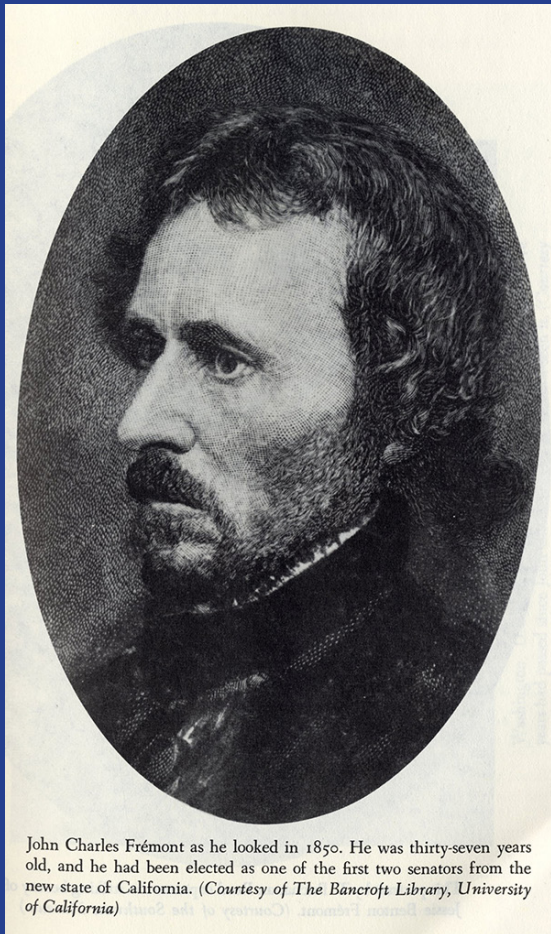


# Fremont Lookout, Lyon County



John Charles Frémont as he looked in 1850. He was thirty-seven years old, and he had been elected as one of the first two senators from the new state of California. (Courtesy of The Bancroft Library, University of California)

John C. Fremont (1813–1890)

## Nevada Peak Named in Commemoration of John C. Fremont

This Fremont Lookout location and name proposal was born from the interpretation of the Fremont expedition diaries of 1843–44. It is thought that this Fremont Lookout location might best fit or be a nearby fit to the location described by Fremont on January 20, 1844:

On Jan. 20, 1844 John C. Fremont's second expedition with horses, mules, and about 24 men, camped on the south side of the Carson River. Fremont wrote in his journal they were encamped close to the north Pine Nut Mountains. He climbed a nearby peak to see what terrain lay ahead. He describes the Carson River winding through a fairly open valley (Dayton Valley) in the area beyond the first ridge, and the snowy mountains (Carson Range of the Sierras) in the far distance.

While on this peak he decided not to follow the Carson River to the base of the Carson Range, but to continue south to Mason Valley and Walker River, a decision he later wrote that he regretted. On Jan. 21, 1844 the expedition moved from the Carson River southeast to the first Walker River encampment, about two miles northeast of present-day Yerington. The distance from the Carson River to the first Walker River camp noted in Fremont's journal is 24 miles, the same distance Fremont noted in his journal: "after covering 24 miles, we encamped again on another large stream. . .".

This identifies the last Carson River encampment and the point at which Fremont made his critical decision to trek southeast to the Walker River and not travel west on the Carson River.

In the Lake Range north of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation there is a pass, about 70 miles from "Fremont Lookout", named Fremont Pass. There are no other Nevada geographic features in GNIS that bear his name.

This naming proposal was submitted by Guy Louis Rocha, former Nevada State Archivist, to the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names and was approved by the United States Board on Geographic Names on February 17, 2016 (letter above). The official listing can be viewed on the USGS Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) at <http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=136:2:0::NO:RP::>



### UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

In reply please use this address:  
U. S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, Virginia 20192-0523

February 17, 2016

Mr. Guy Louis Rocha  
Historical Society of Dayton Valley  
P.O. Box 143  
Dayton, Nevada 89403

Dear Mr. Rocha:

