

Volume V, Appendix F

# Neighborhood Profiles

City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan



## Audubon/Downriver - Days of Yore

Local Native American tribes used the Spokane River on the west side of the neighborhood for fishing and winter camps for trading. On the east side of the neighborhood a thoroughfare crossed from springs located near Euclid Avenue and Maple Street to Indian Trail Road at Francis Avenue, carrying native people, trappers and early settlers between the large falls to the southeast and the Little Spokane River to the northwest. The natural springs in the area (now known as Drumheller Springs) were an important gathering place for at least one band of the Spokane Tribe; natives made annual trips to stay in lodges above the springs until the 1930s. Plants with edible roots, bulbs and berries grew here. Gridded street subdivisions later replaced the native trail, but the area around the springs was purchased by the Eastern Washington Historical Society and became protected conservation park land.



Chief Garry, thought to be one of the first educated natives from the Pacific Northwest, returned from studies in what is now Manitoba in 1830 and taught agriculture and religion in a school near the mouth of the Little Spokane River. He established a second school in a longhouse near Drumheller Springs in the 1860s, which has the distinction of being the first school located within the city. In the 1880s, the springs provided clean water to Daniel M. Drumheller's slaughterhouse and the growing city.

Partners Frank P. Hogan and John A. Finch contributed to the growing neighborhood by donating Audubon Park in 1905 in exchange for the City providing landscaping, road and water improvements to the park and their nearby housing projects. The 33-acre park was named after famed naturalist John James Audubon because of "the number and variety of birds that are constantly to be seen in the locality." A school built in 1924 adjacent to the park bears Finch's name; he died in 1915, leaving a large portion of his fortune to local organizations. Near the time of Hogan's death in 1927, a newspaper article recalled how he and Finch changed "that northwest section of the city from a thinly settled prairie to a beautiful district of modern homes." Rival streetcar companies extended street railways within Northwest and Driscoll Boulevards to serve the growing neighborhoods.



An early "isolation hospital" owned by the City of Spokane was located on the river bank across Downriver Drive from what is now the Downriver Golf Course. This hospital treated acute infections in the early 1900s. Later, the U.S. Army built the Baxter General Hospital, located between Assembly Street and Fairmount Memorial Park, to care for wounded veterans returning to the region during World War II, with 300 buildings and 2,001 beds. Portions of this 200-acre site became the Veteran's Affairs Memorial Hospital in 1948 and Joe Albi Stadium, which originally opened as Memorial Stadium, in 1950. A nearby rope tow operated as City Ski Acres in the late 1950s.

To the east, straddling the old native trail, Josie Comstock Shadle donated land to the City in 1944 for a park to honor her late husband, Eugene A. Shadle.





Spokane's fourth high school, Shadle Park High School, was built in 1957 on the east edge of the park, to serve the large tracts of housing built during the 1940s and 1950s north of the school. Eugene Shadle was a business partner of Josie's father, James M. Comstock, and managed the Crescent department store downtown for 52 years.



Nearby Glover Junior High School opened in 1958. It is named after James N. Glover, who established the city by filing the plat of Spokane Falls in 1878 in what is now downtown Spokane, three years prior to its incorporation. The Shadle Park Shopping Center was developed in the 1960s near these schools, offering the growing neighborhood its own department stores, grocery and drug stores, and restaurants.

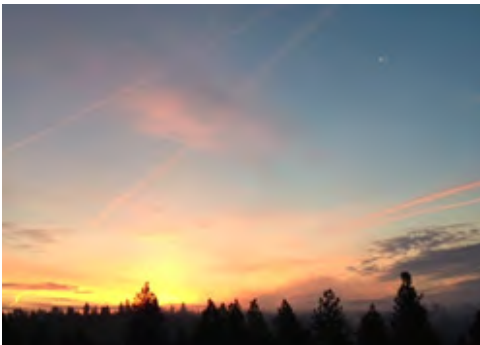
**Life in Audubon/Downriver Today**

The neighborhood features all of life's conveniences – it is close to downtown and within walking distance of several parks and recreational facilities. Good schools attract families, while professionals and retirees are attracted by well-built and relatively inexpensive housing along tree-lined streets, which are shady and hilly in some places. People are proud of well-kept yards. The neighborhood has tall stands of pines that articulate the horizon. People go to parks to hike, bike, walk, and run on bike routes and trails—some of which offer terrific views of the river and city.



Two popular neighborhood parks stand out: Audubon Park, a family destination with its impressive stand of mature pines. Among the open spaces are picnic tables, a small basketball court and children's splash pad/play area. Shadle Park is known for its public swimming pool, tennis courts, baseball field, picnic shelter, and community library. Families also visit smaller parks, such as Loma Vista, to enjoy the open air or to fly a kite.

Shadle Shopping Center is a busy destination for groceries, fuel, household goods, or for a quick meal or coffee. While the neighborhood is predominantly residential, there are a few isolated commercial pockets sprinkled throughout, where residents go to find cozy cafés, and pubs for a great breakfast or specialty pizza, a hardware store, and an eclectic garden shop.



**Treasures**

- Christmas decorations light up the neighborhood in select hotspots such as Courtland Avenue around the holiday season.
- Finch Elementary School, built in 1924, is an example of a preserved historic exterior from the early 20th Century with architectural interest.
- Riverside State Park is a regional treasure. It was formed from 1933 to 1936 when the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the Aubrey L. White Parkway, rock walls next to the roadway, trails, and several structures, including the swinging bridge across the river at the Bowl and Pitcher. The parkway is popular for running, bicycling and driving. A campground in the park offers real camping in the city along a beautiful river.
- Upriver from the Bowl and Pitcher, "Black Water" near the Downriver Disc Golf Course is a mellow spot with deep, dark water where folks can relax or swim in the river and view swallows burrowing in small





tunnels dug into the soft, sandy riverbank. Near TJ Meenach Bridge is a river beach where kayakers and river floaters can take turns jumping from a rope swing after an easy carry out.

- Farther downriver, near Camp Seven Mile, Plese Flats is another beach suitable for easy river raft take out near parking and a picnic area.

### Audubon/Downriver - Natural & Built Identity



- The Spokane River forms the neighborhood’s southern and western boundary, contributing to a keen awareness of nature’s presence. River access, wildlife, hilly terrain and basalt rock define the natural environment.
- The interior of the neighborhood is characteristically flat with shaded streets.
- The iconic green-and-yellow water tower visible across much of Spokane honors the spirited Shadle Park High School “Highlanders.”
- St. Charles Catholic Parish represents later-20th-Century architecture featuring a combined bell tower and fountain.
- Ranch style homes, brick materials, cottage style homes.
- Gridded streets give way to curvilinear pockets such as the Boulevard Park Addition near Driscoll Blvd. and a western portion of the Audubon Park Addition. Greenbelts and the southern bluff provide favorite destinations and great views for neighborhood walks.
- The 18-hole Downriver Golf Course provides a defining feature of the neighborhoods. Adjacent to the course along the river is conservation land within Riverside State Park, including adisc golf course.
- Fairmount Memorial Park contributes a quiet, peaceful location for contemplation.

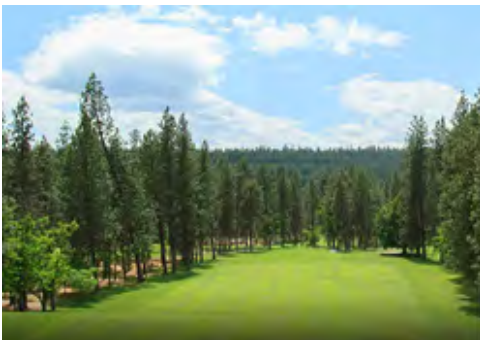


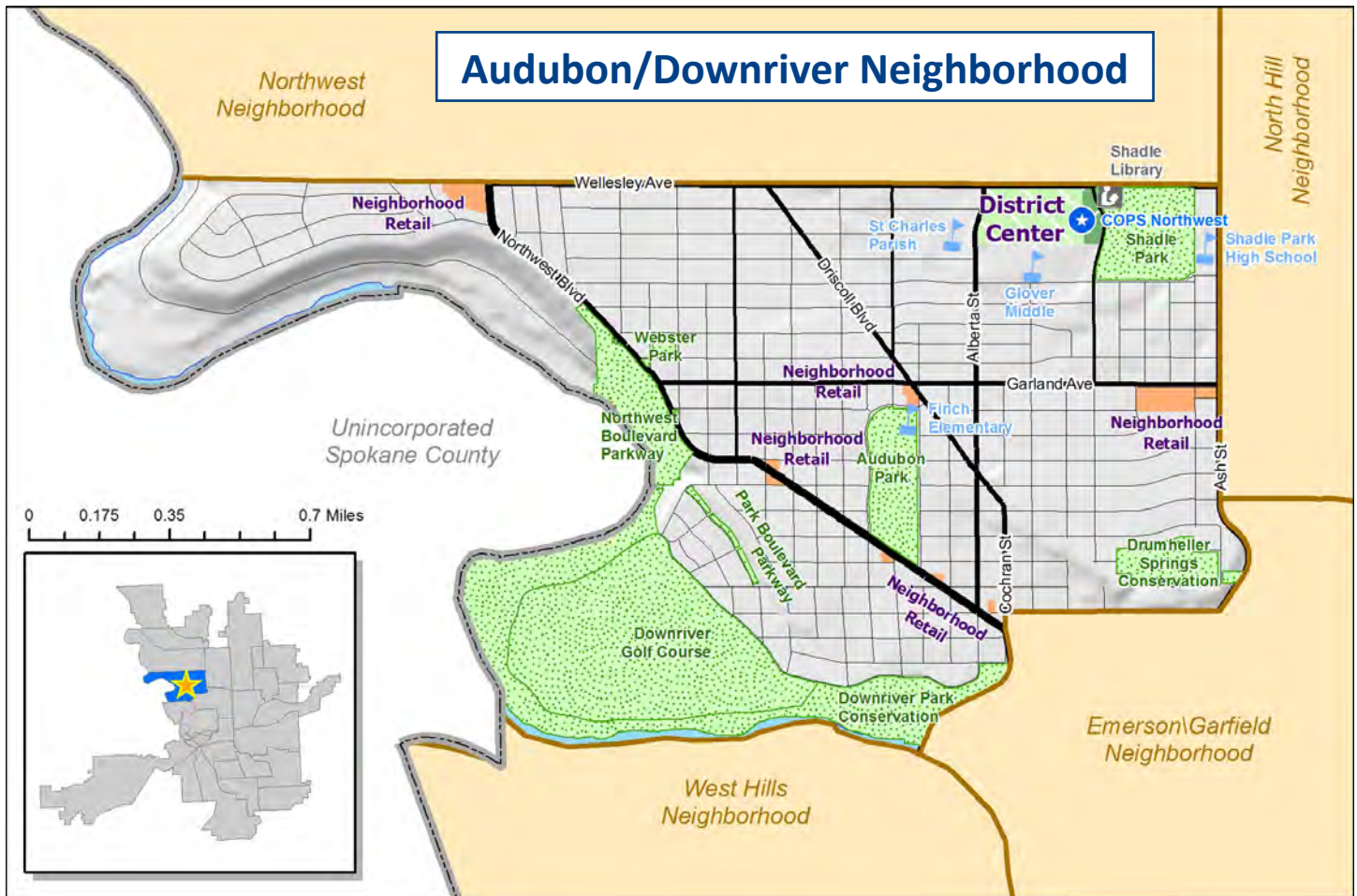
### Neighborhood Tales

*“On the day I moved in a neighbor brought over two bags full of fresh vegetables that he had grown in his garden.” – Justin Helm*

### Annual Events or Activities

- Summer music concerts in Audubon Park and Shadle Park.





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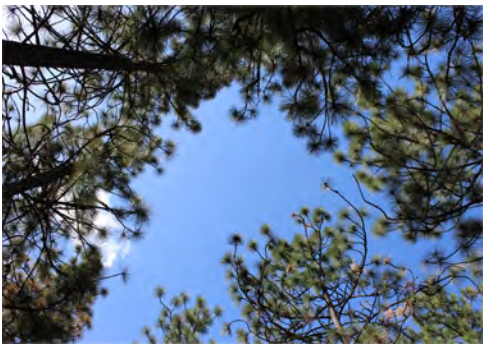


## Balboa/South Indian Trail - Days of Yore

A well-worn path crossed the Balboa/South Indian Trail neighborhood, used for Native Americans traveling from the southwest to Mt. Spokane, and later by settlers traveling from Spokane Falls to the pioneer Colville road and toward the Columbia River. A Scotch-Irishman named Robert McKinley, who was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland and grew up in Philadelphia, acquired 640 acres of land in 1883, at a spot along the road where travelers would stop because of a spring offering the only drinking water between the Little Spokane and the big river. McKinley referred to this as the Indian Springs camp. The natives named him E-lo-uke, or “man with big tree house,” for the log house he built below the spring and in which he and his wife, Helen lived. The McKinleys later lived to the west, near the river, and eventually moved to a home in the city. The 1940 Census indicates Robert became a traveling wholesale drug salesman.



