

Bonneville County Historical Society
Museum Reading and Reference Room
Box 1784
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403

June 25, 1991

Ben Plastino
[REDACTED]
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

Dear Mr. Plastino,

Thank you for your fine contribution to the history of Idaho Falls, INEL.

We have been very pleased with the fine cooperative local experts who contributed to our short history. Again, thank you very much. I am happy to work with you. We will decide on some form of publication this year.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane
Mary Jane Fritzen

Book chronicles town history



Robert Bower/Post Register

Mary Jane Fritzen, editor and compiler of new local history text "Idaho Falls, City of Destiny," autographs a copy Wednesday at the Bonneville Museum for Bob Bates, president of the Bonneville County Historical Society.

Joshua Ray Levin

Post Register

The Bonneville County Historical Society released its newest book Wednesday, a town history entitled "Idaho Falls, City of Destiny."

Compiled and edited by Bonneville Museum librarian Mary Jane Fritzen, the book was an Idaho Falls centennial project. It will serve as a reference guide to the town's 100-year history, Fritzen said.

With emphasis on the first 50 years of the town's incorporation, the book chronicles developments in agriculture, transportation, churches and the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

"At first, we thought it'd be really helpful to have a reference book," Fritzen said. "We made a list of topics, whittled it down to about 50, and found about 50 wonderful people to write the stories."

Carol Romer was one of the many contributors.

"I think people will enjoy this," she said. "It's pretty comprehensive."

Romer's contribution involved the local war efforts during World War II.

"It's mostly my remembrances," she said. "I also did a lot of looking into the files here."

Fritzen praised contributors to the book.

"Nobody got paid a cent and they all came through with really reliable entries," Fritzen said. "For a lot of these people, their topics are their lives' works."

Fritzen said local historians Edith Lovell and D.V. Groberg were the chief consultants on the book, guiding the project and providing primary resources for much of its content.

The 206-page book has more than 100 photographs and includes a chronological chart and a bibliography for quick reference.

The book's price is \$13.95. It can be purchased at the museum, City Hall and at local bookstores.

The Bonneville County Historical Society had only 500 copies made, so supplies are limited.