Teltonorable Thornas S. Foley

Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Washington	
COUNTY:	
Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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-		X Public	Public Acquisition:		Occupied	Yes			
- 10	District Building	Private	In Process		SZ Unoccupied	1.0	Restricted		
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1	☐ Object	C.			in progress	□ No		1	
		J							
-	PRESENT USE (Check One or l					Como	nents		
∞	☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☒ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments								
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CONDITION	(Check One)				(Check One)		
COMPTITION	☐ Alter		Unaltere	a	Moved	Original Site	

Drumheller Springs Indian Historical site is a marshey area on a wooded hillside. The springs area is fenced and an explanatory sign has been erected at the springs. The original site of the Springs probably did not have as many trees as now due to Indian encampments which utilized the wood for fuel. The Spokane City Parka Department has expanded the area to 13 acres in total and are planning to develop visitor facilities on the kill above the spring site.

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	Commerce	Literature		itarian	97	
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mat church and attempted to convert his Spokane tribesman to the Christianafaith before any white missionaries reached the area.

Keeper of The National Register

Spokane Story by Lucile Fargo, published by the Northwestern Press, Minneapolis

AJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Minnesota, 1957.

Title Director

Date

Washington State Parks and

Recreation Commission

REQUIREMENTS

1969

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

Property broundaries where required.

North arrow.

Latitude and langitude reference. USGS 1"=2000' 1:24000

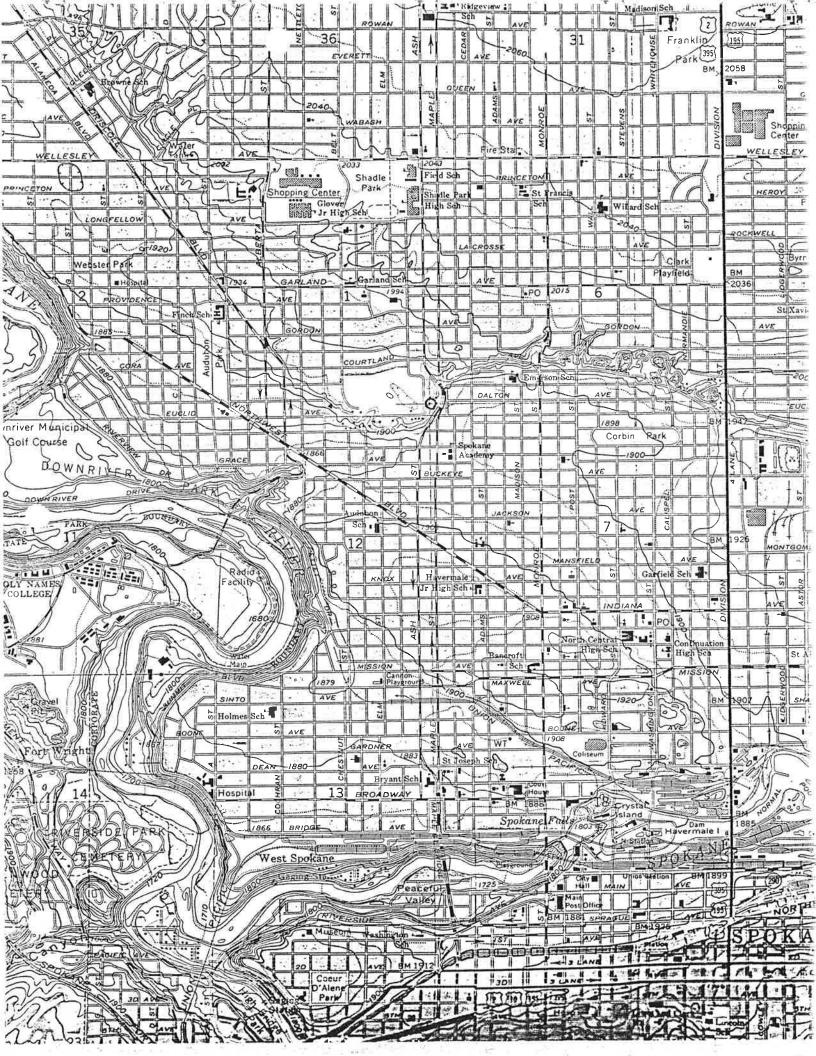
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20"

063 CODE

MAP REFERENCE CITY OR TOWN: SCALE: STREET AND NUMBER: AND/OR HISTORIC: COMMON: Washington Spokane Euclid Avenue Chevron NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Drumheller 0.64 miles "Lone (Standard and PROPERTY MAP FORM Pine" Maple Oil or "Spring Street Co.) 4653 CODE Road Map H;]] " COUNTY: þ Spokane ENTRY NUMBER Spokane FOR NPS USE ONLY Washington Springs"

