

DILLON AND BEAVERHEAD COUNTY

Has More

Historic and Other Points of Interest

Than Other Localities In Montana

DILLON POPULATION, 5,000 LATEST ESTIMATE. ALTITUDE 5,100.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY MUSEUM —

Located in center of Dillon, has over 5,000 items pertaining to Indians, ranching, gold strikes, Vigilantes and early Montana phenomena.

Museum hours: Sept. 16 to June 14 — 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sundays and holidays on above dates. June 15 to Sept. 15 — 10 a.m. to 12 noon except Sundays; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Free shaded picnic grounds, ice water, toilets, tables and benches.

UNIQUE ROCK WALL —

And rock garden, statues, miniature house and rear wall.

Both fences are constructed of white and pink crystal rock and many other rock formations. Located on West Bannack, just west of Metlen Hotel.

BANNACK, Montana's First Territorial Capitol, 1864-1865 —

Located 22 miles west of Dillon via highways 91 and 278, four miles off main road. Montana's first big gold strike on Grasshopper Creek in July 1862, resulted in wild and roaring camp, now national historic landmark. Home of outlaw sheriff Henry Plummer, hanged from gallows he constructed, along with Ned Ray and Buck Stinson by "Vigilantes." Graves may be seen near scaffold in Hangman's Gulch. First jail, Methodist Church, courthouse, Masonic hall and number of other buildings still remain, although very much weathered. First electric dredge in U.S. launched in 1895. Road Agents' Rock off highway about 10 miles. Plummer's gang would spot gold miners and stage coaches from here and plot their hold-ups.

Picnic and trailer facilities.

CLARK CANYON DAM (Hap Hawkins Lake) —

Twenty miles south on highway 91 (IS 15). Should be completed in 1965, now about three-quarters complete. This dam constructed for irrigation.

EAST BENCH DIVERSION DAM —

Seven miles south on highway 91 (IS 15). Picnic grounds just south of dam.

CHARCOAL KILNS —

Located 25 miles west of Melrose via highway 91 and unnumbered highway to old mining camp of Glendale. Turn right in Glendale, over hill to Canyon Creek and kilns. Twenty-three kilns remain. Charcoal from these kilns was used at Glendale Smelter for melting purposes. Platform located in Vipond may be seen on top mountain where logs slid down to kilns.

CANYON CREEK CAMP —

Fifteen miles from kilns, further up Canyon Creek, are lodge facilities, hunting, fishing, pack trips, and beautiful mountain scenery.

HECLA, Almost Mining Ghost Town —

Located about 10 miles beyond Glendale, same creek road. At one time rich mining district, consisting of several shafts. 1895 reported \$90,000 paid to stockholders, making total of \$2,100,000 cash dividend paid since organized.

ELKHORN HOT SPRINGS RESORT —

Located 38 miles west via highways 91 and 278. Offers variety of accommodations in true rustic comfort. Rooms in lodge, cabins for groups, meals, special weekend package. Hot water outdoor swimming pool and indoor baths.

RAINEY MOUNTAIN SKI AREA —

Thirty-eight miles west of Dillon, same route as above. Scenic grandeur, 3,000 foot chair-lift, 1,000 foot rising. Three open runs, plus beginner and intermediate slopes. Good snow conditions afford west's finest skiing.

BIG HOLE BASIN, Valley of 10,000 Haystacks —

Fifty miles west via highways 91 and 278 to Jackson and Wisdom, two typical cow towns.

DIAMOND BAR INN, Jackson, Montana —

Indoor hot springs, excellent food, drinks, hotel and motel rooms.

BIG HOLE NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD —

Eighty miles west via highways 278 and 43 through Jackson and Wisdom. Commemorates battle fought August 9-10, 1877, between Nez Perce Indians led by Chief Joseph and U. S. Army led by Colonel Gibbons. Army suffered 29 killed and 40 wounded. Indians losses were 89. Of this number 30 were women and children.

Battlefield opened June 15 to September 15. Park Ranger station at monument. Also museum displaying firearms, relics and howitzer captured by Indians. Ask for brochure from Chamber of Commerce, Dillon, or from National Park Service, Battlefield Monument.