In 1926, Olaf Upsjon interpreted markings on a rock near the Indian springs “as bearing the record ... of the hardy Norse being here in the year 1010.” This record was later described as an account of a battle between natives and a band of Norsemen visiting the spring, but controversy persisted over whether the writings were Native American or Old Norse. The City of Spokane acquired the remaining 225 acres of the old McKinley homestead in 1948 for a rock crushing site, shortly before Helen McKinley died. As terms of the transfer, she stipulated that the “Runic” rock be preserved.



Most of the neighborhood is built on the original McKinley homestead, including both of its elementary schools. In 1931, a landfill was opened on the west side of Indian Trail Road and stopped receiving refuse in 1991. The neighborhood was annexed between 1956 and 1966.



Balboa Elementary School opened in 1960 in Spokane’s Pacific Heights Addition on the site of a former chicken ranch. The name honors the Spanish explorer who was the first European to see the Pacific Ocean. Salk Junior High School (now Salk Middle School) opened its doors in 1961. The schools both experienced years of overcrowding as the Pacific Heights development brought families into the area, before other schools were built to help absorb the population. Indian Trail Elementary opened in 1964, adjacent to a new city park with the same name.

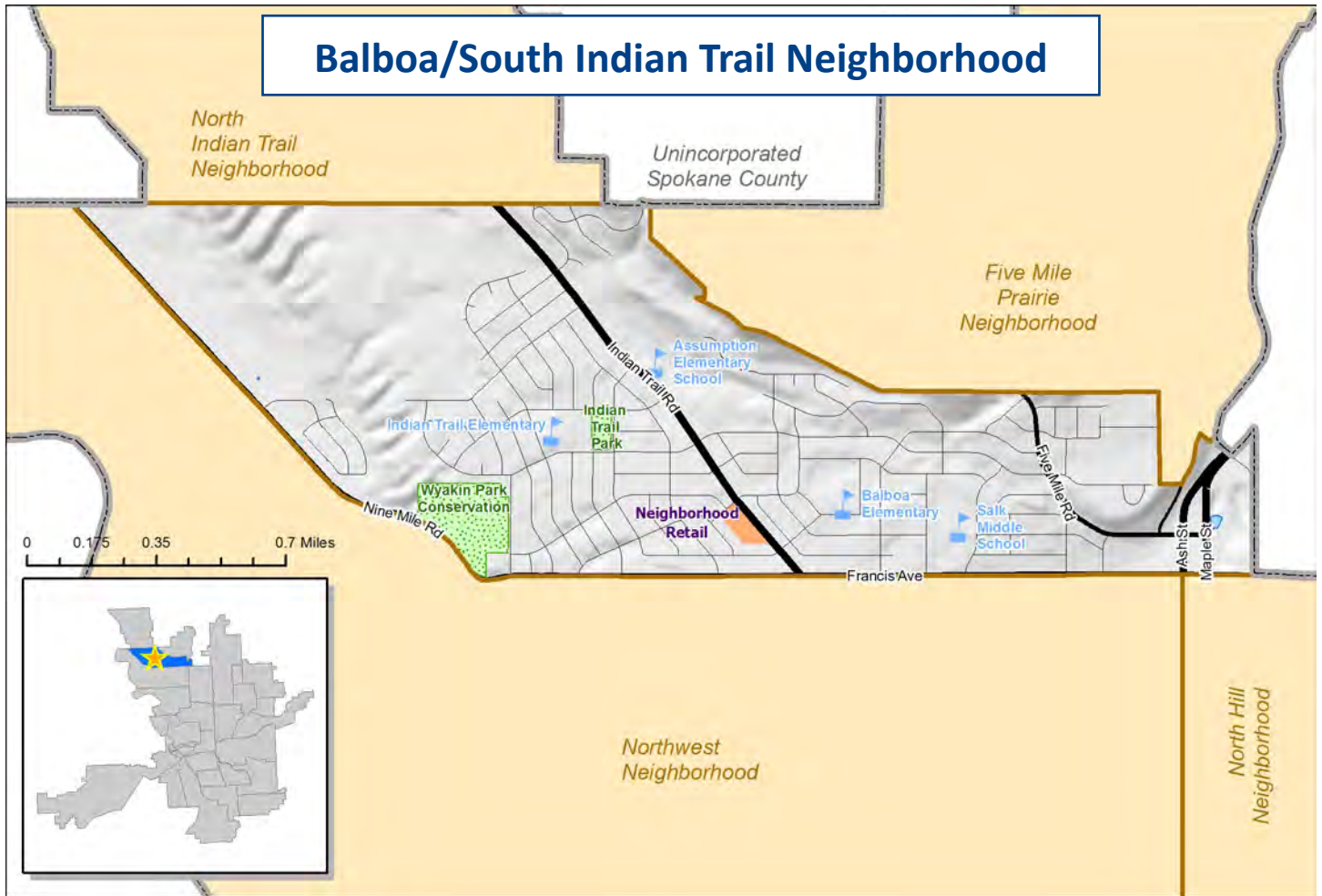


The Balboa/South Indian Trail Neighborhood Council meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at Salk Middle School Cafeteria. No July, August, or December meetings.



## Life in Balboa/South Indian Trail – Today

The Balboa/South Indian Trail neighborhood is well established and provides for a safe and clean community. Residents enjoy the low cost of living and proximity to neighborhood serving retail including a locally owned grocery store on Francis Avenue. This is a family oriented neighborhood where many residents enjoy outdoor activities like walking, biking, and running. Neighbors are proud to call Balboa/South Indian Trail home, as evidenced by the well maintained houses and yards.





## Bemiss - Days of Yore

The Bemiss neighborhood is unique because of its early evolution in two cities -- Spokane and Hillyard. (The town of Hillyard was platted in 1892, incorporated as the Town of Hillyard in 1907, and annexed to the City of Spokane in 1924). By 1890, seven residential additions had been laid out in the neighborhood, including the Hays Park, Arlington Heights, and Avondale Additions. The Ross Park Street Railway trolley connected downtown Spokane Falls, southwest of the emerging neighborhood, to Crestline Street at Illinois Avenue. The trolley, powered by hydroelectricity generated by the Spokane River, was the first electric railway in the city.



From the end of the Ross Park line, the Arlington Heights Motor Railway Company constructed a line northward along Crestline Street, which operated with steam power until the line was electrified in 1891. The line's north end soon became the bustling community of Hillyard. These streetcar lines serving the neighborhood became merged into the Washington Water Power's street railway system by 1899.



In 1907, the area north and east of Rich Avenue and Crestline Street was incorporated as part of the Town of Hillyard and that same year, the City of Spokane annexed the remaining unincorporated area to the south and west.

The Hillyard school district opened a three-story public school -- containing the district's office, high school and grade school -- that stood on Regal Street, immediately northeast of the existing site of Regal Elementary School. The high school's first class, consisting of five students, graduated in 1911. After six years of sharing the building, the growing high school moved to its own building approximately one-half mile north -- also located on Regal Street. A new Regal Elementary building replaced the former structure next to this site in 1982. Community members salvaged the original building's cupola and bell and erected them as a tribute on the old school site.



Farther south, the City of Spokane acquired land for Hays Park from the Big Bend Land Company in 1907 for \$1.00. Five blocks to the southeast, a school opened on the site of Bemiss Elementary in 1909 as the Hays Park School to serve the Spokane Public School District.

A permanent building for the Hays Park School was built in 1912, which the school board renamed in 1915 for David Bemiss, an important figure at the helm of the first wave of expansion of the public school system. Bemiss, born and educated in Ontario, Canada, served ten years as



The Bemiss Neighborhood Council meets the Second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Northeast Community Center, 4001 N. Cook Street.

<http://bemiss.spokaneneighborhoods.org/>





Spokane's superintendent, beginning in 1889. His son, Elbert, was among the seven students in Spokane High School's first graduating class in 1891.

John R. Rogers High School was constructed in 1932 as Spokane's third high school and named for Washington's third governor, a reformer and supporter of public education. The school replaced the old Hillyard High School and was purposefully built closer to central Spokane in order to add students from additional surrounding areas. A fire in 1931 that caused heavy damage to a portion of the old school helped push its construction. The school district later expanded and modernized the structure but maintained all of the elevations built in the Art Deco style that define its original character.

### Life in Bemiss - Today

Bemiss is a diverse community. Residents of all ages and family types live in Bemiss and maintain a proud recognition of the community's blue-collar workforce heritage. Housing styles of early 20th Century Craftsman for large families and smaller tidy bungalows reflect this culture. Bemiss hosts a mixture of residents who have lived their entire life in the neighborhood, and others who are relatively new. A single block is home to baby-boomer retirees and older folks, twenty-somethings with babies and toddlers, thirty-somethings with kids in school and those in their forties with high-school kids. Strong ties within the community help to ensure children have a safe place to call home. Neighbors know each other by name and give assistance when needed.



The physical neighborhood is as diverse as its people. Three major nearby businesses, Jubilant HollisterStier, Comcast, and Sonderen Packaging, provide a broad range of job types. A gridded street system and commercial arteries along Market Street and portions of Crestline Street and Euclid Avenue provide residents easy access on foot or by bus to groceries and restaurants within the neighborhood and beyond. The Hillyard Library is next door to the Northeast Community Center, which provides medical, dental, and social services, as well as the Hillyard Senior Center.



Children who live in Bemiss attend all grades at neighborhood schools and visit the neighborhood's three parks. Hays Park is an arboretum about one-quarter mile in length with a play structure and picnic tables. Courtland Park, next to Bemiss Elementary School, is a smaller park that contains a baseball field and barbecues. Andrew Rypien Field is a sports complex that hosts soccer fields, a mile-long loop walking path, and a modified baseball field for children with physical restrictions. Businesses, organizations and other community members partnered to clean up and transform the former junkyard site into the sports complex that also includes a community garden.





### Bemiss - Treasures

- Rogers High School is a source of pride for the Bemiss neighborhood.
- Crowds of families pack Andrew Rypien Field to watch soccer and baseball games. The field also contains community vegetable gardens.
- Young children and their families play in Hays Park with neighbors. The park provides a defining feature with a playground and arboretum that is quiet, clean, comfortable and safe. Now a favorite destination, the Olmsted Brothers firm recommended it as a playfield site in a report to the Board of Park Commissioners in 1907.



### Bemiss - Natural & Built Identity

- Views of the Spokane River valley and surrounding foothills from Illinois Avenue.
- The railroad industry’s legacy is ingrained in the community, with childhood memories of playing, watching the trains and using rail routes as shortcuts to downtown. Observers can still see trains along the local rail route leaving Hillyard.



### Bemiss - Neighborhood Tales

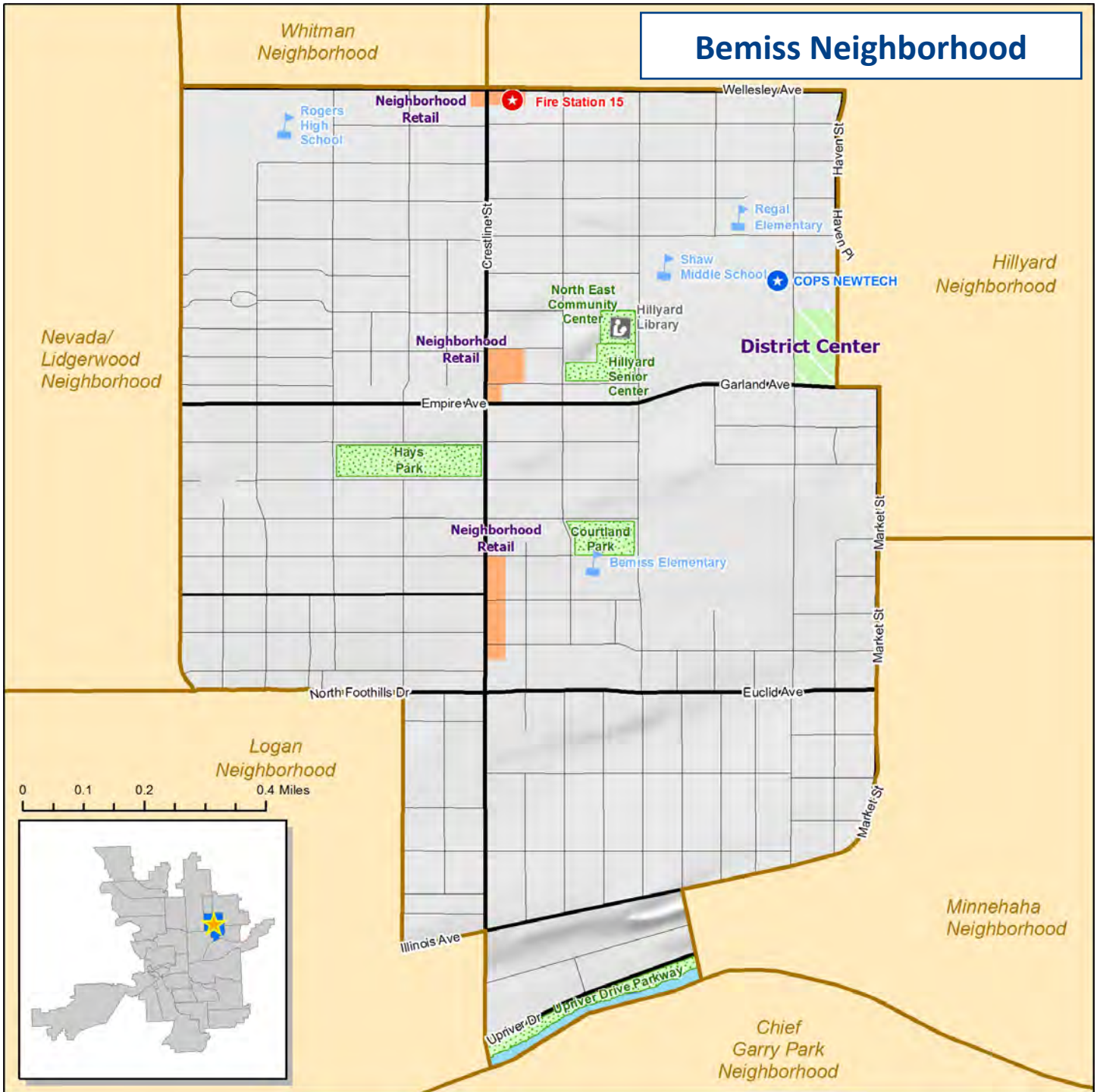
*“During the winter in the 1950s and earlier, the Napa Hill was unpaved, as was Euclid at that time. The Utilities Department would close the hill from Dalton to Fairview, and provide an employee and wood to keep a fire going on the northeast corner of the two. I spent many, many, many days and evenings on the ‘Hill.’ Kids came from neighborhoods all around to slide on Napa Hill and there was never any real trouble. Some of the best times of growing up in Spokane.”*

