

JAN 5 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Washington  
 COUNTY: Spokane  
 ENTRY DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION: \_\_\_\_\_

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**  
 COMMON: Cowley Park  
 AND/OR HISTORIC: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. LOCATION**  
 STREET AND NUMBER: S. Division between 6th and 7th Avenue  
 CITY OR TOWN: Spokane  
 STATE: Washington  
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #5 - Hon. Thomas S. Foley  
 COUNTY: Spokane  
 CODE: 53  
 CODE: 063

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**  
 OWNER'S NAME: Spokane City Park Department  
 STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, North 221 Wall Street  
 CITY OR TOWN: Spokane  
 STATE: Washington  
 CODE: 53

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
 COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS ETC: Spokane County Court House  
 STREET AND NUMBER: West 1116 Broadway  
 CITY OR TOWN: Spokane  
 STATE: Washington  
 CODE: 53

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**  
 TITLE OF SURVEY: None  
 DATE OF SURVEY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Federal  State  County  Local  
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET AND NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY OR TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Washington  
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 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Today, the site is a slightly rolling, wooded, well-cared-for two-acre park with visitor facilities and a monument describing the history which transpired there. None of the historic buildings remain. The site is located outside of the bustling downtown district of Spokane in a neighborhood of transition.

Due to the friendly relationship which existed between Cowley and segments of the Spokane Tribe, he was able to quickly achieve shelter for his family as the 1874-75 winter approached. A half-completed log building served as the foundation of the Cowley Cabin. Logs were dragged to the Sixth and Division site. The main part of the structure measured 16' x 24' and was divided into two compartments. A large attic existed above. A kitchen addition was 14' x 18'. Cowley could not find mortar or clay in the immediate vicinity, so moss was used as a substitute for chinking. Indian women, anxious to participate, roamed the woods beyond Hangman Creek to secure large quantities of moss for the building.

A housewarming of sorts was engineered by the Indians who brought the Cowleys a sack of excellent flour, a six-pound trout, venison, dried buffalo meat, dried and fresh fish. Enoch procured a cow and delivered a gallon of milk daily to the Cowley's. A farmer living at Spangle, many miles away, collected a wagon load of vegetables, a quarter of beef, and a half a hog and delivered these to the Cowleys.

When the Indian Schoolhouse was completed, some 250-300 Indians who had been living in scattered encampments assembled in the vicinity of Pine Street in order to be near the new school.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric         | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce            | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Reverend Henry T. Cowley and his wife, Abigail Peet Cowley, along with their three children (all under four years of age), were one of the first four families to settle in Spokane Falls, arriving in 1874.

A graduate of a Theological Seminary in Auburn, N.Y., Mr. Cowley requested and received a commission to work among the Nez Perce in Idaho in 1871. First stationed at Lapwai, he organized the Indian Presbyterian Church of Kamiah, the oldest Protestant church in Idaho. Before coming to Spokane, the Cowleys resided at Mount Idaho, near present Grangeville, where he continued his missionary efforts.

Petitioned by some of the Spokane tribe to establish a school and church among them at the falls of the Spokane, Cowley was urged to take this step by the reknown missionary H.H. Spaulding. Upon arriving at the falls, Cowley selected a home site on a part of Enoch's land (a sub-chief of the Spokanes), bounded by Browne and Division streets on Sixth in present Spokane. Mr. Poole, a carpenter whom Cowley met as he journeyed toward his destination, helped Cowley build his house and the Indian school house. The Indians, eager to help in the building, were directed by Poole who agreed to supervise, provided the Indians gave him three ponies as compensation.