DATE



by E. T. Becher

This site has been a Indmark in the Spokane area for Lecades. It was important to the aborigines because it was nearly the only available water on the North Hill; that is, the plateau extending for some four or five miles from the Spokane River to the foothills. It was particularly useful to the Indians because it lay beside a natural route or trail leading from the upper Spokane River to the Spokane House, Little Falls, and other down river areas. Countless Indian gatherings have been held there throughout the centuries. A branch of the Spokane Indian tribe made it its winter headquarters; and there are, consequently, numerous Indian burials in the immediate surroundings. Originally, the Indians gave it a name which is difficult to translate into English because it involved one of their complicated legands. Some early settlers referred to it as "Lone Pine:; and it is known by that name to many early settlers and their descendants. Other people referred to it as "Spring Hill." Still others have called it "Garry's Spring." More redently, however, it usually has been called "Drumheller Springs" for reasons hereinafter described.

The spring site is closely associated with the life and career of the first white trained school teacher and Christian missionary in the states of Washington and Oregon. Spokane Garry, when a lad of 14 years, was taken to the fur traders school at the foor of Lake Winnepeg in the year of 1825. After spending some five or six years there learning the French and English languages and the fundamentals of agriculture and the Episcopalian faith, he returned to his homeland with the resolution th teach his tribe the ways of the white man. In this he was successful for a while, but he was constrained to abandon his efforts after two or three years because of the difficulty of persuading the leaders of the tribe to adopt such things as manogamy and to induce them to exchange the use of the bow and arrow for the plow and hoe. There is some controversy as to where his first school house stood. Pioneers assumed that it stood here at Lone Pine Springs as early as 1830. This impression was gained from as interview made with Spokane Garry's daughter, Nellie, by William S. Lewis, a noted historian of the Eastern Washington-State Historical Society. Nellie informed Mr. Lewis that her father's school was located at this spring .- There are those, however, who affirm that Nellie was in error in that she remembered a school which was held at this spot by Garry consideralby late in life; that is, in the 60's. Knowledgeable members of the Spokane Indian tribe are in agreement, more over, that Garry's first school, established in 1830, was located across the main. Spokane River from Spokane House. But in either case, this spring was the sithe of educational activity on the part of Spokane Garry, the first teacher in the state, at some time in his life and, as a consequence, is deserving of preservation as an educationa shrine. Even if his first formal school was near Spokane House, it is reasonably certain that he made extensive and repeated reports to groups of Indians assembled in the long house which was maintained constantly at Drumheller Springs. After his return from Winnepeg he was famous among the Indians of the Northwest. He was entertained and extensivel

questioned by all Spokane chiefs. The spring site was visited and utilized by many of the very earliest white visitors to the area; fur traders, missionaries, soldiers, miners, and stock men. In 1879, it became known that the Northern Pacific Railway intended to build its transcontinental line through the little village of Spokane Falls, which at that time numbered less than 300. This information caused the population of the village to expand tremendously; and, as a result, the very colorful early pioneer stock man, "Uncle Dan" Detumbeller, decided to erect a slaughter house in the village and to use it as an outlet for the market for his numerous catile which he had been raising is the Big Bend or Crab Creek areas. He needed a large quantity of clear, cold water for his operation, and, for that reason, erecter his slaughter house on the flat immediaterly below the spring. At that time there were several more (since dried up) springs close to the one which still flows. All of these springs were collected into a single supply. This activity, instead of discouraging its use for habitation by the Indians, actually enhanced its value to them, because in those days so many parts of the animals thata were slaughtered were of little use to the white man (hearts, livers, kidneys, and the like). Mr. Drumheller gave there to the Indians. Some members of the Spokane Indian tribe vividly remember that the notorious "Curly Jim". an Indian who later became famous because of his habit of sitting at

the entrance of a downtown whene bank, very early ingration ng himself with Mr. Drun heller and acquired the privilege of distributing this material, somewhat to the disgust

and discomfiture of the other Spokanes.

When the Northwestern part of the city began to be settled, many of these early inhabitants used the Drumheller Springs as the only source of drinking water; there being, of course, no city water available for many years. Many living Spokanites (1966) recall taking buckets and other containers to the spring to "fetch" water in them for their mothers. It was in those days a favorite picnic and camping spot for all classes of people

The hillside from which the spring flows (approximately 200 x 200 ft.) remained in its natural state until the late 1930. At that time a family bought the lot and spring being especially anxious to secure drinking water which was unchlorinated. The family built a house on the lot, which was removed when the Historical Society bought the pro-

perty in 1968. Property was transferred by E.W. S.H. S to the city parks who have built up and expanded the site. See description of present designation for area and ownership etc.