- Resident

*“Derry Oil was a full service fuel station and fuel oil supplier for much of North Spokane. Directly across Fairview from Derry Oil, my grandfather worked shoveling coal in a coal yard.”*

- Resident





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## Browne's Addition - Days of Yore

In 1878, two men, J J Browne and A M Cannon, arrived in Spokane Falls looking for adventure and fortune. They saw the potential of the raging river and the natural resources to support a larger population than the 54 hearty pioneers that inhabited the little town. They decided to invest. With a down payment of \$50, they bought ¼ of the Spokane Falls town site from James Glover, the founding father of Spokane. Later on, they each laid claim to 160 adjoining acres west of town for development as Browne's Addition and Cannon Addition.



By 1880, the population had grown to 350 people. The plethora of Chinese railroad laborers and servants were not included in that number. In spite of tremendous racial enmity toward Asians, the Chinese had an important role in Spokane and in Browne's Addition. Their cemetery was situated at the west end of the neighborhood, overlooking the confluence of Latah Creek and the Spokane River. Chinese funerals brought a parade of Chinese through Browne's Addition with their noise-makers and bright colorful banners to scare away evil spirits. The bodies were later exhumed and sent to China, leaving behind the only vacant lot in the neighborhood, at the end of Pacific Avenue.



The Northern Pacific Railroad reached Spokane Falls in 1881 and by the end of that year, the population had grown to 1,000. By 1883, Browne and Cannon had platted their land and were selling lots. They set aside almost 10 acres straddling their adjoining land for a park. In 1891, Coeur d'Alene Park in Browne's Addition became the first park in the growing city of Spokane. The neighborhood was on its way to becoming a highly desirable and prestigious residential community.

Throughout the eras of history from then until now, Browne's Addition has mirrored the development of Spokane in its architecture and residents. In the early years, families moved into Queen Anne and Folk Victorian style houses. They were often built from blueprints and instructions that could be easily purchased. After the big fires of 1889 until the turn of the 20th century, the economic growth of the city was reflected in the many architect-designed houses. With the continued building boom, brought on by entrepreneurs in successful lumber, real estate, and mining ventures, wealthy homeowners commissioned leading architects and builders to design and erect opulent homes and carriage houses in a variety of styles -- Colonial, Tudor Revival, Neoclassical, Craftsman, and Mission Revival. Such first-rate architects as Kirtland Cutter, W.J. Carpenter, Albert Held and Loren Rand showcased their talent in architectural wonders from traditional to exotic eclectic interpretations. Following the frenetic building of extravagant mansions, after the turn of the century, smaller houses and luxury apartments were built throughout the neighborhood. The Westminster, built in 1905, became the largest luxury apartment block in the area with large suites, rooms for the families' servants and a formal dining room. Before the Great Depression, Browne's Addition was the place to live.



The Browne's Addition Neighborhood Council meets monthly on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture.

[mybrownesaddition.org](http://mybrownesaddition.org)



From the 1930s to the 1980s, many residences were demolished to make way for smaller dwellings and modern commercial intrusions. Many of the elegant mansions were altered as apartment houses. The neighborhood became run down and crime was rampant. The 1980s and 1990s brought a resurgence of community interest when a small group of residents formed the Browne's Addition Steering Committee. With the influx of money from the city's Neighborhood Community Development Program and other federal monies, the Steering Committee worked with the city to prepare a "Browne's Addition Design Plan" which mapped out a strategy for neighborhood identity.

Many of the historic houses were rehabilitated; a traffic circle was constructed in the middle of the small business intersection; and, a gazebo was built in the park, using the original design from the one built in the early part of the century. The Victorian theme from an earlier era is evident in lights and street signs. This renewal brought a re-energized interest in historic preservation and education as the 21st century approached.

### **Life in Browne's Addition - Today**

Browne's Addition's close proximity to the center of the city of Spokane has brought new residents who are interested in an urban lifestyle in a diverse neighborhood. One recent new resident remarked that he walked every street in the neighborhood before deciding to move. He loves the historic character and the diversity of buildings and lifestyles.



The historic mansions and stately homes from an earlier era still hold their character and infuse the neighborhood with a sense of pride and tradition. The traffic circle in the middle of the neighborhood boasts popular and diverse eating experiences while other businesses, like hair salons, dentist offices, and a grocery store support the dense population of modern times. People of all ages, cultures, incomes, and backgrounds give Browne's Addition a dynamic, changing personality. Everything seems close, making the historic community quite walkable, with a new look on every block. Transportation options exist with convenient transit routes and multiple bicycle routes running through and connecting to other destinations.



The American Planning Association selected Browne's Addition as one of the "Great Neighborhoods" in their "Great Places in America" annual selection in 2009. They stated:

*"The most culturally diverse neighborhood in Spokane, Browne's Addition is a mosaic of past and present. Stately mansions are juxtaposed with low-rise apartment buildings and condominiums. Residents appreciate the neighborhood's proximity to downtown and its recreational opportunities and physical beauty. An increasingly vibrant pedestrian realm has created a strong sense of community and provides opportunities for neighbors to mix and mingle."*

### **Browne's Addition - Treasures**

#### Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture

The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC), situated in Browne's Addition, is one of the key historical and cultural resources in the Inland



Northwest. It showcases the best of regional history, art, and American Indian cultures. In a recent review on Trip Advisor, one visitor wrote:

“The MAC is one of the most successful local cultural centers to adjust to the needs of the 21st century. The MAC has embraced opening up the museum for a wide variety of activities that include free museum cruising and live music on a monthly basis as well as sponsoring author and artist readings as well as hands-on craft activities for kids. Instead of wishing for days of generous patronage, the museum has recognized a need to appeal to a broader audience and has a host of activities to engage people of almost every interest in the community. Well-worth an afternoon or evening of cultural engagement with the exhibits and events occurring on a rotating basis.”

### Coeur D’Alene Park



This 10-acre piece of land in Browne’s Addition is the centerpiece of the neighborhood. In early summer, residents of the region crowd into the park for ArtFest, which features the art of local artists as well as music, food and activities for children. In July and August, people spend their Thursday evenings listening to local bands of every genre. On even the hottest days, the park is a cool place to sit or play with its many trees, both coniferous and deciduous, that give it a canopy of shade and beauty. The gazebo in the middle of the park has been recently renovated and reflects the fresh, proud attitude of the neighborhood residents. The splashpad, basketball and tennis courts are popular places for people of all ages to play. The Friends of Coeur d’Alene Park work behind the scenes, doing fund raising and spearheading improvement projects, based upon the park’s comprehensive plan.

### Overlook Park



Far into the neighborhood, at the western edge, one can stand in Overlook Park and gaze out over Latah Creek into the horizon. Along this narrow strip of green space, are historic signs that tell the story of the early years and later development of the area. It’s a small, pleasant place to spend a few quiet minutes reading, thinking or chatting with friends.

### Neighborhood Eateries

The traffic circle at Pacific and Cannon is a very popular place to enjoy a quick snack or an evening of fine dining. This intersection hosts the Elk Public House, El Que Tacqueria, Italia Trattoria, Caffè Capri, Pacific Pizza, and Browne’s Tavern. During ElkFest in June, the streets are closed so that people can enjoy a weekend of local bands, beverages, and food. At other times, diners enjoy inside entertainment and even an occasional movie night in the secret garden behind the tavern. This intersection is the year round gathering place for the neighborhood. Coffee drinkers can also find good coffee and creamy ice cream at Cannon Coffee and Cone on the edge of the neighborhood.

### Community Building in the Neighborhood

During the summer months, neighbors gather on the yard of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church to tend their community gardens while they swap advice about growing vegetables. This is the place to watch nature develop from the dry debris of winter to the lush green of spring and summer. Unique art pieces adorn the plots of various gardeners who show their own special kind of creativity.



Two free libraries have shown up in the front yards of residents who are interested in sharing the joys of reading with the neighborhood. Residents can be seen browsing the selections and swapping out new books with ones they've read.

### **Browne's Addition - Natural & Built Identity**

The December 2009 edition of Planning Magazine had this to say about Browne's Addition:

*"The 176-acre, historic Browne's Addition in Spokane, Washington (pop.210,000), lies directly west of the city center, overlooking the confluence of the Spokane River and Latah Creek. In this culturally and architecturally diverse neighborhood, 19th century mansions coexist with low-rise apartment buildings and condominiums. Among its amenities: spectacular views of the nearby rivers and distant mountains; a design by Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects dating from 1907; and 10-acre Coeur d'Alene Park (the city's first park). The neighborhood has also successfully emerged from a long period of decline. All but 43 acres were designated a National Historic District in 1976. Virtually every residential style fashionable in the Pacific Northwest from 1880 to 1930 is found here."*



