

Form 10-300
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

36703 11 T25NR45ES1

STATE:	Washington	
COUNTY:	Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON:

Horse Slaughter Camp

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

On the Spokane River 3/4 miles downstream from Idaho-Wash. state line at the

CITY OR TOWN: Idaho-Washington state line - 16 miles East of Spokane

STATE

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

Washington

53

Spokane

063

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <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 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 checked="" 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		

unimproved property

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

Washington

Spokane

STATE:

COUNTY:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Spokane County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

West 1116 Broadway

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

Spokane

Washington

53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Spokane Metropolitan Area Transportation Study

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Spokane City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

North - Wall Street

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

Spokane

Washington

53

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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						
<p>Horse Slaughter Camp is a large open space on the north side of the freeway about 3/4 miles down stream from the State Line. It is identified by a stone marker placed there by the Pioneer Society.</p> <p>The marker was incorporated into the Washington State Port of Entry Tourist information center in 1965. This facility is near the site and is a good vantage point to view it.</p>						

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE																																				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>					<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																									
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE																																				
<p>Colonel George Wright slaughtered over 800 horses belonging to the Indians in September, 1858. This cruel act reduced the Indians wealth and mobility. At the same time he destroyed all the farms and food coches he could find. Starvation threatened the Indians that winter and greatly reduced their resistance. This lead to more white settling in the territory.</p> <p>The event occurred after the defeat of the Indians at the Battle of Four Lakes and the Battle of Spokane Plains.</p>																																				

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SIGNIFICANCE

In the meritable collision between Whitman and Indian, events have occurred in which participants have taken the law into their own hands meted out their own versions of justice. One of these men is Colonel George Wright.

To control the continuous conflicts between encroaching settlers and the Indians, Governor Stevens in 1855, held the first Walla Walla Council, where the reluctant Indians agreed to a series of treaties, ceding all of their land but a small portion to be used on a reservation, to the United States government. In return the United States would provide the head chief with a horse and a piece of tilled land, and as soon as the treaty was ratified, they would also provide school and teachers, and agricultural implements.

Needless to say, the thought of giving up ones land out of fear, and the knowledge that previous treaties ave been broken, made the Indians very restless, this unrest was intensified by the different interpretations of the treaty offered by Governor Stevens and General Woll. These interpretations varied in that Stevesn believed that under this treaty, all of the land except that preserrf-d tor the reservation, was immediately open to white stttlement. While Genreal Wool believed that ab-olutely no land could be stttled until the rreaty was raiified by Congress (the treaty was not aatified until 1859). However the whiee settler accepting Stevens' interpretations began to appropiate Indian Lands. The result was that by early Autumn of 1855, an Indian War was in progress. Stevesn proceeded to put volunteer forces in the field of battle to cuush the Indians. Genreaalwool in opposition to Stevesn ordered ltherregulars to protect the Indains from the w9ld raids of the volunteers. By the end of 1856, these raids by the volunteers became so destructive, that General Wool has to "order all the volunteers out of the country by way of the Calles, and if they do not go immedidately they will be arrest\$dd, disarmed and sent out."

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With the volunteers expelled from Washington, a peaceful situation existed in 1857, for unlike the confusion caused by the raids, an order was established by the volunteers, and as the Army stopped all settlers from entering Indian country, the Indians were quite content with the Army's preserve. Further General Wool's policy stated that no white invasion of any sort either military or civilian would cross to the north side of the Snake River. However, with the continued influx of settlers to the Northwest, clashes could not be completely avoided. Sub-agent A.J. Bolen, while in Indian country, threatened the Indians, who had retaliated against the gold miners who had stolen their horses and cattle, with the [redacted] of the U.S. Government. As he rode off, he told them that he was going to Fort Dalles to fetch the troops. Three Indians followed him, demanding to know if he intended to send the United States troops against them. On answering yes, they killed him and afterward killed some miners on their way to Colville. As a result these deaths and expedition was sent out by the government (pushed considerably by a petition signed by the white residents of the area) to find the murderers of Bolen and the miners, and most importantly to "adjust amiably" the difference between the Indians and Whiteman. The expedition was under the command of Lt. Col. Edward J. Steptoe.

On May 17, 1858, the Steptoe expedition journeyed north of the Snake River, the Indians fearing the [redacted] of the U.S. government, ambushed the troop, and Steptoe was forced to retreat. The whole affair was to have terrible results, as we shall soon see, and could have been avoided if lines of communications had been open between the two nations. For the United States had no intention of ignoring General Wool's policies; and in fact, Steptoe's main purpose was to assure the Indians that no war was desired by the White-man, and further, the United States had no intention of enforcing the treaties of 1855.

