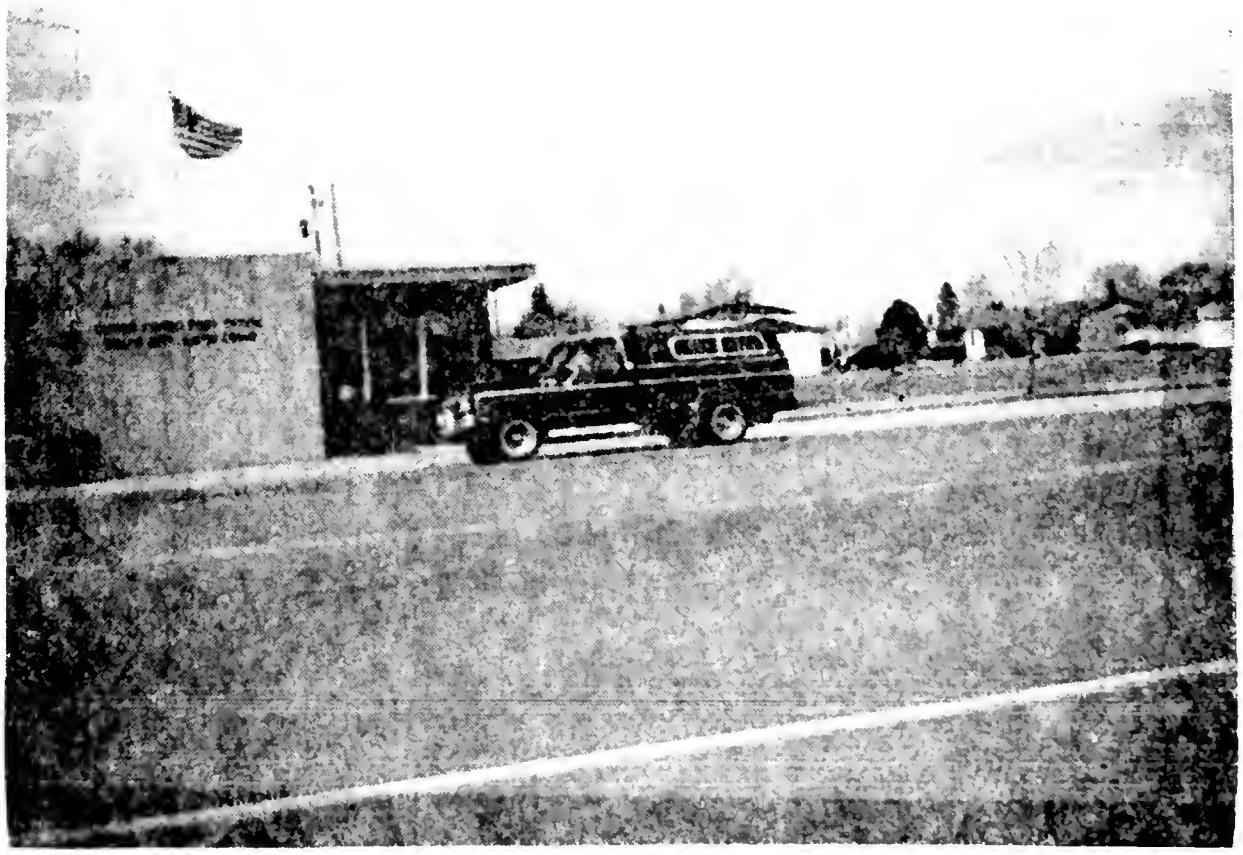


Fire Department Building

Madison High School

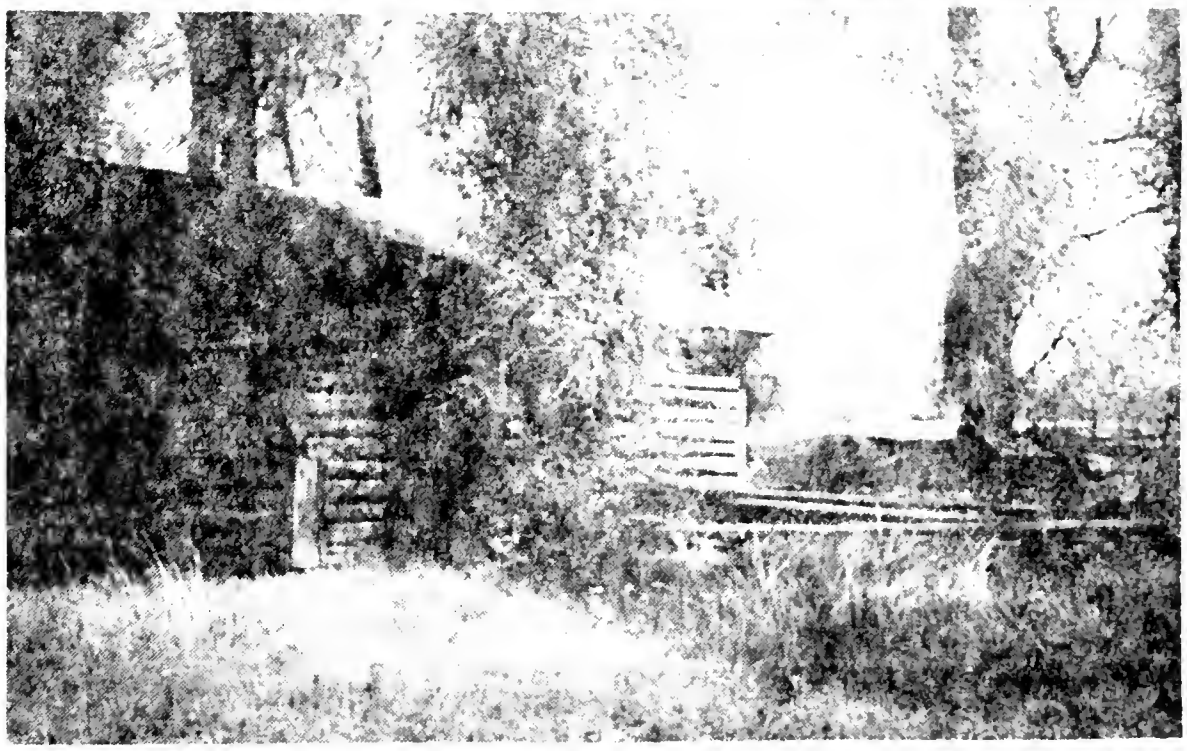
Sugar City Furniture and Hardware 1991

Sugar City Municipal Building



Sugar City Post Office

Sugar City High School



