

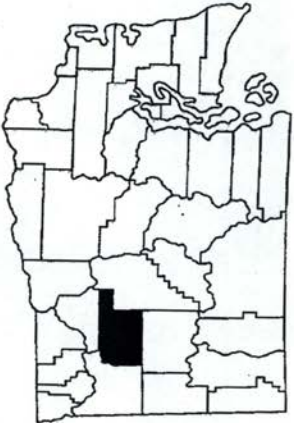
ADAMS COUNTY

1883

COUNTY SEAT: RITZVILLE

Named for John Adams, second President of the United States

Like many eastern Washington counties, Adams County was built on a foundation of railroads and wheat. Native grasslands had turned into wheat fields all across eastern Washington by the late 1800s. Horses hauled the wheat to town and steam-powered freight trains carried it off to the waiting world. The Columbia Basin Project of the early 1950s brought irrigation to western Adams County, turning parched sagebrush desert into alfalfa fields, orchards and farms.



ADAMS COUNTY
COUNTY SEAT: RITZVILLE

APPROVED DRAWING
6-28-02
1883

NAMED FOR JOHN ADAMS, SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

LIKE MANY EASTERN WASHINGTON COUNTIES, ADAMS COUNTY WAS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF RAILROADS AND WHEAT. NATIVE GRASSLANDS HAD TURNED INTO WHEAT FIELDS ALL ACROSS EASTERN WASHINGTON BY THE LATE 1800S. HORSES HAULED THE WHEAT TO TOWN AND STEAM - POWERED FREIGHT TRAINS CARRIED IT OFF TO THE WAITING WORLD. THE COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT OF THE EARLY 1950S BROUGHT IRRIGATION TO WESTERN ADAMS COUNTY, TURNING PARCHED SAGEBRUSH DESERT INTO ALFALFA FIELDS, ORCHARDS AND FARMS.