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When news of Steptoe's defeat reached the War Department, it was concluded that the only way to stop these Indians "intoxicated with victory", was a mission of vengeance, bringing the Indians to their knees and complete subjugation. With these objectives in mind Colonel George Wright began his expedition in the fall.

On September 1, 1858, he met and defeated a large number of Indians at Four Lakes; then, after three days of rest, had a second meeting at the Spokane Plains, and again totally defeated the Indian after a running battle of fourteen miles.

On September 7, the expedition marched along the Spokane River for seven miles, which included a crossing over Tatah Creek. The Indians travelled parallel to the soldier on the opposite bank; after three miles, they called out to Wright asking for a conference. The Colonel agreed, but told them to meet him at a ford two miles above the falls. At the ford, he had a meeting with Spokane Garry (Chief of the Spokane's), and laid down the terms for peace:

"I have met you in two bloody battles; you have been badly whipped; you have lost several chiefs and many warriors, killed and wounded. I have not lost a man or animal; I have a large force, and you Spokanes, Cours d'Aleres, Pelouses, and Pend d' Oreille may unite, and I can beat you as badly as before. I did not come into this country to make peace, I came fight; Now when you are tired of war and ask for peace, I will tell you what you must do; you must come to me with your arms, with your women and children, and everything you have and lay them at my feet; you just put your faith in me and trust my mercy. If you do this, I shall then dictate the terms upon which I will greet peace. If you don't do this war will be made upon you this year, and next until your nation shall be exterminated.

→ Colonel Wright then sent Garry away to inform all other chiefs of the conditions for peace; that, being, unconditional surrender. The next morning, Wright's troop marched eastward over what was then known as the Cour d'Alele prairie. They had marched ten miles, when they spied large clouds of dust rising between themselves and the mountain. The following is a description of the incident

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given in Wright's official report:

"I marched at sunrise on the morning of the 8th, and at a distance of 9 miles discovered a cloud of dust in the mountains to the front and right.....

ordered major Grier to push rapidly forward with three companies of dragons, and I followed with three foot troops. The distance proved greater than we expected, deep ravines, intervening between us and the mountains... The Indians were driving off their stock, and had gone so far into the mountain that our horsemen had to dismount, and after a smart skirmish successfully capturing at least 800 horses....

Two days later Wright was advised by his senior officers, as a war measure to punish the Indians and prevent them from every renewing hostilities, by slaughtering all of the captured horses. Wright ordered the destruction of all but 130 horses to be used by the quartermasters who was fit. The method first used was to build a large corral, and to lasso the horses one by one, dragging them out and then shooting it, but this plan was so slow, that the men, instead, fired volleys into the enclosed corral. The slaughter took two days, and the camp site was christened Horse-slaughter Camp by F Lieutenant Lawrence Kip. Wright also ordered the burning of several Indian lodges and storehouses of grain, and in all hung at least 16 Indians, before bringing his expedition to an end. Captain Wright said of his cruel treatment:

Chastisement
The Chastisement which they Indians have received had been

severe
The Chastisement which they Indians have received has been severe but well merited & and absolutely necessary to impress them with our power.

For the last 80 miles our route has been marked by slaughter and desolation;

9000 horses and a large quantities of wheat and oats, also many

Defeat in battle, and the knowledge that war would continue till they submitted or win on the vicious slaughter of their animals the burning of their foodstuffs and the using of their fellow tribesman, convinced the Indians to submit to the overwhelming superiority of the whites. In this way the taming subjugation of the Indians in Eastern Washington was accomplished; and the white settlers were able to enter the interior of Washington increasing the

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increasing the popularity and its productivity and this pushing towards the
trinity's statehood.

Description

After Colonel George Wright's expedition had captured 800 horses of the Indians stock, at a small lake (Seltice Lake) in the prairies south of the Spokane River, the command moving nearer to the river, selected a camp site on to left bank, after a march of 14 1/2 miles. This camp is located 16 miles above the Spokane falls. It was here that the horses were slaughtered. The river bank and its former bank, which runs 20 feet above the site when the horses were imprisoned, formed two parallel sides of the enclosure. Both sides here on Skagit incline, creating a "natural amphitheatre" out of the area. The area between the two banks is 100 yards wide and 200 yards long. The area was flat and grassy with occasional trees and shrubs dotted its surface.

500

The site is 400 yards north of a marker which commemoates the vicious slaughter this marker is located 1 1/2 miles west of Spokane Bridge, a community neat the Idaho -Washington border. There can be no Doubt that this is the original site, as the faded bones

erected

were still very visible at the time the marker was ~~erected~~ in 1946.