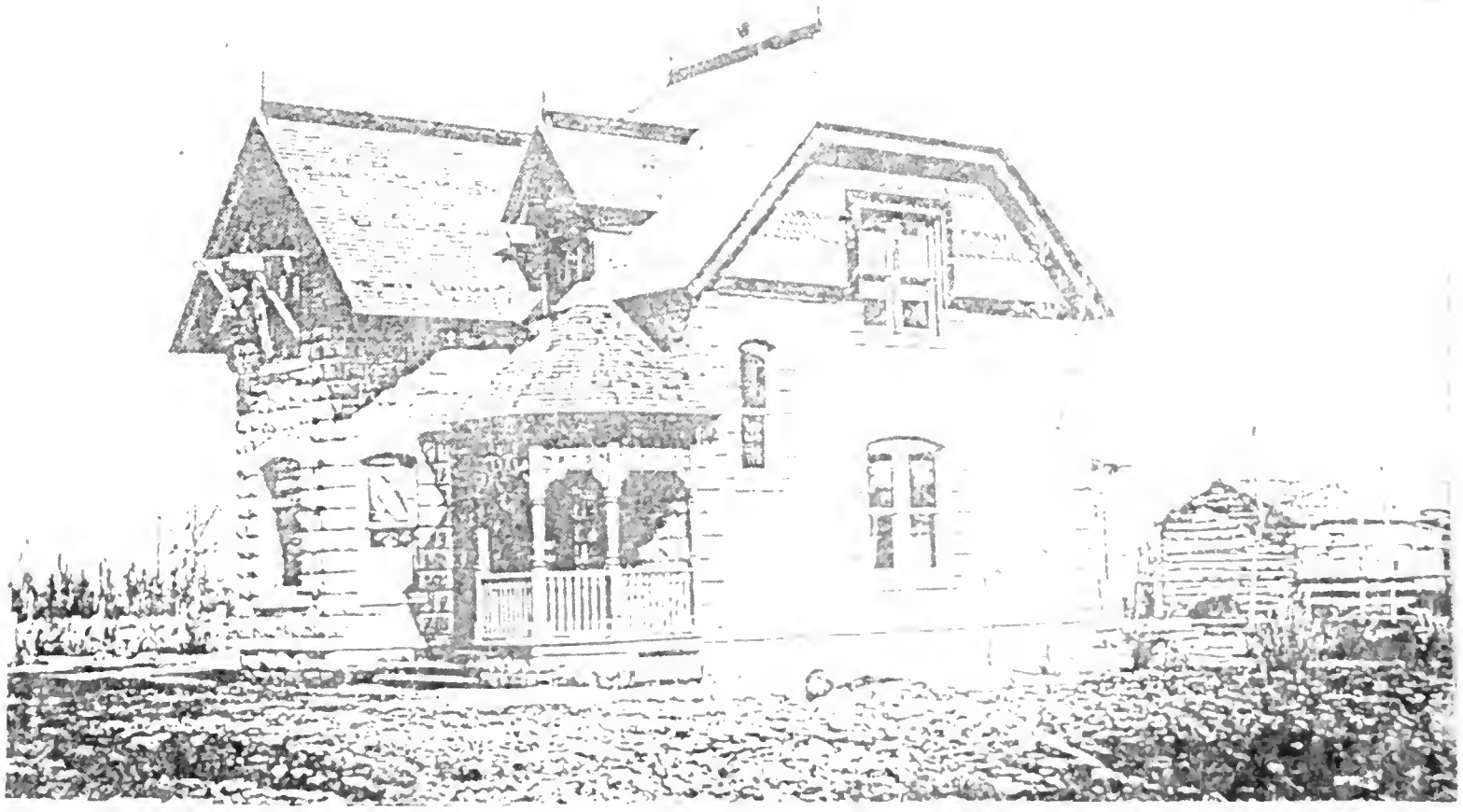
Anderson Family Homes since 1885

The home built by Henry J. Flamm before 1915

The Rex and Dora Lee Walz home west of Rexburg. It was built by Conrad Walz about 1915.

The home built for the John L. Jacobs family.

