

Small Historic Towns across America. as presented by Mr. Stadt's on-

line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: www.fpeusa.org

Brief History of Idaho City, ID

It was the year 1862. While war raged in the East, the West exploded with the discovery of gold and silver in the rivers and tributaries of the Rocky Mountains. Gold had been discovered in the Boise Basin and prospectors poured in by the hundreds, drawn by the lure of great riches. The miners founded hundreds of towns throughout the Mountains. Idaho City quickly became the largest mining city. It had a number of businesses and saloons, even an opera house. Idaho City began to flourish, and within three years surpassed Portland, Oregon as the most populated city in the Northwest. Throughout the rush, miners removed more than 250 million dollars worth of gold out of the basin. Then life began taking a turn for the worse. Miners left as quickly as they had come, as gold was becoming harder and harder to find. Fires raged throughout the dry, Idaho summers and destroyed more than eighty percent of the town. In spite of all of this, over 150 years later, it still thrives as a tourist attraction and a gateway through history.



Location and Driving Directions from closest major U.S. Airport(s).

The closest airport to Idaho City is the Boise Air Terminal. To reach the city from the airport turn eastbound on I-84. Take the Gowen Road exit and then turn north. Gowen Road becomes Highway 21. You follow that road for about twenty miles and then turn north onto Main Street, which takes you to the heart of the city.

Who was President when this town was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at that time.

In 1862, many of the eastern rivers ran with blood as American soldiers laid down their lives in defense of the rights and freedoms they believed in. The president at the time was Abraham Lincoln. He led the United States in civil war against the Confederate States. More than 600,000 men died in the Civil war. The war was so bloody that it had more loss of life than World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War combined.

Oldest businesses/largest businesses today.

Boise Basin Mercantile is the oldest store in Idaho still in commercial use today. It now houses the HD's Hideout and Early Attic.



City government.

The government in Idaho City is run by Boise County. It has law enforcement and judicial services appointed to the city.

Historic attractions in the area. Festivals and Events.

In the city you can visit many of the old building used in the glory days of Idaho City; including the old log jail, the Masonic Hall, the printing shop, the visitor's center, the courthouse, and the first Catholic Church in Idaho. The town also has lots of event mmer, as well as reenactments of gun fights and tours of



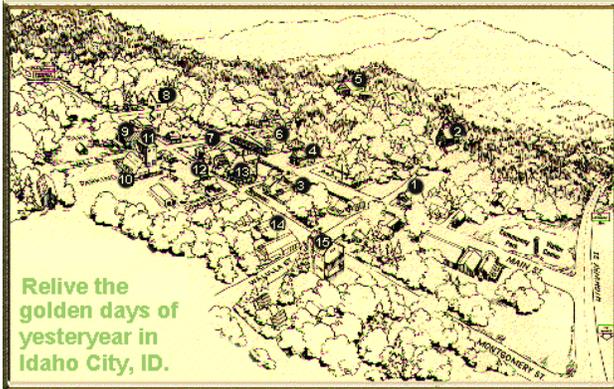
Where can we stay if we visit Idaho City?

A one step away. It is a small inn and antique store privately owned by Jean Saunders. It is located at 112 Cottonwood Street.

Why would I want to visit this historic small town.

With a hot springs, fishing and camping, this town is a popular getaway during the summer months. As well as plentiful hunting areas, it also has over 150 miles of trails for horses, cross country skiing, and snowmobiles. Idaho City is a beautiful and

year!



Idaho City, Idaho – U.S. History 1-2, 2014 SNB