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	O R	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "
NE					
SE					
SW					

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

William H. Trogdon

ORGANIZATION

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

DATE

3-10-70

STREET AND NUMBER:

West 2316 First Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Spokane

STATE

Washington

CODE

53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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 _____

Name _____
Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State Parks
and Recreation Commission

Date _____

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

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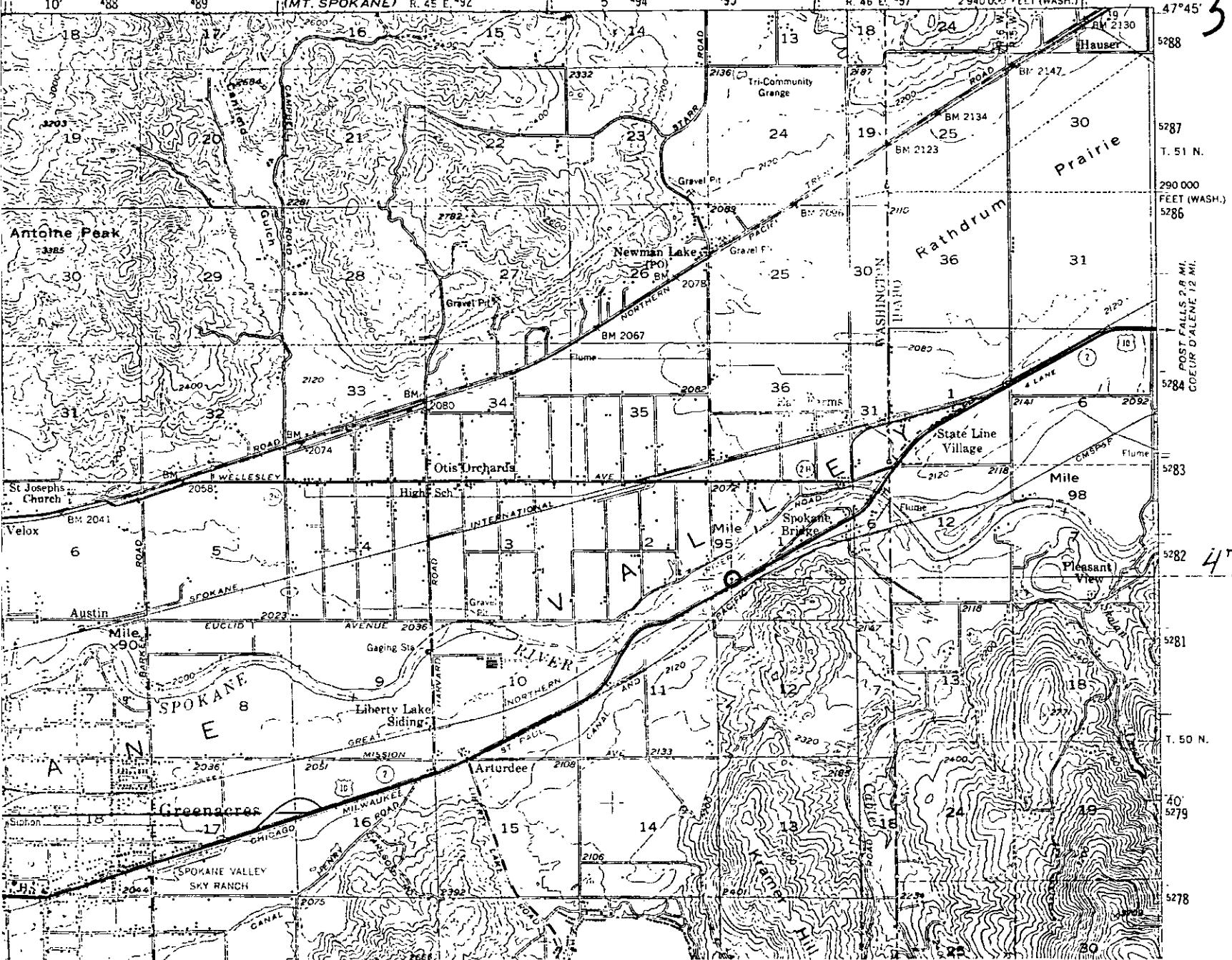
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GREENACRES QUADRANGLE
WASHINGTON-IDAHO 1949
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

2679 IV
(SPIRIT LAKE)

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SUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

36703
SP 5>

STATE	Washington	
COUNTY	Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON: Horse Slaughter Camp

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

16 miles East of Spokane and Port of Entry Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Spokane

STATE:

Washington

53

45

COUNTY:

Spokane

CODE

063

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: William H. Trogdon

DATE OF PHOTO: April 12, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

#1 - Looking north to the Spokane River and site



36703

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

I N S T R U C T I O N S

STATE	Washington	
COUNTY	Spokane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Horse Slaughter Camp

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

16 miles east of Spokane at Port of Entry Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Spokane

STATE:

Washington

53

50

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

Spokane

063

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: William H. Trogdon

DATE OF PHOTO: April 12, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

2 - Looking south at marker located adjacent to the Washington State Port of Entry Building and Tourist Information Center