The home built by Mark Austin It is across the street from the Jacobs home

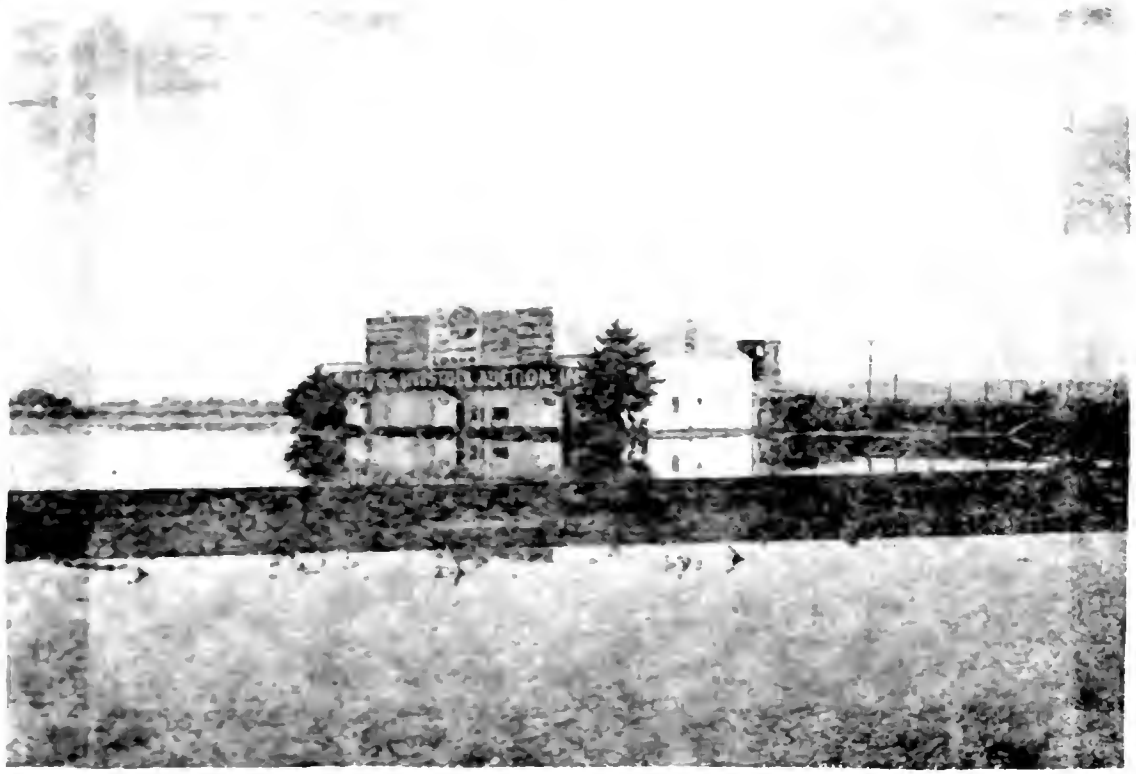


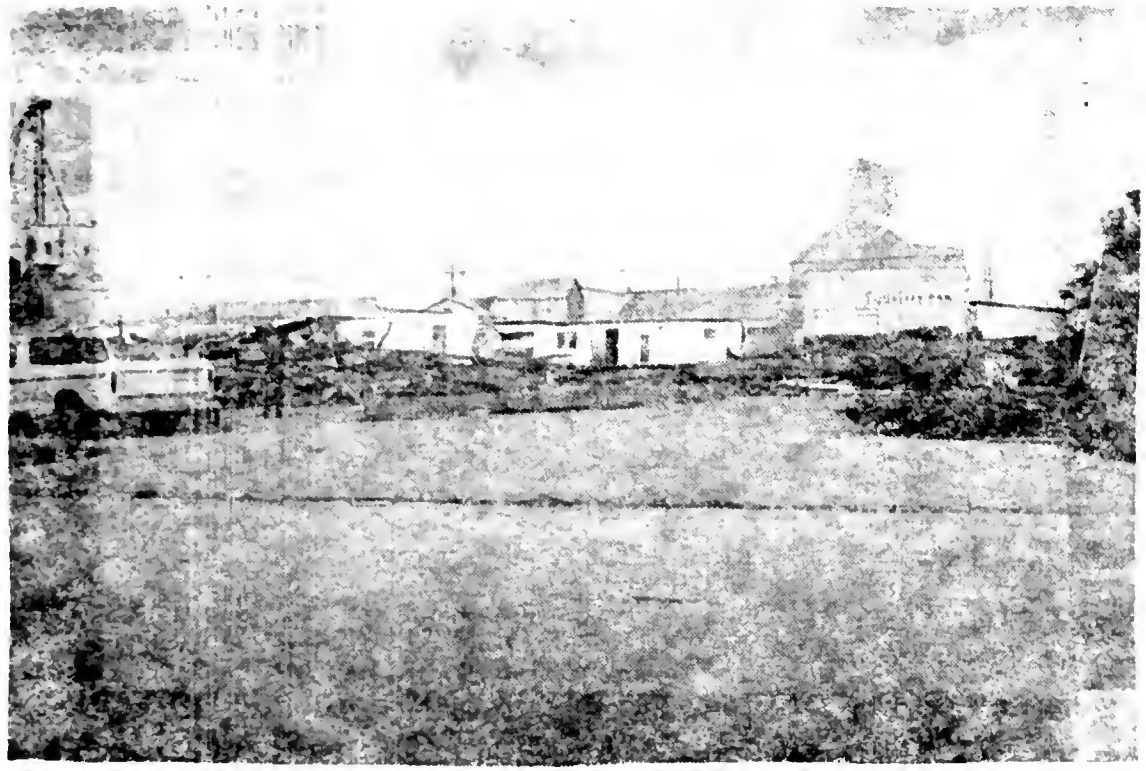
The John Smellie home built about 1891. The remodeled home below.

The John Smellie home 1991.