ARGENTA MINING CAMP —

Located 16 miles northwest of Dillon via highways 91 and 278. In 1896 supported stores, saloons, hotels, schools, etc. First smelter in Montana built in Argenta and known as St. Louis Smelter. Silver Rule and Tuscarora Mine once owned by Hon. W. A. Clark of Butte.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION, 1805 —

Traversed Beaverhead County on Beaverhead River, Twin Bridges to Armstead, in 1805. Sixteen miles northeast of Dillon on highway 41 is Beaverhead Rock, named by Lewis and Clark. The original Beaverhead Rock, east of this rock, is a plaque giving history of Lewis and Clark expedition. Eight miles south of Dillon on highway 91 is what was originally called "Rattlesnake Cliff" by Lewis and Clark (locally known as Beaverhead Rock). A short distance north of Armstead, Lewis and Clark secured horses from Shoshones. Here Sacajawea recognized Shoshone chief as her brother. Present location of monument and Armstead will be under water on completion of Clark Canyon Dam (Hap Hawkins Lake).

Complete map of Lewis and Clark Expedition from St. Louis to coast and return, and a booklet may be had at Chamber of Commerce office, Dillon.

Montana's Area contains 147,138 square miles.

Montana's Population in 1962 estimated to be 687,000.

Montana's State Bird is the Western Meadowlark.

Montana's State Flag bearing Seal Motto, Oro Y Plata,
meaning Gold and Silver.

Montana's State Flower is the Bitterroot.

Points of Interest

Adjacent To

Dillon, Madison County and Southern Jefferson County

VIRGINIA CITY, Second Territorial Capitol of Montana, 1865-1875 —

Fifty miles east of Dillon via highways 41 and 287.

Museum schedule 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. during summer months.

Vigilantes hanged 21 criminals. A number of these graves may be seen on boot-hill. Over 20 buildings dating to early days have been restored. General Store carries merchandise of 1875. Visit Wells Fargo Express office, Bale of Hay Saloon, Brewery, Fairweather Inn, Museum, etc. Virginia City is celebrating 100th year of discovery of gold May 25 to August 31, 1963.

The Playhouse, a remodeled barn, features 19th century drama, June to Labor Day.

NEVADA CITY —

One and one-half miles west of Virginia City on highway 287.

Open daily 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., May 15 to October 1. Free.

Several original buildings still stand and several restored. Of interest—Fort Benton saddle shop, Sun River jail, pioneer schoolhouse, livery stable, music hall, fire hall with engine display, blacksmith shop, miners' cabins, etc.

ALDER, MONTANA and ALDER GULCH —

Between Sheridan and Virginia City on highway 287.

Two of Plummer's gang, road agents Red Yager and G. W. Brown, were hanged at Laurin (2 miles north) January 4, 1864. Here begin tailings left by dredge boat which Harvard University once operated to obtain several millions in gold.

Alder Gulch was one of the great gold producers of all time. Discovered in May 1863, it produced \$10,000,000 during first year. Year later boom town of Virginia City had population of 10,000.

ROBBERS' ROOST —

Between Sheridan and Laurin via highways 41 and 287.

Rendezvous of early day outlaws who here planned raids on gold laden stage coaches from Virginia City.

LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS —

Sixty-five miles east of Dillon via highways 41, 287 and 10. East of Whitehall.

Montana's featured State Park. Largest limestone cavern in the northwest. Guided tours take 90 minutes. Admission \$1.00 adults, 50c children. Tours operate: May 1-June 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; June 15-Labor Day, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Labor Day-Sept. 30, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free picnicking and camping facilities.

MADISON RIVER CANYON, Earthquake Area —

One hundred miles southeast of Dillon via highways 41 and 287. Route to West Yellowstone. Black top will be completed this year over quake area.

Earthquake occurred August 17, 1959. Estimated 80 million tons fell off an 8,000 foot mountain and hurled across Madison River canyon, in second forming quake lake. Around 25 people buried under slide.

HELENA, MONTANA, Third Territorial Capitol, 1875-1889 —

1889 to present, State Capitol.