



**Asotin County** was organized in 1883 and was once part of Garfield County. It is located in the far southeast corner of the state and borders Oregon on the south and Idaho on the east. The word Asotin is Indian for Eel Creek. In 1805-1806 Lewis and Clark passed through the county as well as Captain Bonneville in 1834. A ferry was established on the Snake River in 1855 to accommodate thousands of miners rushing to the goldfields. In 1881 a ferry was established at Asotin. Today, the county's economy is primarily agricultural, based on food and livestock raising and processing, fruit growing, and wheat and barley production.

**Special Note:** Clarkston, the county's largest city, is separated from the town of Lewiston, Idaho by the Snake River. Clarkston area researchers should consider Lewiston resources as well.

**Bounded by:** Whitman County (N), Idaho State (E), Oregon State (S) and Garfield County (W).

**County Seat:** Asotin

**Chambers of Commerce:**

Asotin Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 574, Asotin, WA 99402. Phone 509-243-4242. Fax 509-243-4123.

Clarkston Chamber of Commerce, ([www.clarkstonchamber.org](http://www.clarkstonchamber.org)) 502 E Bridge St, Clarkston, WA 99403. Phone 509-758-7712. Fax 509-751-8767. Email [clkcoc@valint.net](mailto:clkcoc@valint.net)

Hells Canyon Visitor Association, ([www.hellscanyonvisitor.com](http://www.hellscanyonvisitor.com)) 800 Port Dr, Clarkston, WA 99403. Phone 509-758-7489.

**County Government:** ([www.co.asotin.wa.us](http://www.co.asotin.wa.us)) 135 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Asotin, WA 99402. Courthouse hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00a.m to 5:00pm.

**Assessor:** PO Box 69. Phone 509-243-2016. Fax 509-243-2099.

**Auditor:** PO Box 129. Phone 509-243-2084. Fax 509-243-2087.

**Clerk:** PO Box 159, 135 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Asotin, WA 99402. Phone 509-243-2081. Fax 509-243-4978.

**Treasurer:** PO Box 99, 135 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Asotin, WA 992402. Phone 509-243-2014. Fax 509-243-2087.

**Genealogical Society:**

Twin Rivers Genealogical Society, PO 386, Lewiston, ID 83501-2824. *Society maintains a Pacific Northwest and regional history collection, fiction and non-fiction works by local authors, genealogical journals, city directory/telephone book collection, Lewiston, Idaho newspapers on microfilm, some census records, and surname indexes.*

**Health Department:**

Asotin County Health District, ([www.co.asotin.wa.us/ASOTIN/health.html](http://www.co.asotin.wa.us/ASOTIN/health.html)) 431 Elm, Clarkston, WA 99403. Phone 509-758-3344. Fax 509-758-8454.

**Historical Society:**

Asotin County Historical Society, PO Box 367, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Filmore, Asotin, WA 99482. Phone 509-243-4659. Email [jdmiller@potlatchcorp.com](mailto:jdmiller@potlatchcorp.com).

**Libraries - Academic:**

Lewis-Clark State College Library, ([www.valnet.org](http://www.valnet.org)) 8th Avenue and 6th, Lewiston, ID 83501 208-799-2396 *Library's houses 1000 volumes in the Pacific Northwest Room, Lewiston, Idaho newspapers on microfilm, and archival material on the college's predecessors: Lewis-Clark State College and Lewiston Normal.*

**Libraries - Public:**

Asotin County Library, (<http://users.clarkston.com/acpublib>) 417 Sycamore, Clarkston, WA 99403-2666. Phone 509-758-5454. Fax 509-751-1460. *Small collection of Asotin County materials, including some cemetery funeral home records.*

**Libraries - Special:**

Asotin County Law Library, PO Box 159, 135 Second St, Asotin, WA 99402. Phone 509-243-2081. Fax 509-243-7978.

Lewiston Family History Center Library, LDS Church, 9th and Preston, Lewiston, ID 83501.

**Museums and Historical Sites:**

Alpawai Interpretive Center, ([www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)) Chief Timothy State Park, 13766 Hwy. 12, Clarkston, WA 99403. Phone 509-758-9580. Fax 509-751-9668.

Asotin County Historical Society Museum, PO Box 367, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Filmore, Asotin, WA 99482. Phone 509-243-4659. Fax 208-799-1558. Email [jdmiller@potlatch.com](mailto:jdmiller@potlatch.com). *Collections include an oral histories, early Post Office records of Asotin and Garfield counties, an obituary file, indexed form 1886 -1926, updated to present. Has cemetery records of 47 different cemeteries in Asotin and Garfield counties, and personal files on many early residents. The photograph collection includes early Asotin County buildings, communities, residents, farms, ranches and the early schools of Asotin and Garfield counties, and Oregon's Wallowa County.*

Valley Art Center, Inc., 842-6<sup>th</sup> St., Clarkston, WA 99403. Phone 509-758-8331. Email [valleyarts@clarkston.com](mailto:valleyarts@clarkston.com).

**State Archives Branch:**

Eastern Regional Archives Branch, ([www.ewu.edu/era](http://www.ewu.edu/era)) Eastern Washington University, 211 Tawanka, Cheney, WA 98004-2423. Phone 509-359-6900. Fax 509-359-6286. Email [era@secstate.wa.gov](mailto:era@secstate.wa.gov).