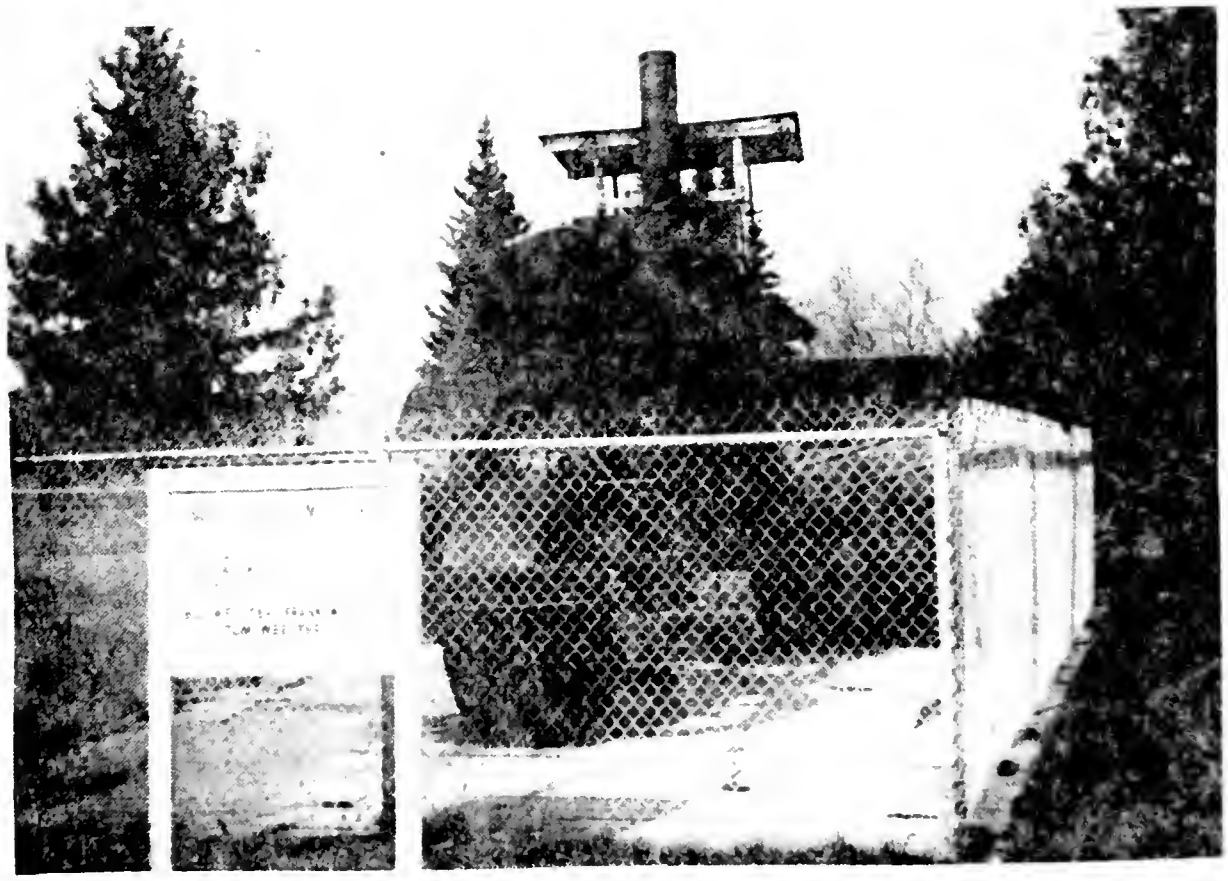
The Doyle and Lola Walker home built by the James Webster family.