### **Browne's Addition - Neighborhood Tales**

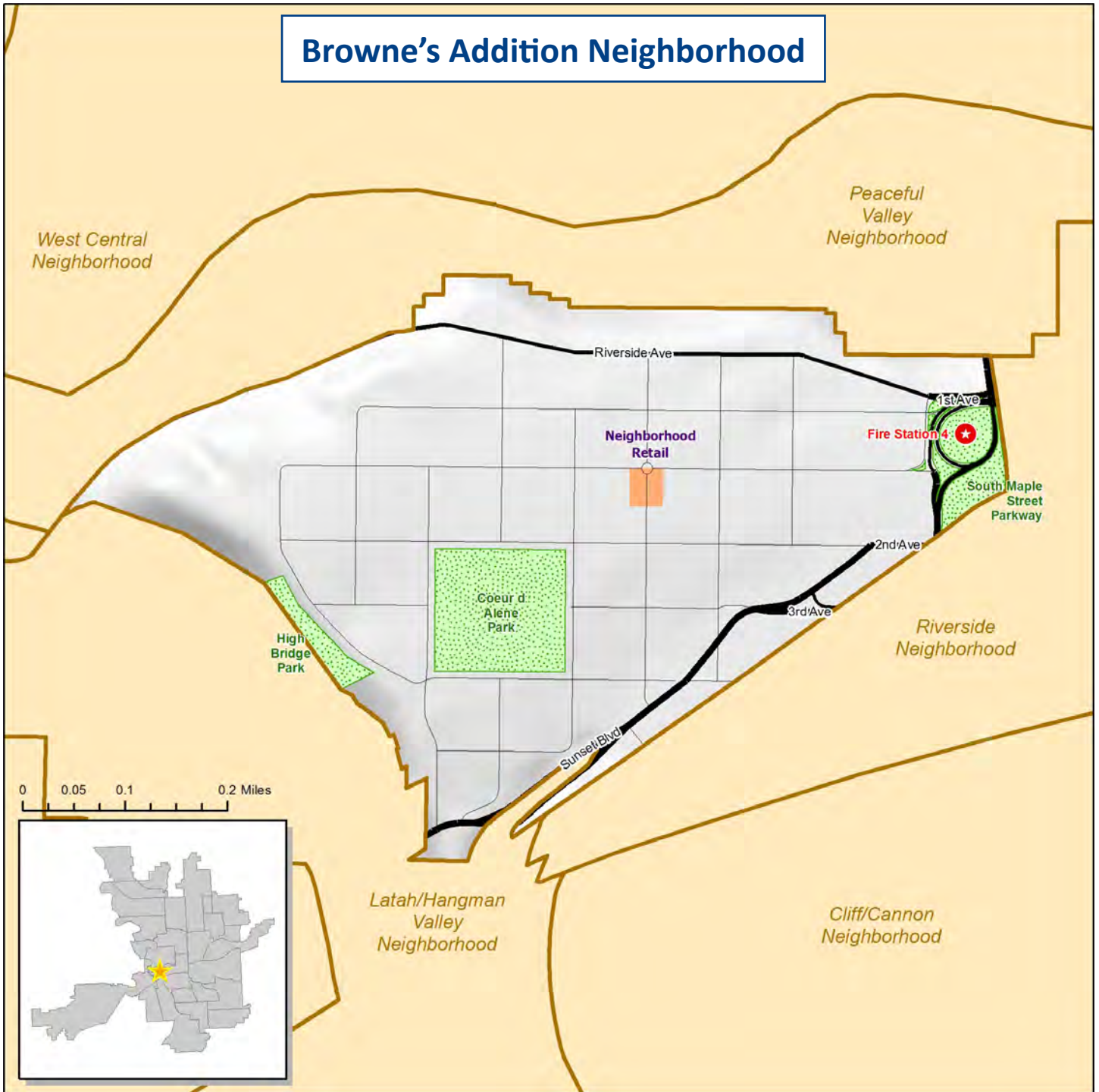
Visitors to Browne's Addition can sometimes take historical tours and hear stories about the lives and mishaps of the residents from times gone past. Listeners can hear about a dead body discovered in the basement of one mansion turned restaurant. Is her ghost still haunting the visitors to the mansion? Then there's the story about a poor widow who found a secret treasure of gemstones, left by a former wealthy resident. Why didn't they remember to take the family jewels? Another tale involves a famous poet who used to bother his neighbors with his mysterious drumming, chanting and dancing. What tragedy befell him? What's the story about the former Montana madam who lived among the wealthy leaders of Spokane? Why was a silver napkin ring found under the floorboards in the attic of one of the mansions? Where can you find the former homes of J. J. Browne and James Glover? Are these urban fact or urban myth?



### **Browne's Addition - Annual Events or Activities**

Annual Summer Art's Festival in Coeur D'Alene Park - Browne's Addition  
Summer Concerts in Coeur D'Alene Park - On-going events and exhibitions at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture - Historical walking tours and storytelling of the early wealthy families in the neighborhood - ElkFest in June - Summer outdoor movies and musical entertainment at Pacific and Cannon Street businesses.

# Browne's Addition Neighborhood



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 Cats Eye Photography

Special thanks to MaryLou Sproul and Elizabeth Marlin for writing most of this profile.





## Chief Garry Park - Days of Yore

The Chief Garry Park neighborhood is one of Spokane's oldest neighborhoods and includes the city's oldest home. In 1879, U.S. District Court Judge Lucias B. Nash and his family arrived in Spokane. In 1886 he built a home near the intersection of Tilsley Place and Iowa Street. Designed by Nash's wife, the Queen Anne mansion overlooked the Spokane River. It boasted 24 rooms and was one of the first homes in Spokane to utilize indoor plumbing.



Nearby, a row of small bungalows was built along Tilsley Place in the early 1900s. Streetcar lines that ran along Boone to Nelson and along Nora to Green connected the neighborhood to the rest of the city and many homes along and south of Mission Avenue were built between 1900 and 1930. Stevens Elementary School was originally a two-room school; then in 1908-09, an eight room brick building was constructed. From 1901 to 1916, Stevens was also a night school for Swedish and German immigrants.



During the same uring period from 1900 to 1930, homes and a school were built in the Parkwater area located at the extreme eastern edge of the neighborhood. Built in 1913 at Fancher Street and Commerce Avenue, the Parkwater School served the neighborhood until it closed in 1933.

Aviators began using Parkwater Aviation Field in 1913. In 1919, the Northwest Aircraft Company of Spokane leased 1,000 acres at Parkwater from the Spokane Park Board with the intention of installing hangars and starting an airline service. By 1920, the City of Spokane designated the field as its municipal airport, making it one of the first officially recognized airports in the United States. During the 1920s, Charles Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis at Parkwater. In 1927, Parkwater was renamed Felts Field to honor Lt. James Buell Felts who was killed in a crash there.



Chief Garry Park dates back to 1912 when seven acres of land were purchased and set aside as a neighborhood park. In their 1913 Report to the Board of Park Commissioners, the Olmsteds refer to the land as "well adapted to a park and playground" and noted that "there is no immediate call for improvements, as the district is as yet sparsely populated." In 1932 it was named to honor Chief Garry with an official dedication ceremony.

During the decade after World War II and following the breakup and subdivision of the Nash estate, most of the homes north of Mission were



The Chief Garry Park Neighborhood Council meets every 3rd Thursday of the month - 6:30 p.m., 2103 E. Mission, except in July, August, and December.

[chiefgarrypark.spokaneneighborhoods.org](http://chiefgarrypark.spokaneneighborhoods.org)



constructed, as was the 1946 building that now houses Cassano's. Napa and Mission has long been the primary convenience shopping area for the neighborhood.

In 1957 Spokane Public Schools began operation of the Spokane Technical and Vocation School at Mission and Greene. This school became Spokane Community College in 1963.

Between 1970 and 1980, many of the multi-family structures along South Riverton were constructed and between 1980 and 1990, the neighborhood spent over \$44,000 of community development funds on site improvements at Stevens Elementary as evidence of the importance of the school to the community. In 1994, a new building replaced the 1908 structure.



### Life in Chief Garry Park - Today

This neighborhood includes a diverse population of first time home buyers, students, retirees, and others of all ages with an active Neighborhood Council. The majority of Chief Garry Park neighborhood is a residential community. In addition, it has a significant portion of light industrial zoned land and businesses along the southern section and to the east, where Felts Field is located. A few small commercial areas with local businesses are located along Mission Avenue and the airport complex serving the community and the greater Spokane region. The location of Chief Garry Park offers good access to much of Spokane for employment commutes, education, and other needs.



Affordable, single and multi-family housing is available, both owner occupied and leased. Neighbors enjoy nice residential gardens and a few little free libraries. The neighborhood recently started a "Welcome to the Neighborhood Letter" given to all new residents. Chief Garry Park has a Facebook page and maintains an active email distribution list. Recent community-lead projects include improvements to existing parks, new benches-waste receptacles along East South Riverton Avenue, sidewalk improvements, and a new bus shelter.



The growing Spokane Community College at Mission and Greene Streets keeps the neighborhood youthful and energized. A number of large regional and community events are also held on the college campus. The City of Spokane's Street Department Facility is located within the neighborhood and the new Central Service Center, Solid Waste & Fleet Maintenance Facility is located in the neighborhood. Planning is ongoing for the Spokane Transit Central City Line as well, which will link the neighborhood with downtown and Browne's Addition.

*"My favorite place of all is Cassano's Italian Deli & grocery, great people, fantastic food, great prices and just a fun place to visit or share lunch with a friend."*

-Colleen Gardner



### Chief Garry Park - Treasures

- Chief Garry City Park, Stone Park, Parkwater Park
- Felts Field Historic District
- Site of Spokane’s oldest home, Nash Residence, 1886, Tilsley Place & Iowa Street

### Chief Garry Park - Natural & Built Identity



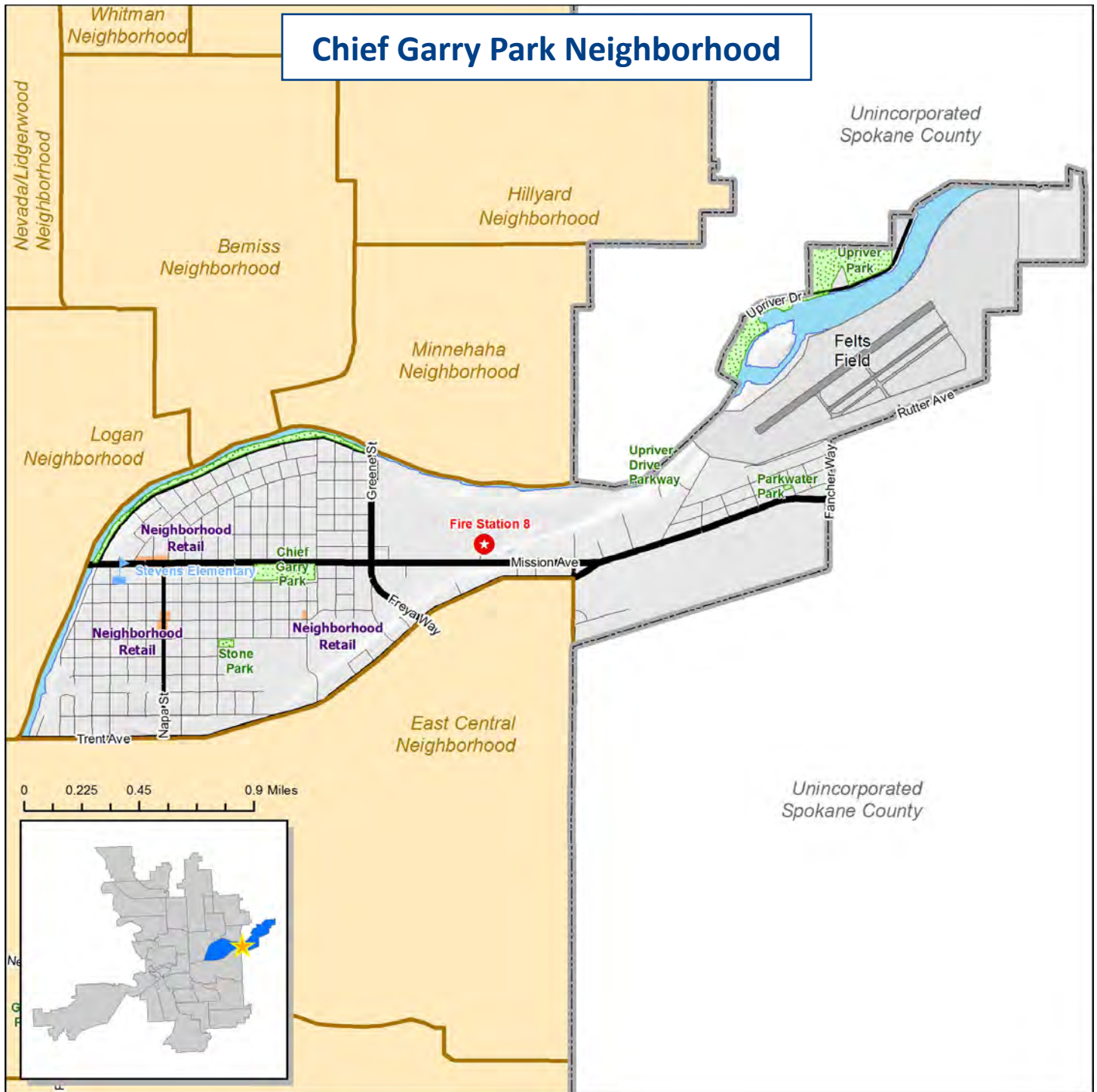
The Spokane River serves as the neighborhood border to the north with preserved native open space along the River. Tuffy’s Trail, a paved shared-use trail, is located along East South Riverton Avenue. Most of the neighborhood has gentle, rolling terrain and is well developed, except for the low-lying river front areas. Chief Garry Park Neighborhood has a long and narrow shape, traversing west to east over three miles. Mission Avenue is the primary east-west arterial street providing access through the neighborhood’s center, including public transportation routes. Felts Field is still an active small airport, and has been designated as an historic district. Chief Garry City Park is in the center of the neighborhood’s residential area and celebrated its 100-year anniversary in 2012 with a grand event. The Park is still popular today with three ball fields and other facilities for all ages. Although well established, parts of the neighborhood are in transition with redevelopment, increasing improvements to homes and properties, and more small businesses. The neighborhood recently completed major cleanups at all three parks as well as along Riverton Avenue.



### Chief Garry Park - Annual Events or Activities

- Night Out Against Crime
- Kidicalmass Bike Rides
- Three neighborhood clean-ups annually





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Cowley Park

## Cliff Cannon - Days of Yore

In 1874, Reverend Henry Thomas Cowley and his family were one of the first four families to settle in Spokane Falls. The Spokane Tribe helped build a log cabin and a schoolhouse on the land that is now Cowley Park at Sixth Avenue and Division Street. Some 250-300 Native Americans assembled in the vicinity of Pine Street to be close to the school.



