

## A LOOK BACK AT HUTCHINSON COUNTY HISTORY



### Fritch, Texas

Fritch, Texas is located in southwestern Hutchinson County. The town began in an area owned by three ranchers - J. M. Sanford, J. H. Johnson and Roy Wright. Fritch was named for H. C. (Fred) Fritch of Chicago, a vice president of the Rock Island Railroad. After the line was opened, Fritch established a depot at his townsite and in 1933 he laid out the streets parallel with the railroad. By 1940 Fritch had a store, a post office and a population of seventy-five. The construction of Sanford Dam on the Canadian River prompted Fritch to incorporate in 1959. When the dam was completed in 1965, the city had grown to 2,800. Rock Island abandoned the line through Fritch in 1972, but the energy crisis of the early 1970s caused increased oil and gas activities and by 1980 Fritch had 31 businesses and a population of 2,299.

The National Park Service headquarters for Lake Meredith National Recreation Area is in Fritch and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, is near Fritch in Potter County. In 1990 the population in Fritch was 2,335. ■

618 North Main Street  
Borger, Texas 79007  
806-272-0130

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9am-5pm  
Sat-11am-4:30pm



# HCHM

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Historical Museum

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