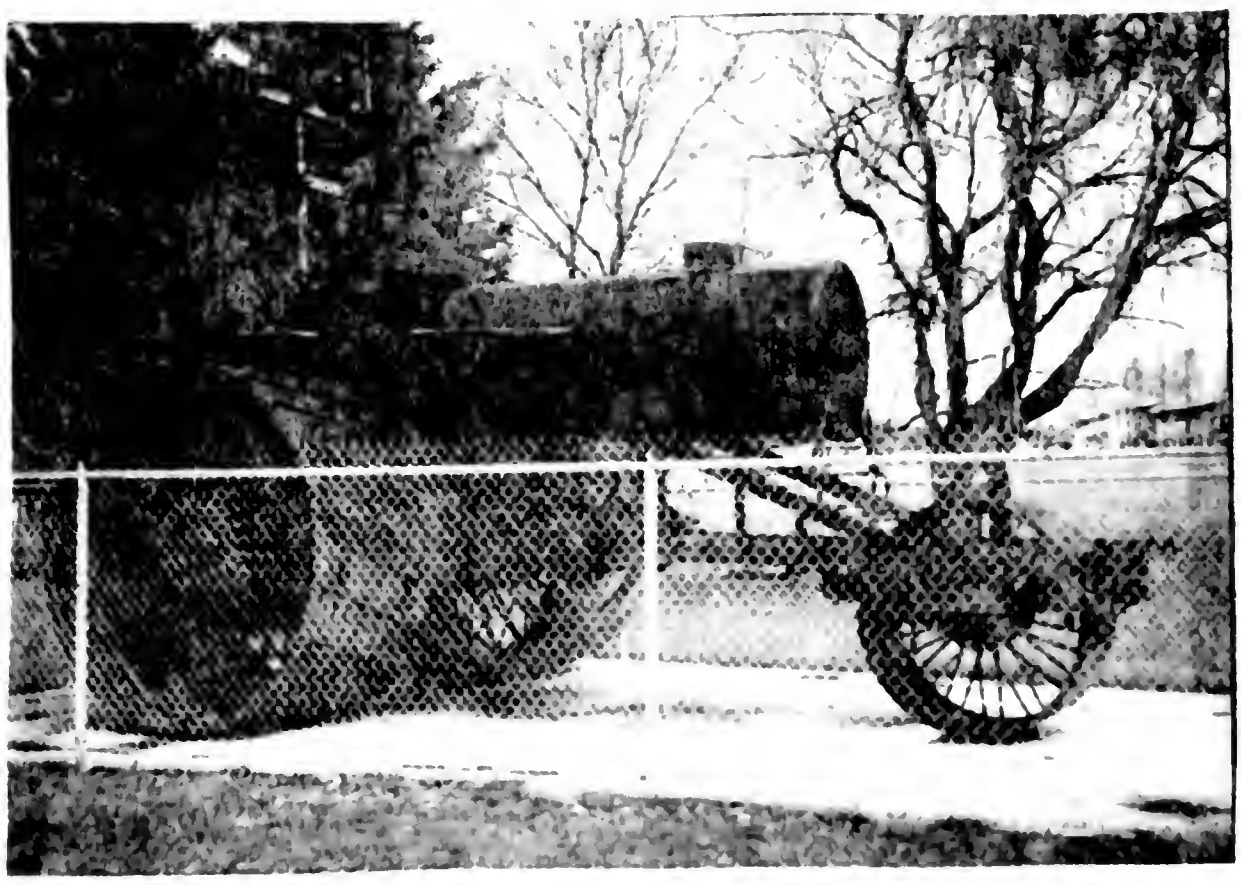
Flood Damage to Homes 1976

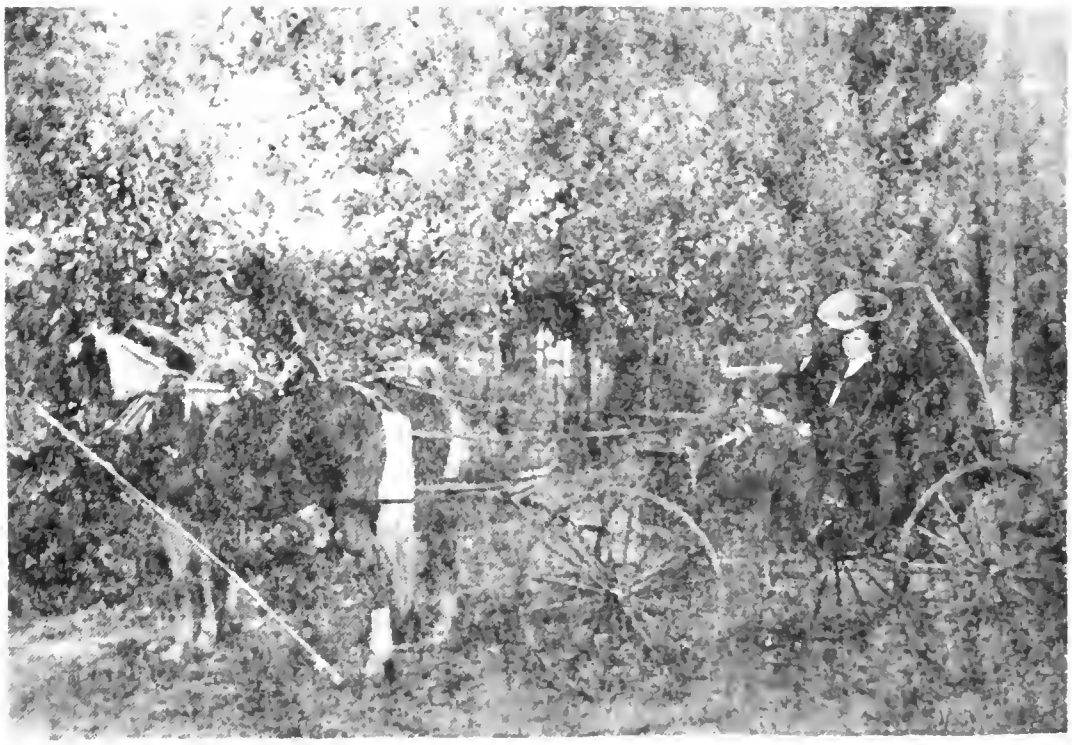




Flood Damage to Businesses 1976