Leuthold House

Cannon's Addition and Cliff Park form most of what is known as the Cliff Cannon Neighborhood. Cannon's Addition was named for and originally platted by Anthony McCue Cannon in 1883. By the late 1800s, the northern portion of Cannon's Addition had evolved into an elite neighborhood. Bankers, senators, businessmen, mining and lumber entrepreneurs, doctors, architects and lawyers built their mansions along the base of the basalt bluff. Famous names include Kirtland Kelsey Cutter, D.C. Corbin and James Glover. Even apartment dwellings were designed by prominent architects for wealthy tenants. The primary development of Cannon's Addition occurred between 1900 and 1925.



Lewis and Clark High School

Also in 1883, a four-room school opened at Fourth Avenue and Stevens Street. In 1891, the school moved to Fifth Avenue and Washington Street and was later named South Central when North Central was built. The school was destroyed by fire in 1910 and on April 8, 1911 Theodore Roosevelt set the cornerstone for the new Collegiate Gothic Style building, Lewis and Clark High School, at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Howard Street.



Sacred Heart Children's Hospital

The Cliff Park neighborhood developed around a 4.5 acre park donated to the City by real estate developers Harl Cook and Charles Clarke in 1904. A 100-foot volcanic outcrop is the centerpiece of the park and affords 360-degree views of the City of Spokane. From its founding to the present day, the area's residents have included the most prominent citizens of Spokane. Many of the homes were designed by Spokane's leading architects.

In 1907 the cornerstone for a new Sacred Heart hospital was dedicated at Eighth Avenue and Browne Street. The same year, as Spokane's population spread up the South Hill, a two-story brick building was constructed for Roosevelt Elementary School at Fourteenth Avenue and Bernard Street (replaced in 1981). The stylish brick building at Eighth Avenue and Monroe Street was once Spokane Fire Station No. 9 built in 1930 to replace the original 1908 structure.

The Cliff Cannon Neighborhood Council meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm, at the Woman's Club





Edwidge Woldson Park (Formerly Pioneer Park)

Streetcars served the South Hill from 1888 until 1936. “Cook’s Line” ran from Trent Avenue and Washington Street, up Bernard Street, then south on Grand Boulevard. The “North Monroe-Cannon Hill Line” zigzagged south along Howard, Adams, Jefferson and Madison Streets, and another line ran diagonally across the neighborhood from Ninth Avenue to Bernard Street, then south.

Pioneer Park was formed in 1945 when the Spokane Park Board purchased the D.C. Corbin, the former Frank Rockwood Moore and the United States Senator George Turner properties. The property includes the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens built between 1889 and 1932. The park originally included thirteen acres, from Seventh Avenue to Cliff Drive between Howard and Stevens Streets. In the 1960s, the Stevens Street extension was constructed and took three acres from the park. The park is included in the Marycliff-Cliff Park National Register Historic District. Pioneer Park was renamed Edwidge Woldson Park in 2010 in honor of her contributions to the community.



Cliff Park

During construction of Interstate 90, from 1965 to 1971, part of the Historic Cannon’s Addition was demolished. Years later, residents began to revive the neighborhood and to build awareness about the history of the area. Accomplishments listed by The Spokesman-Review (Feb. 13, 1997) included “a Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) station, a neighborhood park (Polly Judd Park) and historic homes being listed on local, state and national registers.”

### Life in Cliff Cannon - Today

Cliff Cannon is one of the great historic neighborhoods in central Spokane. Rising uphill to the south, it has a dramatic, elevated location. Residents have a strong connection to living here and enjoy the proximity to downtown Spokane for work or pleasure. They also enjoy close neighborhood shopping, parks and trail access, or a simple walk along the tree-lined quiet streets. People who live here strive for a neighborhood that is safe, friendly, clean and beautiful. Neighbors get to know one another with block parties, barbecues, yard sales and an occasional neighborhood clean-up. Younger and older families, professionals, students, retirees, singles, health conscious-individuals and skilled craftsmen call this home. Housing choices include historic mansions, modest older homes, condominiums, apartments and historic restoration projects. Roosevelt Elementary School and Lewis and Clark High School are located in the neighborhood. Major health care centers for the region located at the north end of Cliff Cannon include Deaconess, Shriners and Sacred Heart hospitals, along with other supporting medical facilities.



Rocket Bakery

*“It’s a neighborhood with history and friendly neighbors that is near downtown and easy to commute to and from.”*

-Jeff Galpin



Huckleberry's Center



Cliff Cannon is a member of the South Hill Coalition which created a plan to connect all of the South Hill neighborhoods and make them more livable.



Woman's Club

## Cliff Cannon - Treasures

- Cliff Park, Edwidge Woldson Park, Cowley Park and Polly Judd Park
- Glover Mansion
- Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens
- Westminster Congregational Church of Spokane
- Plymouth Congregational Church
- Marycliff-Cliff Park Historic District, Ninth Avenue Historic District, and Booge's Addition Historic District with numerous historic homes
- Woman's Club of Spokane
- Lewis and Clark High School
- Marycliff High School
- Remaining trolley track and brick streets



Plymouth Congregational Church

## Cliff Cannon - Natural & Built Identity

The natural setting for much of Cliff Cannon is special. The elevation gain from the Spokane River Valley below allows sites to have spectacular hilltop vistas of Spokane and the mountains beyond. The variety of shapes and sizes of natural basalt outcropping remaining today dictated the development patterns of streets and building sites years ago. Intermixed within the rocky side-slopes and ridges are mature stands of conifer and deciduous trees. Most streets have short block grid patterns, except for curvilinear roadways traversing the steeper sections of the neighborhood. The built structures have a rich diversity of styles, materials, size and details reflecting their purpose and desires of the original owners. Housing styles include Craftsman, Brick Tudor, Victorian and other more modern designs. Many older homes have been preserved and well maintained, while others have been removed over time and replaced with newer single family houses, apartments and condominiums. Numerous old landscape walls and steps built from native rock still remain throughout the parks and building sites. Many outstanding residential landscapes and gardens also exist in Cliff Cannon. Today, small commercial centers in the neighborhood offer the convenience of nearby grocery and hardware stores, restaurants and coffee shops.



Marycliff Center



Polly Judd House



For further information, including neighborhood contacts, see:

[my.spokanecity.org/neighborhoods/councils/cliff-cannon](http://my.spokanecity.org/neighborhoods/councils/cliff-cannon)



Nuzum House

## Cliff Cannon - Neighborhood Tales

*“People traveling north to Spokane from the Palouse could stop at Polly Judd’s house (facing south over what is now Polly Judd Park) and freshen up before traveling into the City of Spokane proper. The ravine is filled now (Polly Judd Park and railroad fill), but used to connect down to a very old road that ran near Latah Creek. Occasionally people will tell you the Polly Judd house had a speakeasy in the 1920s, but I can’t confirm that. Polly Judd was a lilac hybridizer who also had a Japanese garden on her property.”*

-Rosemary Small

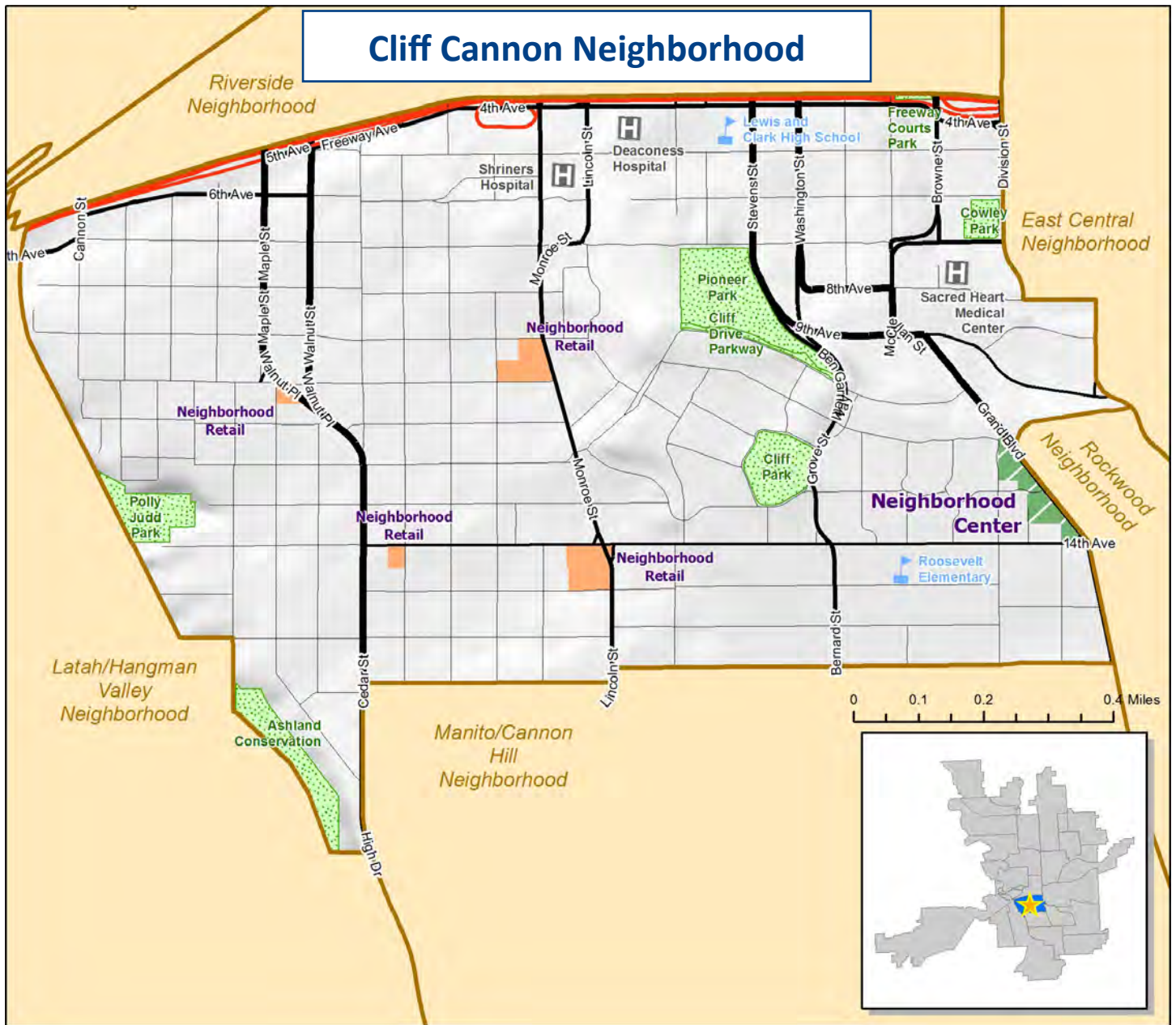


Moore-Turner Heritage Garden Pond

## Cliff Cannon - Annual Events or Activities

- Lower South Hill Neighborhood Block Party and Potluck: every September
- The Winter Vintage Fashion Tea: every December at the Woman’s Club of Spokane





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## Comstock - Days of Yore

It likely began with the streetcars. In 1888, the Montrose Electric Company or “Cook’s Line” started downtown and ended at the car house near 37th and Grand. Streetcars also ran to 33rd along Division. The streetcar era ended in 1936. But during that time, homes, schools and businesses were built in the vicinity of the north-south rails at Division and Grand while other parts of Comstock remained un-platted or undeveloped.



In 1906, Spokane College, a four year liberal arts school that included a law school, was built in the area that is now Manito Shopping Center. Amenities across the street included a library and drug store. Jefferson Elementary began as a two-room school house at 38th Avenue and Hatch Street in 1908 before moving to the two-story brick building at Grand and 37th in 1909.



Manito Boulevard was built in 1907 as part of Manito Addition (between 14th and 33rd and Division and Hatch). The boulevard stretched from Manito Park to approximately 35th Avenue where the developers had sold 50 acres to the Spokane Country Club in 1903, expecting that the presence of the golf course would help promote home sales in the surrounding area. The club built a clubhouse on the site, but the facility burned down in 1908 and the club moved in 1910. Next, Manito Golf & Country Club was founded on the same site in 1917. Then in 1922, the Club permanently moved to its current location, between 44th and 53rd. In 1925, Lewis & Clark’s Principal Hart secured the Hart Field property for the school and community.



In their 1913 report to the Spokane Park Board, the Olmsted Brothers recommended building High Drive Parkway and extending Manito Boulevard from 35th directly south to High Drive. These were among several roads recommended for the purpose of “pleasure driving and walking” and to connect parks.

By the second quarter of the twentieth century, residential development began to boom south of 35th Avenue (east of Bernard) and in post war 1947, the Manito Boulevard Extension was completed, curving west along 35th then south at Division to High Drive. To serve the growing neighborhood, an addition to Jefferson Elementary was made in 1948 and Manito Elementary was built on the west side of Hart Field (1952-1961).

Comstock Park, dedicated in 1938, was originally designed for recreation and youth activities. The swimming pool was state of the





art for its time and was large enough for a tournament. Originally surrounded by mostly vacant land, by 1958 there was a new residential neighborhood to the west and south along 33rd. The south side of the park is owned by the school district and was once the site of Comstock Elementary School (1956 – 1972).

