

1/82: Tishomingo County



The Swinging Bridge at Tishomingo State Park

Bob Ratliff

County Seat: Iuka

Population: 19,202 (2000 census)

Municipalities:

- Iuka
- Belmont
- Burnsville
- Tishomingo
- Golden
- Paden

Commodities:

Timber, cattle, cotton, corn, soybeans and wheat are all produced in the county. The Farm Service Agency estimates the county has 189,000 acres of forests, 9,000 acres of cropland and 20,000 acres of pastureland.

Industries:

- Forestry
- Limestone rock mining
- Tourism
- Manufacturing—metal fabrication, aerospace components, motor home components, furniture and manufactured homes

Natural Resources:

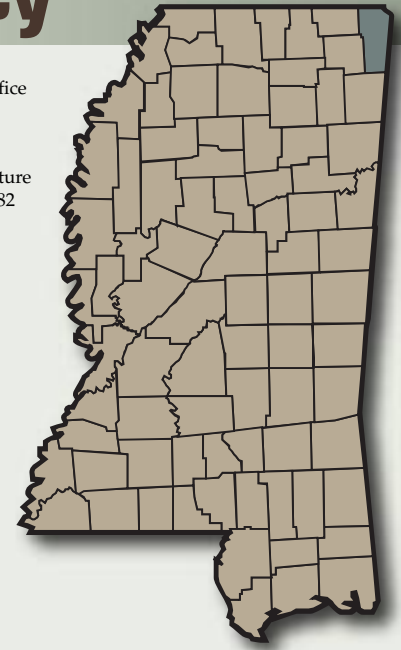
- Tishomingo County has 40 miles of Tenn-Tom Waterway with 10 Corps of Engineers parks, J.P. Coleman and Tishomingo state parks, seven marinas, and the Natchez Trace Parkway. Aqua Yacht Harbor in the county is the largest freshwater marina in the United States.
- Tishomingo County has long been known for the beautiful Tishomingo stone that has been mined from its ground. The county is also rich in limestone.

History Notes:

- Tishomingo County was part of the Chickasaw Cession in 1832 and became a county in 1836.
- The county was named after Chief Tishomingo, a leader of the Chickasaws who moved with his people to Oklahoma during the Trail of Tears.

MSU in Tishomingo County:
Tishomingo County Extension Office

Phone: (662) 423-7016
Email: tishomin@ext.msstate.edu
Editors note: 1/82 is a regular feature highlighting one of Mississippi's 82 counties.



- Tishomingo County voted against secession from the United States before the War Between the States.
- At one time, Mineral Springs Park in Iuka was known worldwide for its healing spring water. Its water received first prize at the 1904 World's Fair.

Attractions:

- Tishomingo State Park boasts rock climbing, 13 miles of hiking trails and canoeing. Pickwick Lake is famous for its fishing tournaments. It has the best smallmouth bass fishing in the nation.
- A 1,600-acre tract in Tishomingo County is part of MSU's Bulldog Forest.
- More information on Tishomingo County is at www.tishomingo.org.

Did you know?

For many years, Tishomingo County was the "Marriage Capital of the South." You could get a license and get married the same day.

"The resilience of the people of Tishomingo County amazes me. In the 70s, TVA planned to build a nuclear plant at Yellow Creek, but the project was shut down, leaving many people out of work. After the space shuttle Challenger exploded, NASA planned to build solid rocket motors at the Yellow Creek site, but Congress decided to ax this also, causing an exodus of jobs and money from the county. The Yellow Creek site is currently the home of several smaller but still high-tech companies. These people know how to bounce back. They've had lots of practice."

Danny Owen, Extension County Director