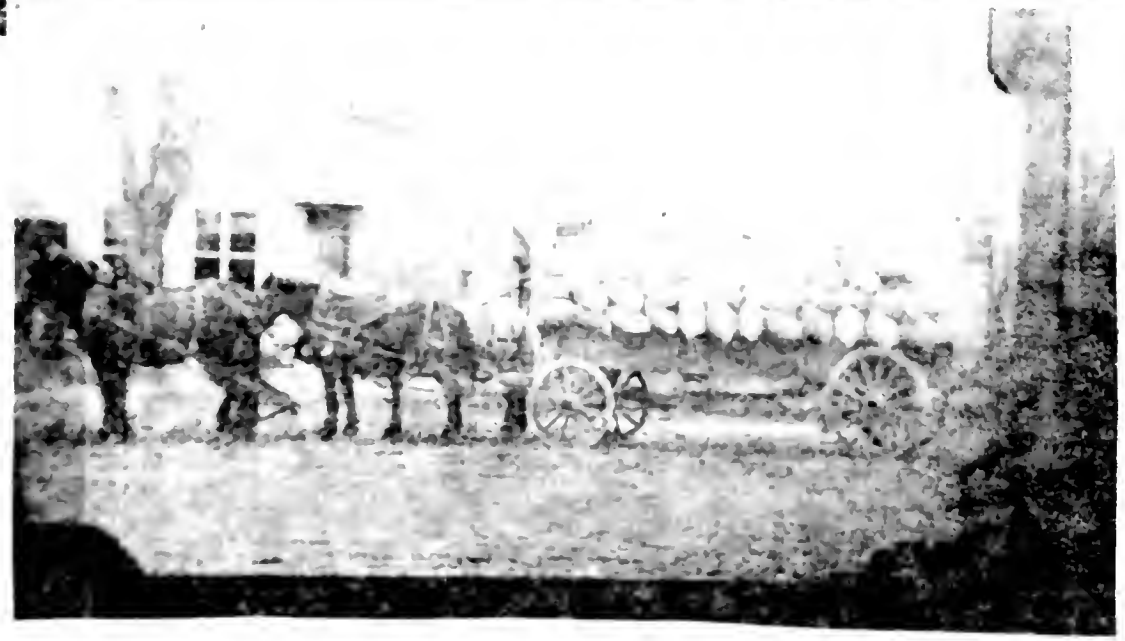




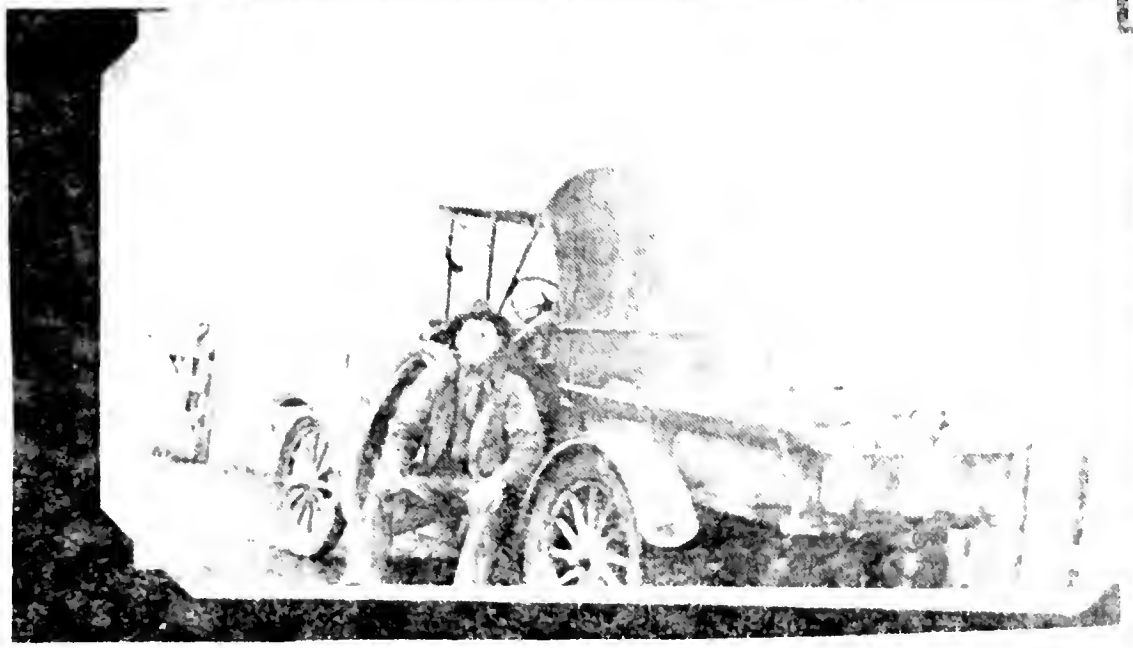


Mary Ann Felt and Josiah Hendricks, picture taken 1906 on Main Street where the Courthouse now stands