In 1960, a portion of Hart Field at 33rd became the site of Sacajawea Middle School. In 1969, after being used by two colleges, World War II soldiers, and apartment dwellers, the Spokane College building at 29th and Grand was torn down to make way for Manito Shopping Center. Most recently, land tracts south and east of Comstock Park and along High Drive have filled in with mid to high-end residences.

### **Life in Comstock - Today**

Location, fun, and fitness. This is a neighborly place where people can walk or bike to destinations such as the South Hill Library, Manito Post Office, restaurants, coffee shops, grocery stores, banks, dry cleaners, schools, and churches or synagogues.

Weekday mornings in Comstock might include a morning jog through the neighborhood or to Manito Park. Neighborhood children can walk, bike or bus to Jefferson Elementary or Sacajawea Middle School. Getting to work in Downtown Spokane is easy by city bus or private automobile, and some prefer to bicycle.

Evenings and weekends might include a stop at Rocket Market to stock up for a picnic at Comstock or Manito Park, take a wine tasting class, or enjoy outdoor live music in the summer. For those seeking exercise or outdoor recreation there are private fitness centers, a private golf and country club, or community amenities. Comstock Park has a pool large enough for lap swimmers as well as tennis and basketball courts. Scenic High Drive overlooking the Latah Valley is a great place to bike, share a sunset, catch a lightning storm, walk close to nature, or simply take in some fresh air. The drive was recently upgraded to include dedicated bike lanes and just off High Drive, hikers and mountain bikers can enjoy breathtaking views while exploring 25 miles of South Hill Bluff Trails. Tree lined Manito Boulevard has been called a “walker’s haven” and the neighborhood takes pride in the fact that the street pavement is shared with people using all modes of transportation including bicycles, strollers, and wheelchairs. In the winter, cross country skiers make tracks through the boulevard from Hart Field to Manito Park.

Residents tend to describe the neighborhood as established, family friendly, safe and stable. Some neighbors keep in touch with one another through block parties and neighborhood meetings. Many see each other when out walking, jogging or biking. Housing ranges from small and affordable to large and expensive. Regardless of size, homes tend to be well maintained. Likewise the people who live here are diverse; they have varied interests, religious preferences, and professions. But many voice a shared appreciation for the location,





affordability, walkable tree lined streets, neighborhood shopping center, outdoor recreation opportunities, and healthy lifestyle.

### Comstock - Treasures

- Comstock Park
- Scenic High Drive
- The Bluff Trails off High Drive
- Rocket Market
- South Hill Library
- Manito Golf & Country Club
- Manito Boulevard
- Manito Shopping Center
- 31 acre Hart Sports Field



### Comstock - Natural & Built Identity

Manito Golf & Country Club, Comstock Park, Manito Boulevard, High Drive and Hart Field help establish a neighborhood character of rolling lawns and park-like stands of trees and ponderosa. There is a feeling of openness despite the fact that typical residential lots are relatively small and range from two to seven homes per acre. While buildings vary widely in terms of period, style, cost, and materials, most are relatively small scale and two stories or less. A few date to the early 1900s, but the majority of the existing neighborhood was built post World War II. Neighborhood services, retail and restaurants in the Manito Shopping Center help maintain a fresh vibe in this 1960s automobile strip mall. Within the neighborhood, the terrain is relatively level with occasional basalt outcrops and low basalt walls. Most streets are on a grid and some older sections of the neighborhood (generally in the vicinity of Grand Avenue) still have the original sidewalks and street trees. In post war and more recently developed areas, quiet streets wind through well-maintained lawns and front landscaping. At the far western edge along High Drive the residential patterns give way to native vegetation, dramatic topography, and expansive sunset views across the Latah Valley.



### Comstock - Neighborhood Tales

- *“Manito Golf and Country Club used to be on the west side of Hatch Road before the club house was moved to the east side and Quail Run gated community was developed. My girlfriends and I would pick up lost golf balls and sell them to her dad for 5 for 25 cents.*



- *“There were two ‘penny candy’ stores, one at 37th & Grand across from Sigman’s Grocery and one on Grand just south of 29th, before Manito Shopping Center was developed.*
- *“There was a gas station near the current post office on Grand that rented tandem bikes for 50 cents an hour.*
- *“Learning to swim at Comstock Swimming Pool.”*

-M. Wittstruck

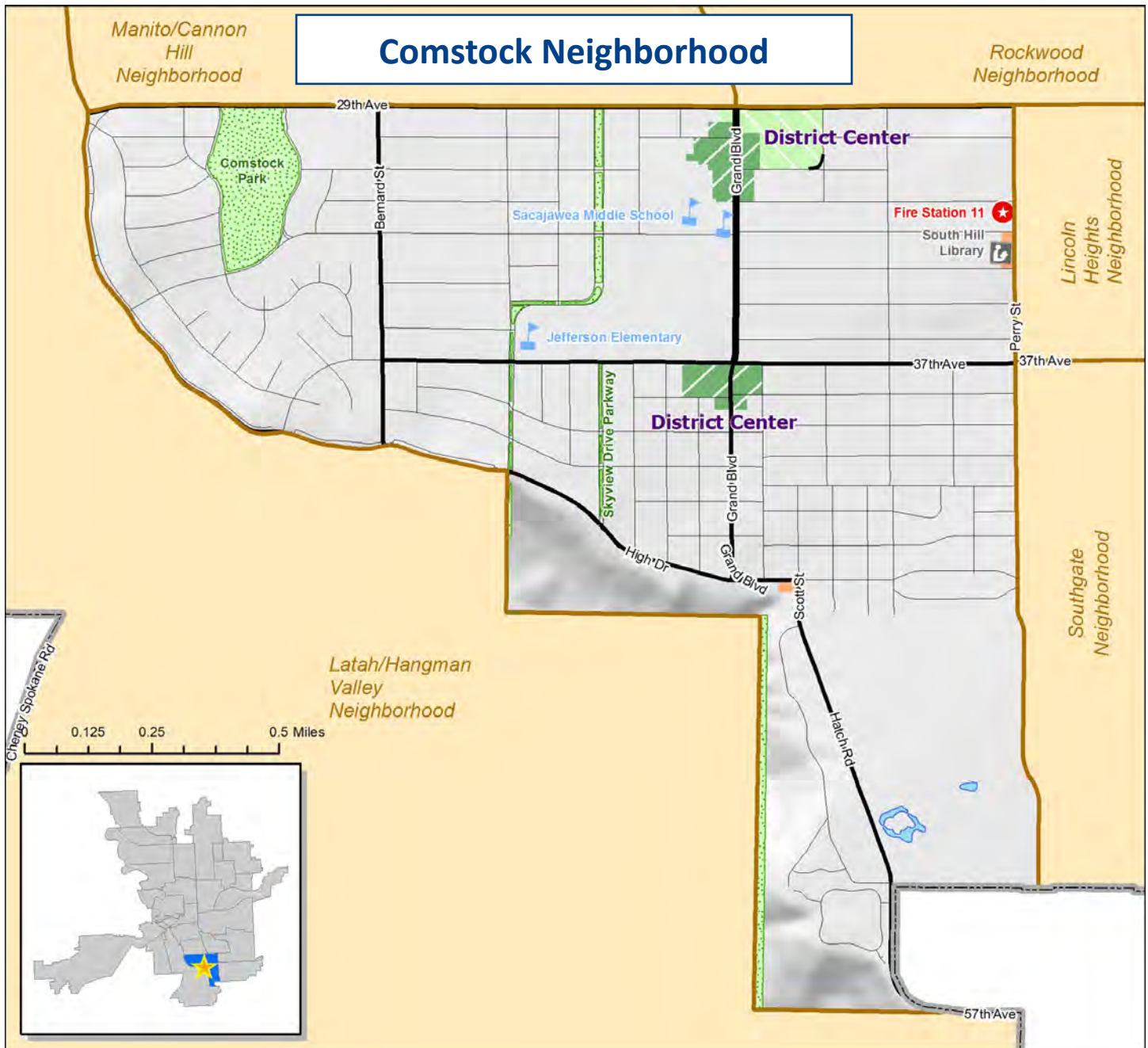
*“We were feeling more than a little apprehensive about the decision to move to Spokane to be closer to family. It was late October 2002 and moving day from West Seattle into a vintage craftsman home on Manito Boulevard. The boulevard was vivid gold in the sunshine and our new neighbors were raking up knee high piles of leaves. As the day unfolded, there was a steady stream of foot and bike traffic on the boulevard, children played in giant mounds of leaves, and the few cars that passed were obviously there to enjoy the fall colors. Soon afterwards, a group of neighbors invited my husband and me to dinner. At Halloween we were pleasantly surprised by the steady stream of trick-or-treaters. In early December, there was a knock on the door and our neighbors invited us to walk with them to a holiday party a few blocks away. We protested, not wanting to barge in on the hosts and were assured that they wouldn’t mind. We were met with genuine warmth at a small, very crowded house and were excited to meet some of the amazing people who call Spokane home. By the night of that party we were confident that the move was a great decision.”*



-J. Neff

### **Comstock - Annual Events or Activities**

- Annual Labor Day Concert at Comstock Park
- Summer Parkways – Manito/Comstock Neighborhoods
- Doggy Dip at Comstock Pool



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## East Central - Days of Yore

One of the first communities in Spokane to be developed with numerous suburban neighborhoods was a large tract of land east of the city called East Central Spokane. It was roughly bounded on the north by Trent Avenue, then later by Sprague Avenue, and extended south to Fourteenth Avenue. Spreading east from Division Street, the East Central area stretched for more than five miles to the city limits at Havana Street. Numerous multiple-block subdivisions were platted within the extensive East Central area.



According to an aerial perspective drawn in 1887, East Central Spokane was originally dotted with pine trees and covered with wild grasses and meadowland. Indians lived, fished, hunted, and traveled through the area on a regular basis. As reported in an April 20, 2000 article in the Spokesman-Review, Southeast Boulevard, which winds up the hill above Liberty Park to Twenty-Ninth Avenue, was first an Indian trail that was made into a road by pioneers who later settled the area. Spokane historian Nancy Compau explained in the article that “immigrants were attracted to Spokane with promises of work and farmland, and traveled there on ‘immigrant trains.’ Scandinavians, Italians, Russians, African Americans, French, and Poles settled into the East Central neighborhood, one of the oldest parts of Spokane. It was a good place to build because it was flat and easily accessible. The Spokane Inland Empire Electric Railway traversed through the East Central Neighborhood from downtown and east to Liberty Lake, Hayden Lake and into the Palouse with the Electric current being changed at the “Changing Station”.



East Central Spokane grew as an outgrowth of industrial development, which was built east of the city’s downtown core. Developed in the late 1800s and early 1900s as a working-class neighborhood, East Central Spokane was colloquially known as “Union Park,” a name originated from a concentrated industrial settlement that developed along Trent and Sprague Avenues. Union Park was described as the factory section of town. Nearby were lumber mills, flour mills and sawmills. The people who lived in Union Park were thrifty, hard-working people many of whom had immigrated from Italy and the Scandinavian countries. Most of Spokane’s banking, commerce, and merchant based businesses were established in the city’s central business district, located along Riverside Avenue west of Division and Bernard Streets, while industrial enterprises sporadically developed east of the downtown core along the Northern Pacific Railroad tracks and along Trent and Sprague Avenues. Mill sites, horse-and-buggy services followed by the automobile centers,



The East Central Neighborhood Council meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month (Sept. – July) at 6:30pm at the East Central Community Center – 500 S. Stone St.

[eastcentral.spokaneneighborhoods.org](http://eastcentral.spokaneneighborhoods.org)



and a variety of stores, shops, markets, banks, and bars were clustered along Sprague and Trent Avenues. During the period from about 1889 to the early 1950s, the land south of Sprague was developed for residential purposes. Hundreds of small, affordable homes were built on 50-foot-wide lots. House styles were mostly vernacular expressions as interpreted by Spokane builders and from house plan catalogues that were widely distributed throughout the country. Old-timers remembered when land in the area sold for \$5 an acre and homes rented for \$5-\$10 a month.

### Life in East Central - Today



Interstate-90 Freeway became the dividing line in the neighborhood in the late 1950s. Traffic through Spokane via East Sprague had become congested and plans were made to build the freeway corridor of 6-8 lanes. The building of the freeway destroyed the Historic Liberty Park and removed many hundreds of homes from Division to Havana on 2nd and 3rd and built a barrier dividing the neighborhood. The East Central neighborhood is in transition and growing. The low cost of living combined with proximity to downtown has created a suitable location for many young families to move in and call this part of Spokane home. With this influx of new residents, crime has dropped and diversity has increased.



Neighbors are full of optimism about the neighborhood's future. On any given day, families, professionals, and older veterans share space within the neighborhood. The South Perry Business District and Sprague Avenue in the East University District are two areas that have recently been transformed with the addition of neighborhood serving restaurants and businesses. The neighborhood is served by several parks, and residents love the older housing stock that has charm and value. Neighbors are friendly and get together in the summer over to barbeque and play kickball. In addition, the various events such as summer concert series and the South Perry Street Fair create family-friendly recreation activities.