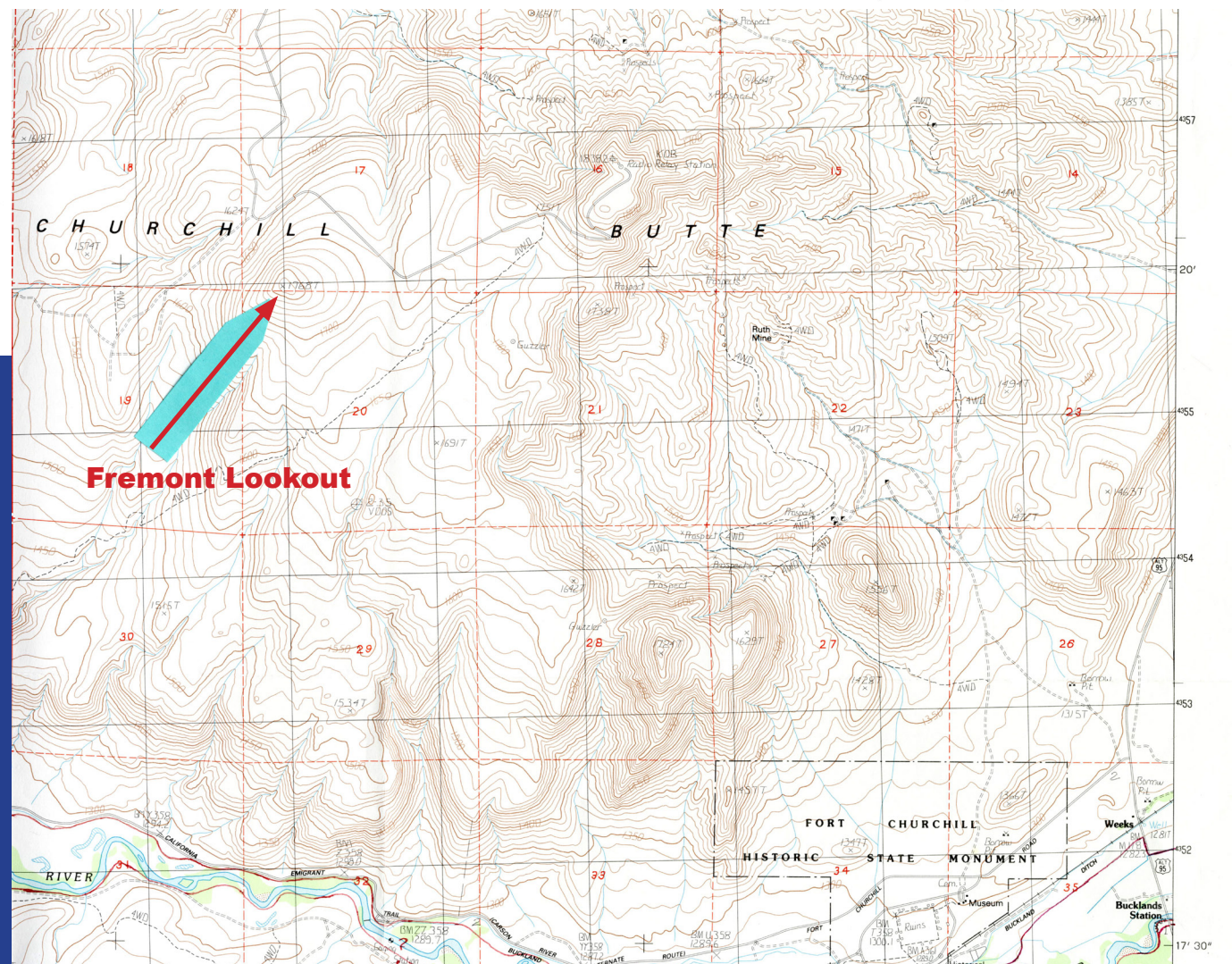
We are pleased to inform you that the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, at its February 11, 2016 meeting, approved your proposal to apply the new commemorative name Fremont Lookout to a summit in Lyon County.

The name has been entered into the Geographic Names Information System, the nation's official geographic names repository, which is available and searchable online at <http://geonames.usgs.gov>. The entry reads as follows:

**Fremont Lookout:** summit; elevation 5,003 ft.; on Bureau of Land Management land, in the Pine Nut Mountains 8.9 mi. NE of Dayton, 2.2 mi. W of Table Mountain; the name honors John C. Fremont (1813-1890), American military officer, explorer, U.S. Senator, and presidential candidate; Lyon County, Nevada; Sec. 6, T15N, R23E, Mount Diablo Meridian; 39°16'59"N, 119°26'20"W; USGS map – Misfits Flat 1:24,000.

Sincerely yours,

Lou Yost  
Executive Secretary  
U.S. Board on Geographic Names



Churchill Butte, USGS 7.5' Quad

### A publications (among others) about John C. Fremont:

Fremont, Explorer for a Restless Nation by Ferol Egan





View southwest from Fremont Lookout towards the Carson River and the Pine Nut Mountains.  
*Photo by Jack Hursh, 2016*



View west from Fremont Lookout towards Dayton Valley beyond the first ridge with the snow-covered Carson Range in the distance. *Photo by Jack Hursh, 2016*



View south from Fremont Lookout at Mason Valley. *Photo by Jack Hursh, 2016*