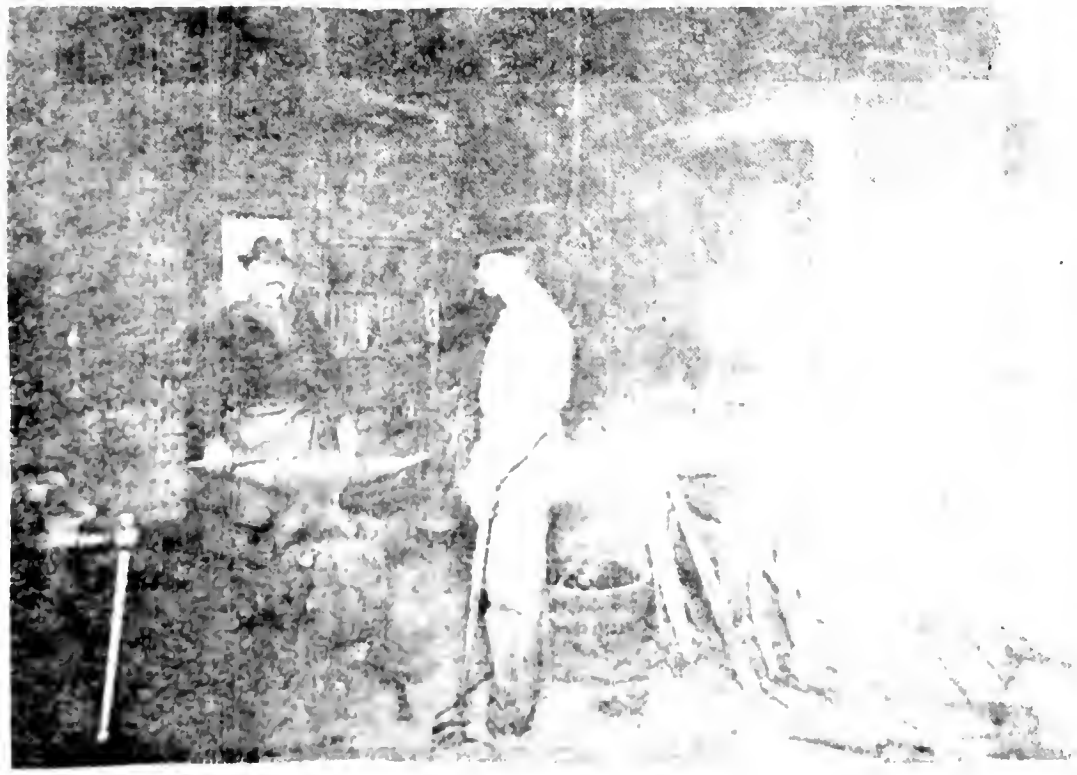
Jim Webster and Will Walker



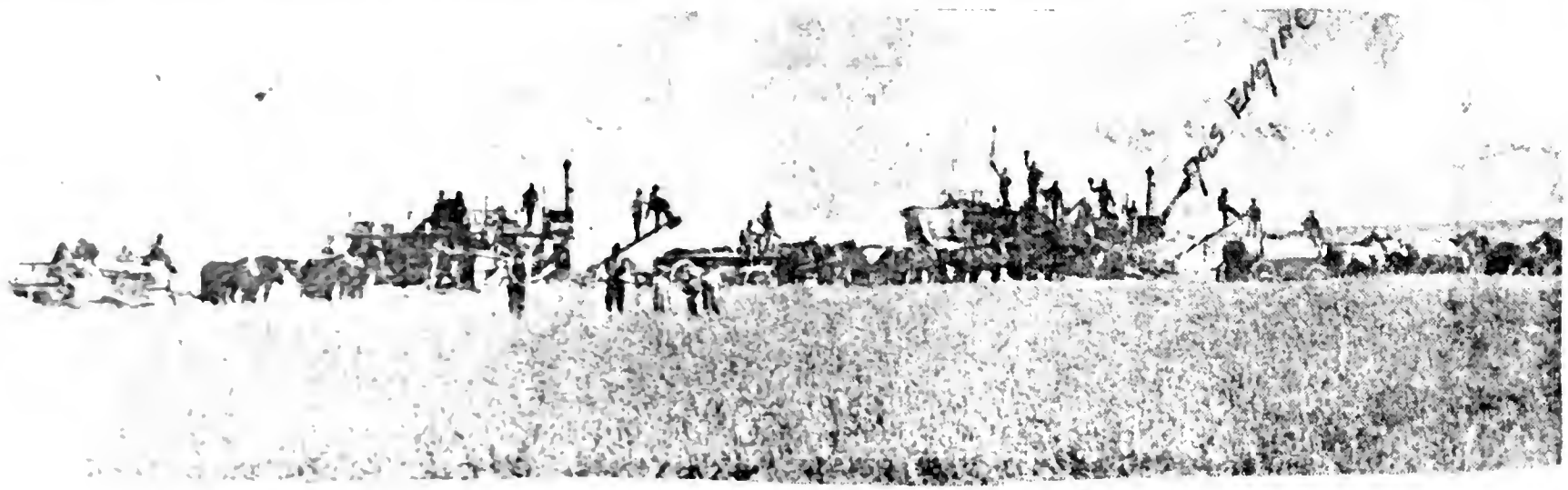
Hauling grain 1918



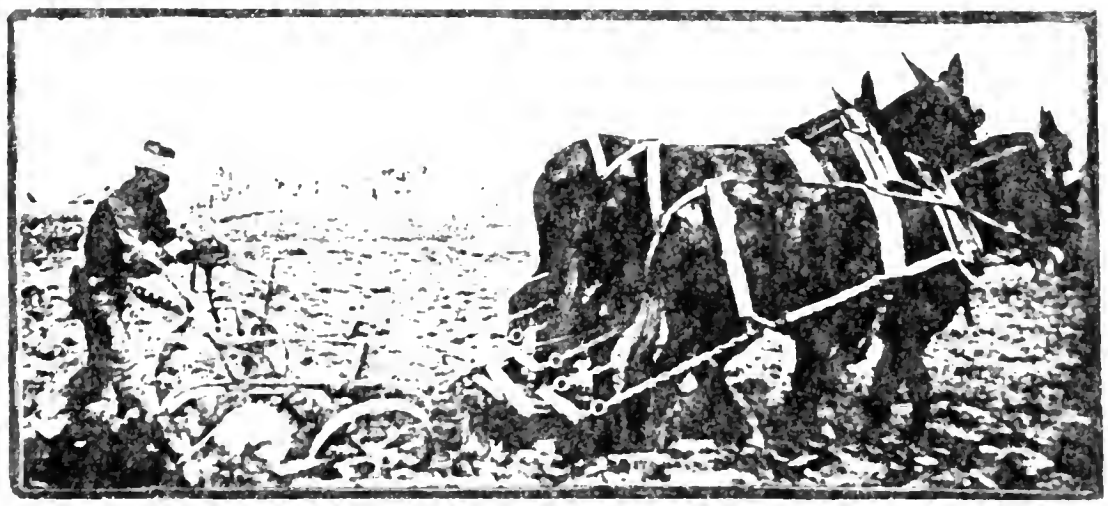
Ross Parkinson with a load of rocks



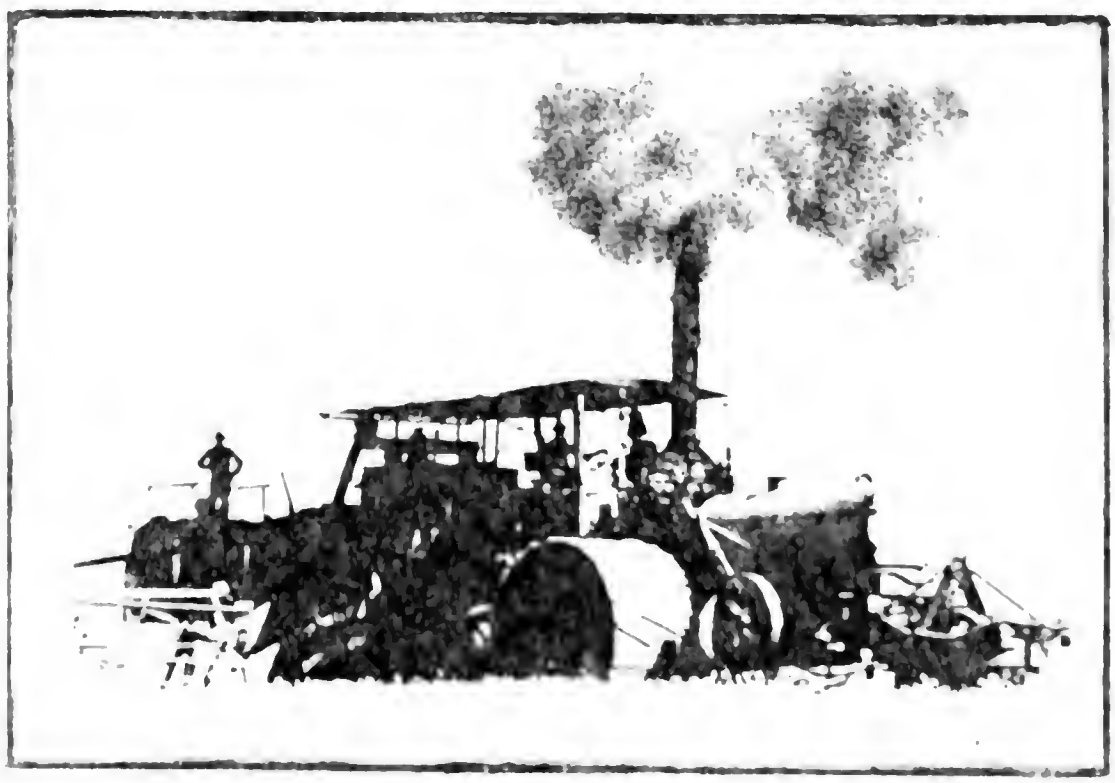
Early Blacksmith Shop