Constructed of hewn logs, the Cowley cabin was divided into two rooms, with a large overhead attic, and kitchen addition. It was completed by Thanksgiving, 1874. The house was erected in exchange for a horse and 300 bushels of grain. He also secured lumber sufficient for a comfortable kitchen addition and about 6000 ft. for a schoolhouse in this exchange. Early in January, 1875 the first public school began its sessions in the Cowley Cabin, with six pupils in attendance. Cowley soon discovered he could not teach school and carry on his work with the Indians at the same time. Two weeks later the school was transferred to the Swift Cabin.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Continuation #8 SIGNIFICANCE

Before the Indian schoolhouse was constructed, Cowley held school in a large Indian lodge, covered with matting, canvas, sheeting, and a few buffalo robes. With a foot and a half of snow on the ground early in 1875, lumber from the mill was transported to the site of the contemplated schoolhouse. Much of it was packed on the shoulders of young Indian men a distance of three-quarters of a mile. The 20' x 30' structure was completed at the end of February. Desks of unplanned boards served as seats. A stove for heat and windows were brought from Walla Walla. The school was built on Sixth Avenue, between Division and Pine.

Eager students, both old and young, filled the school to capacity. Using a blackboard and crayons, Cowley drew familiar pictures, pointed to the objects, and related the Indian and English words for them. Cowley stated, "The Indians wanted to start the lessons at daylight and keep up with instructions until dark."

On January 1, 1875, the Rev. Cowley received an appointment from the government as a teacher for the Spokane Indians, serving under the jurisdiction of agent John B. Monteith. The eight years he served as teacher, friend, and agent for the tribe were critical years. It was a period when advancing settlement was suddenly forcing the native people to give up age-old customs and traditions and adopt the ways of Western civilization or perish. Mr. Cowley acted as intermediary between the settlers and the Indians. He began schools in two different communities and continued religious services for them out of which grew two Presbyterian Churches which continue to the present, one at Spokane and one at Wellpint. The Spokane tribe continues to honor his memory and hold him in high esteem.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Spokesman Review, Spokane, Washington - Sept. 28, 1952  
 Spokesman Review, Spokane, Washington - April 20, 1945  
 An Illustrated History of Spokane County, Jonathan Edwards, published  
 by W.H. Lever, 1900. pp.126-  
 Spokane and the Inland Empire, W.H. Durham, Vol. I, p.108-109.  
 A Tepee in His Front Yard, Clifford Drury, Binfords & Mort, 1949.  
 pp.123,127,128,134.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	.	"	0	.	"	47°	38'	58"
NE	0	.	"	0	.	"	117°	24'	39"
SE	0	.	"	0	.	"			
SW	0	.	"	0	.	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE  
William H. Trogdon

ORGANIZATION  
Eastern Washington State Historical Society

DATE  
5/6/72

STREET AND NUMBER  
W. 2316 First Avenue

CITY OR TOWN  
Spokane

STATE  
Washington

CODE  
53

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665) I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is

National  State  Local

Name Charles H. Odegaard  
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Date December 8, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

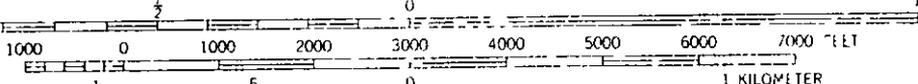
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON AND OR HISTORIC	Cowley Park		
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER S. Division between 6th and 7th Avenues			
CITY OR TOWN: Spokane			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Washington	53	Spokane	063
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE USGS map			
SCALE 1"=2000'			
DATE 1963			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1	Property boundaries where required		
2	North arrow	47° 38' 58"	latitude
3	Latitude and longitude reference	117° 24' 39"	longitude



466 R 42 F SE 1/4 1/4 (SPOKANE SW) 2579 III SW 468 25' R 41 PALOUSE FY 1.8 M 3.5 MI TO TO U.S. 95 470 INTERIOR - GEOLOGICAL

SCALE 1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5 AND 10 FOOT CONTOURS  
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 SALE BY U S GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D C  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CL  
 Heavy duty  
 Medium duty  
 Interstate Route

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON Cowley Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: S. Division between 6th and 7th Avenues			
CITY OR TOWN: Spokane			
STATE Washington	CODE 53	COUNTY: Spokane	CODE 063
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT	unknown		
DATE OF PHOTO	unknown, but recent		
NEGATIVE FILED AT	unknown		
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW DIRECTION ETC  View looking West at the Cowley Park Site from Division Street.			