Run by gas engine 1918

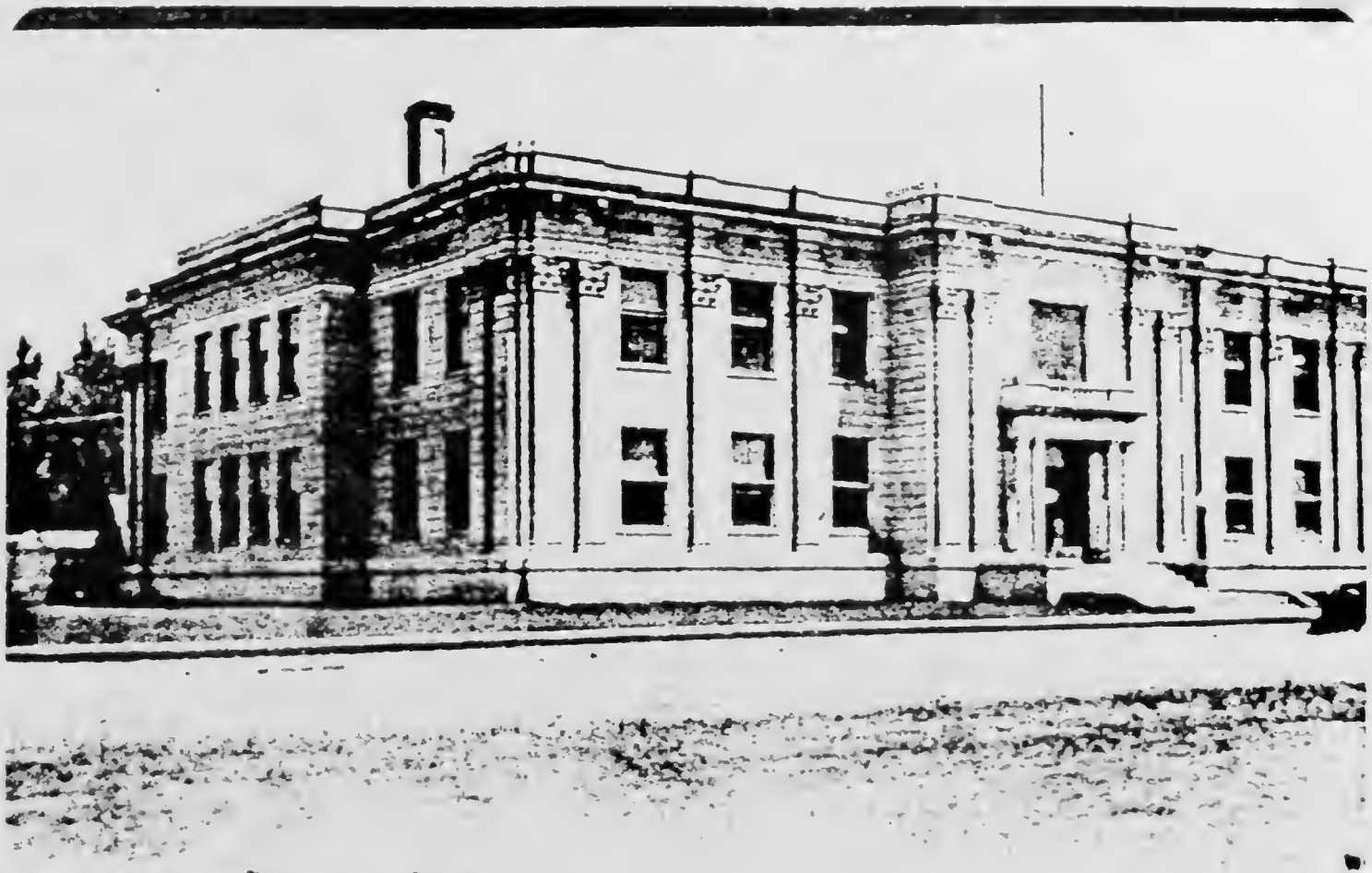


The binder, with its slow reel and canvas conveyor, was designed to handle grain gently to avoid threshing prematurely.



JIM LONG 1989

First Phase Landscaping Madison County Courthouse



URT HOUSE, REPUBLIC, IOA