### East Central - Treasures

- Budge Brothers Brewery
- Eastside Library
- The Shop
- Casper Fry
- South Perry Pizza
- Lantern
- South Perry Brewing Company







- Thursday Farmer's Market
- Grant Park
- South Altamont Blvd
- Overlook that leads down to Lincoln Park
- Stone Path – Beautiful stairs from Liberty Park up the hill
- Liberty Park Florist
- East Central Community Center



### **East Central - Natural & Built Identity**

- Liberty Park
- Older craftsmen homes that have great potential
- Big beautiful trees
- Streetscape on East Sprague – trees and lighting, bump-outs on Perry
- Parks

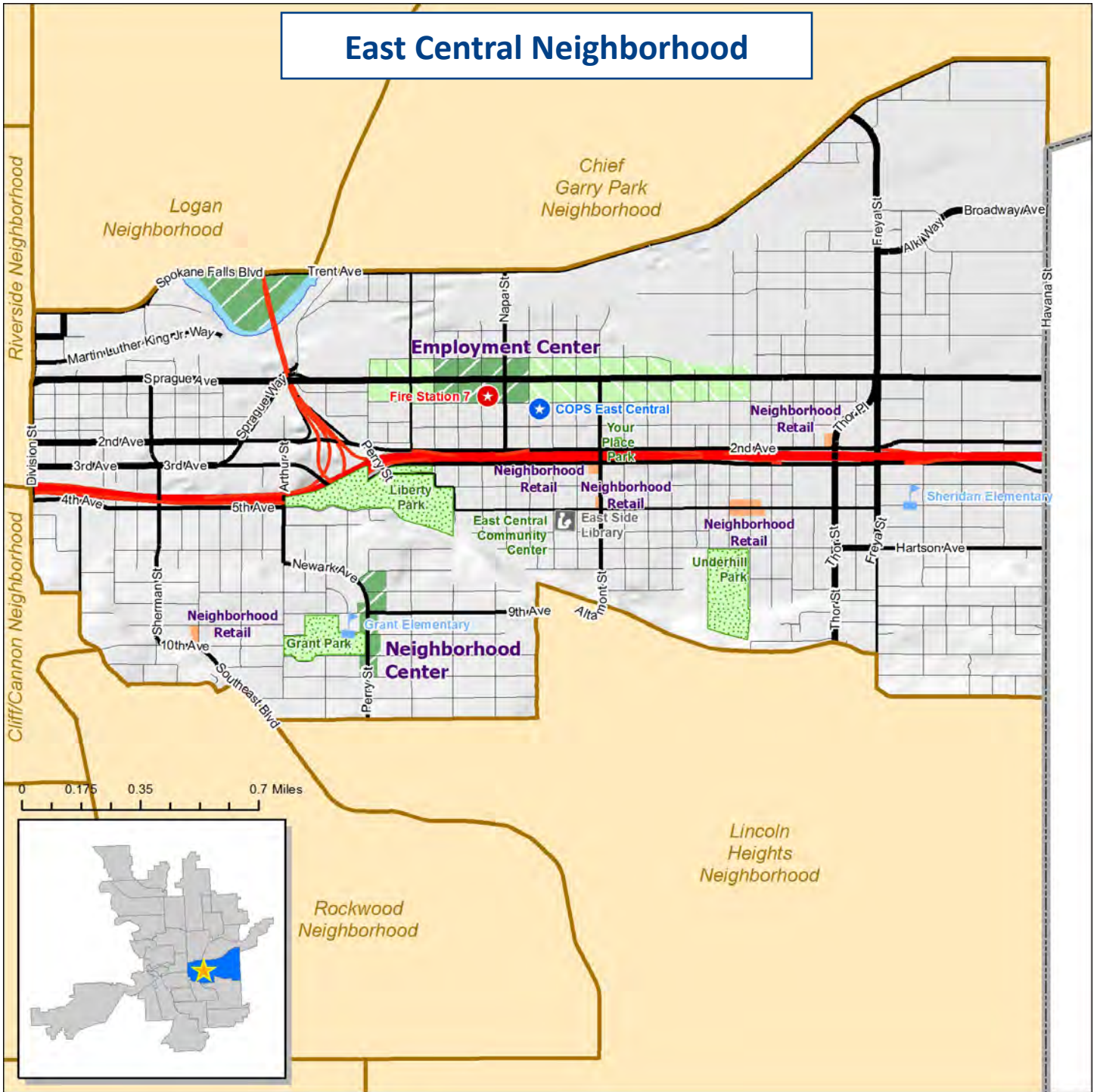


### **East Central - Annual Events or Activities**

- Concert Series
- South Perry Street Fair
- Farmer's Market



# East Central Neighborhood





## Emerson-Garfield - Days of Yore

Built mostly in the early 20th century, Emerson-Garfield is one of Spokane's original neighborhoods. On its north side, the area that is now Corbin Park was once a 40-acre oval race track owned by the Washington Idaho and Fair Association. Horses, bicycles and people raced around the track while spectators cooled themselves with lemonade. The fair and races lasted from 1887 to 1890, and the races continued independently until 1899 when D.C. Corbin, a wealthy mining and railroad mogul, purchased the property. Corbin presented the City with a plan to plat a residential area surrounding the racetrack oval. The resulting park helped enhance the surrounding lots and resulted in a concentration of distinguished homes in the Queen Anne, Bungalow and Classic Box architectural styles. In 1913, a master plan for the park was developed by the Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects of national renown.



Trolleys had an important influence on wider neighborhood development. Spokane's streetcar era lasted from 1888 to 1936; during this period Emerson-Garfield was connected to downtown Spokane and points beyond with multiple trolley lines along neighborhood streets. By the first quarter of the 20th century, the neighborhood was well established along these fixed public transportation routes. Along North Monroe Street, the neighborhood's central retail corridor, were several bakeries, apartments, a church, an undertaker, a fire station and the Palladian-style Carnegie Library. A boat shop, auto repair and a dress factory were among the businesses that lined North Division Street at the eastern edge of the neighborhood.



Starting with Emerson Elementary in 1893, schools were built to serve the neighborhood. The school was a brick building that consisted of six rooms. Just five years after construction, Emerson added 12 more rooms, and then peaked with enrollment in 1909 with 709 students. Garfield Elementary was built not long after Emerson, opening in 1899. Garfield was originally housed in a new brick building composed of two stories and ten rooms. North Central High School—so named to distinguish it from South Central (now Lewis and Clark High School)—opened in 1908 while still under construction. By 1909, it was expected to be the largest and best equipped high school in the Northwest. Also in 1909, Audubon Elementary opened in a four-room brick school. Havermale Junior High School opened later in 1928. Churches such as Knox Presbyterian (b. 1917) and the Mission-inspired St. Anthony (b. 1909) likewise emerged to fill the community's spiritual and social needs.



The Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month - 6:00pm, Corbin Senior Center, 827 W. Cleveland Ave.





Taking its name from its two historic elementary schools, Emerson-Garfield was officially established as a neighborhood in 1976. By this time, the original neighborhood streets had been widened to carry additional vehicle traffic as the suburbs expanded north, segmenting some of the neighborhood’s previous cohesion. The neighborhood saw other changes—some large, some small—in the period that followed. In 1979, Spokane Public Radio moved its facilities into the red-brick Hoban Building along North Monroe, beginning a 37-year tenure there .



During the 1980s, the stately buildings that housed Emerson, Garfield and Audubon Elementary as well as North Central High School were all demolished as part of a massive citywide reconstruction project. Each of the schools was rebuilt on or close to the former sites, with the exception of Emerson Elementary, which became a park. Havermale Junior High School was given a new use as the Community School/ Joseph Jantsch High School.



But a need for preservation was also recognized. The former ice cream factory at Shannon and Wall (b. 1914) was given new life as C.O.P.S. North Central. During the 1990s, Corbin Park Historic District was listed on the Spokane and the National Historic Registers, becoming Spokane’s first local residential historic district. This coincided with an increasing desire for neighborhood advocacy. In 1986, civic-minded residents drafted the neighborhood’s first design plan to address issues such as land use and community resources. Emerson-Garfield residents were the first to apply for formal recognition as a neighborhood through the City’s newly established Office of Neighborhood Services in 1995.

### Life in Emerson-Garfield - Today



Emerson-Garfield has a strong mix of residential and commercial land uses. With such diversity it’s impossible to characterize the community according to one predominant theme. More than 9,000 people live in this historic but evolving neighborhood: longtime residents, young professionals, students, growing families and local business owners. Private companies, independent retailers, service businesses, seasonal markets, restaurants and almost every type of basic consumer need are met along the busy arterial streets of Monroe, Northwest Boulevard, Indiana and Division. Now unified in the former Havermale/Community School building, Spokane Public Montessori rounds out the strong presence of public schools and the private Trinity Catholic School. Emerson and Corbin Parks remain popular outdoor attractions for all ages. Residents appreciate their down-to-earth neighbors, tree-lined local streets, easy access to nearby amenities and downtown Spokane, and the historical character of the many older homes and commercial buildings.



### Emerson-Garfield - Treasures

- Corbin and Emerson Parks



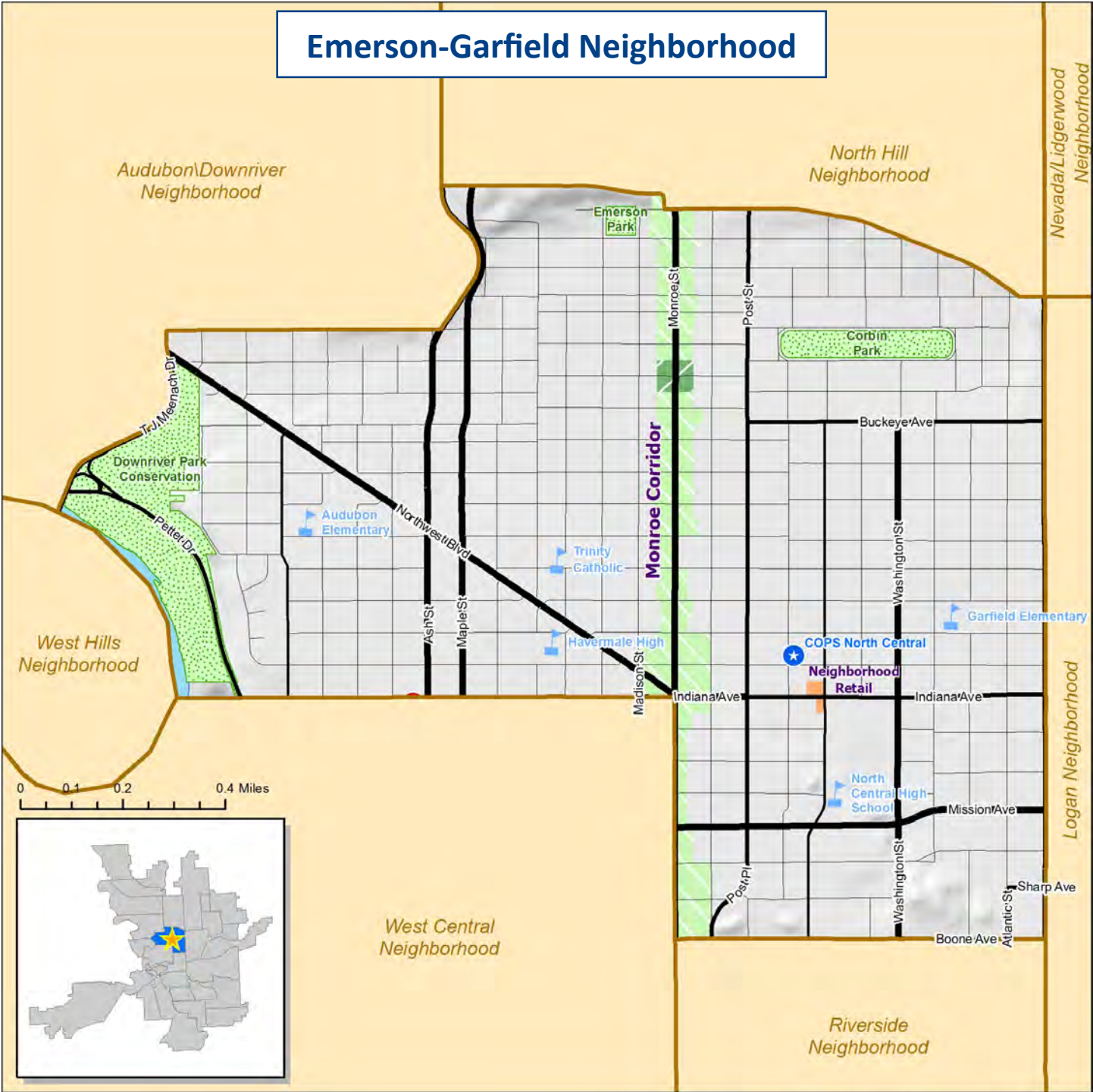
- Drumheller Springs Historic District
- Carnegie Library (b. 1914)
- John A. Currie House (b. 1889)
- Inland Casket Company Building (b. 1913, 1927)

### **Emerson-Garfield - Natural & Built Identity**



The neighborhood has only modest elevation changes and few natural rock outcroppings, conditions that made it suitable for the rapid development of Spokane in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Its community quickly emerged during this prosperous period of Spokane. Schools in particular played a significant role in Emerson-Garfield, meeting increasing educational needs with new facilities over the years. North Monroe Street, a central north–south thoroughfare, has been a major transportation and business corridor since the beginning; it will be revitalized and beautified through a 2018 infrastructure project. A number of extant historic commercial buildings and homes give Emerson-Garfield a strong connection to its past. Some have been carefully restored and maintained, while others have yet to be returned to their original beauty. Emerson-Garfield as a whole is in a period of transition, reemerging as a neighborhood that seamlessly combines the charm of its still-visible yesterdays with the forward-thinking promise of its tomorrows.

# Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood



**SOURCES**

Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Design Plan, July 27, 1986; Published by the City of Spokane.  
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## Five Mile Prairie - Days of Yore

Located in the northwest corner of the City, Five Mile Prairie sits atop a 400-foot high, 3400-acre granite and lava mesa. A southern portion of the prairie is within the borders of the City of Spokane; the remainder of the prairie lies within unincorporated Spokane County to the north. Circular in outline, basalt cliffs almost totally surround Five Mile Prairie. It rises abruptly on the north, east, and west, but slopes gently on the south.



The first known inhabitants of the prairie were the Siwash Indian Tribe, ancestrally connected to the Spokane Indian Tribe. They named the prairie Billymeechum, "home of the tall grass," after their chief. It is unknown when the tribe first came to the prairie, but the earliest records of their activities date back to the year 1010. Pictographs on the lava rock cliffs are thought to depict a battle between the Siwash and traveling Norsemen. Still visible today, the pictographs are protected and enjoyed by residents, visitors, and historians.



The J. F. Strong House, built in 1879, is the oldest inhabited house on Five Mile Prairie. Mr. Strong was the first settler to build on the prairie, but by the end of the year, six other families had settled nearby. In 1908, the name of the Prairie was changed to Five Mile, signifying the distance to Spokane Falls in Downtown Spokane.



The settlers planted orchards of fruit trees, vegetables, berries, wheat, oats, and barley on a series of 160-acre homesteads and accompanying farms, earning Five Mile Prairie the distinction as the "agricultural gem of Spokane." In the late 1880s, an apple packing plant was built, which is now the historic grange on the prairie. In 1927, a serious freeze killed off most of the orchards, though a few apple and plum trees can still be found here and there on the prairie. During the Great Depression, many residents became truck farmers, selling their crops in downtown Spokane.

In 1901, the original Five Mile Prairie Schoolhouse was built as a one-room building for fourteen students and one teacher. By 1912 the building proved too small and was replaced by a three-story brick building. The Five Mile Schoolhouse that stands today was built in 1939 as a federal Works Progress Administration project. The building was used as a storage facility for many years and opened again in 2006 as an educational resource center for the Mead School District, which serves Five Mile Prairie students.



The Five Mile Prairie Neighborhood Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Five Mile Grange.

[fivemileprairie.spokaneneighborhoods.org](http://fivemileprairie.spokaneneighborhoods.org)



## Life in Five Mile Prairie - Today

Today Five Mile Prairie is largely a residential area. This neighborhood still offers “country living,” while close to the City. The change in elevation and distance to the area’s broad mesa creates a sense of separation and distinction from the rest of Spokane. The north and west slopes of the five mile mesa are still wild and forested. Homes on the rim of the plateau afford spectacular views across the city. The neighborhood has visible connections to its past with many remaining farmsteads, contrasting and intermixing with new suburban subdivisions on level and rolling terrain. During the transition from rural to urban development, challenges do exist with gaps in urban infrastructure, connections, and amenities. A combination of families, retirees, and working professionals choose to live here. Subdivisions offer mostly mid-sized single family homes, while others have larger lots and homes. Presently, no neighborhood commercial businesses are located here, which requires residents to travel almost a mile south for shopping and weekly needs. Mead School District serves the neighborhood, with Prairie View Elementary and Five Mile Prairie School located in the community. Many have chosen to live here because of the schools. Residents love the outdoors here and are seen walking, biking, and enjoying the park and open spaces.



## Five Mile Prairie - Treasures

- Historic, remodeled Five Mile Schoolhouse (listed on historic register). It is now used for home school program, neighborhood meetings, yoga classes, etc.
- Community Grange (also listed on historic register), used for weddings, birthday parties, craft shows, etc.
- Sky Prairie Park, 24 acres. Great for dog walking, jogging, soccer, playground, picnics, wildlife viewing, cross-country skiing and sledding in winter.
- Community Garden at Horizon Church

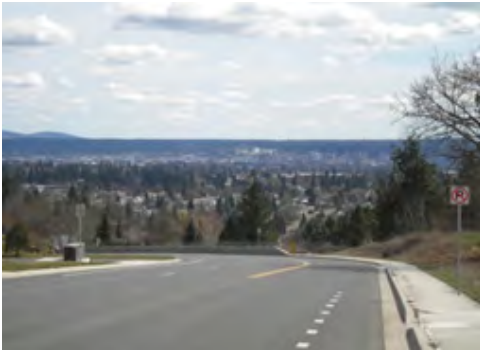


## Five Mile Prairie - Natural & Built Identity

Five Mile Prairie is in transition from a rural, formerly agricultural area into an urban residential community on the north edge of Spokane. Sharp contrasts are still seen in the process. Many areas still have open fields, cultivation, native grasses, farms, and farm buildings. Others contain pockets and expanses of new housing. Developments consist of newer residential subdivisions, especially in the north portion of the neighborhood. Some subdivisions have been built out, but most are continuing to be developed with new housing. Extensive stands of mature pine trees remain in the valleys, which have not been cultivated over the years. Wildlife habitat remains the area, mostly in the undeveloped waterways, along steeper slopes, and the preserved







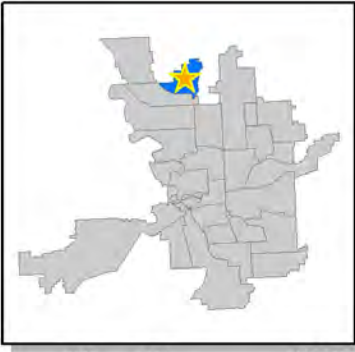
acreage of Sky Prairie Park. Deer and many species of birds are frequently seen. Unlike many neighborhoods in Spokane, many residents here can view the sunrise and sunset from the open, plateau setting. Significant Five Mile landmarks include the rural water tower, Five Mile Schoolhouse, and remaining family farmsteads. Five mile road is the major entrance into the area, which has recently been rebuilt and improved to the south.

### **Five Mile Prairie - Annual Events or Activities**

- Neighborhood “Prairie Days” every September.
- Multiple neighborhood get-togethers in Northview Estates

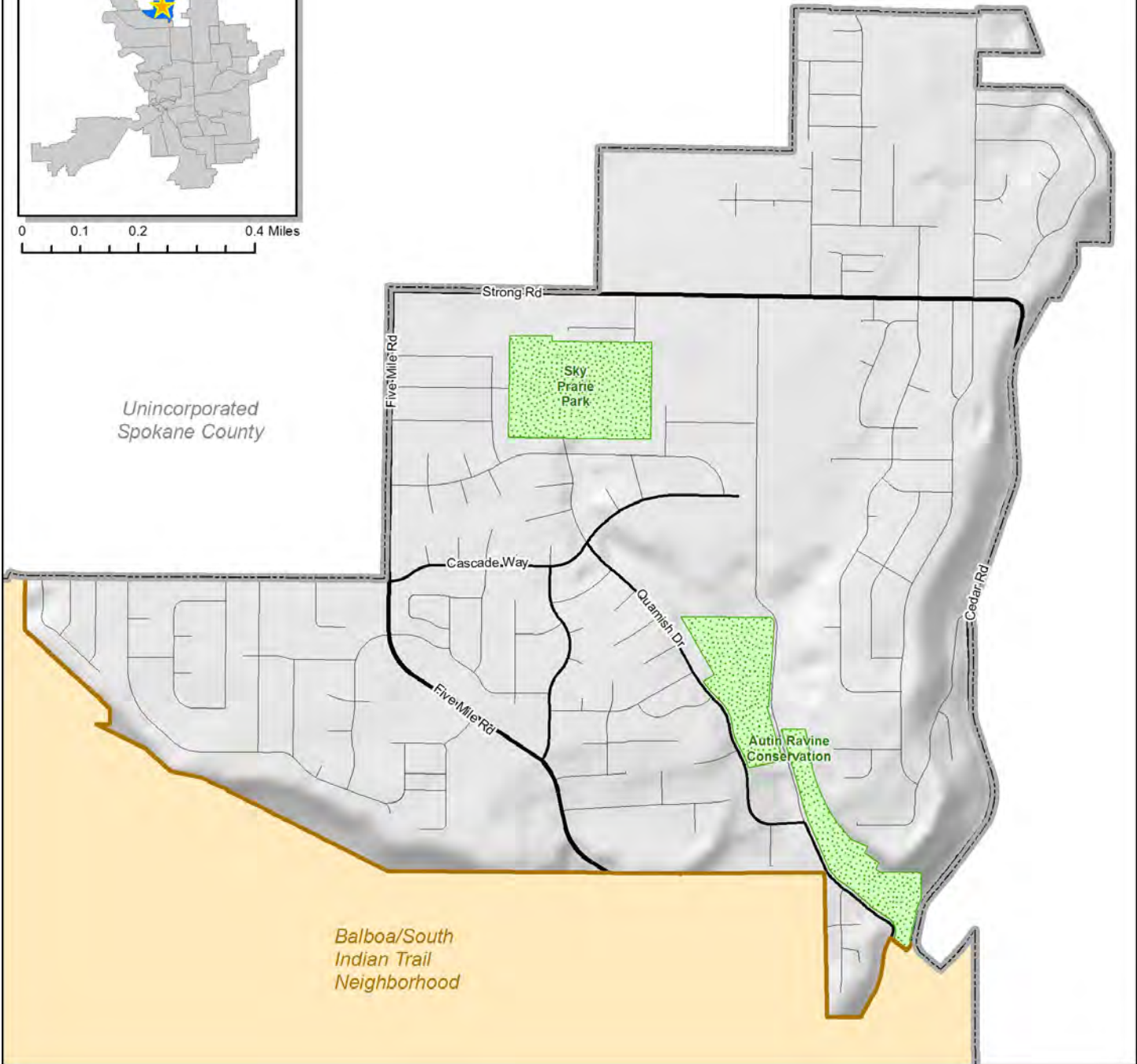


# Five Mile Prairie Neighborhood



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

*Unincorporated  
Spokane County*



*Balboa/South  
Indian Trail  
Neighborhood*

## SOURCES

Caroline Woodell – “Five Mile History,” May 2, 2014 “Geologic Origin and History of Five Mile Prairie,” Cynthia L Johnson, from the Five-Mile Prairie Planning Project, 1972.

“Homesteader House Built in 1879 Sits Atop Five Mile Prairie,” Spokesman-Review, Stephanie Pettit, April 28, 2011.





## Grandview-Thorpe - Days of Yore



In 1941, a newspaper reported that from Grandview Avenue, one could see the many mountains north of Spokane in neighboring counties and east to Montana. Although several residential additions were laid out by 1900, the Grandview/Thorpe neighborhood remained sparsely populated. One of Washington Water Power Company's streetcar lines connected the Grandview/Thorpe neighborhood with downtown Spokane, crossing the Latah Valley over the first high bridge in that location, a long wooden trestle built in 1904.



The Washington Water Power Company also operated the Medical Lake Railroad line, an interurban line connecting Spokane to Medical Lake. The rail line climbed from the bridge to the Garden Springs station and around the edge of the Grandview bluffs, hugging the hillside, then rising to meet Thorpe Road, west of Assembly Road, and crossing the west plains beyond. It operated as an interurban line from 1905 to 1922. In 1907, passenger service increased with an added connection to Cheney. The Garden Springs, Dodd, Reimer, Lincoln, Washington Park, and Windsor stations in and near the neighborhood were wooden platforms with small buildings for storage. Bundled newspapers were delivered daily to each station, to be distributed by delivery employees to area residents.



Eleven passenger trains ran each day at the inter-urban trolley line's peak. It transported as many as 4,000 people on busy days, such as the Fourth of July. In 1909 and 1910, both Medical Lake and Cheney were voted "dry" towns, while Spokane remained "wet." The last train from Spokane became known as the "suitcase special" because of the tendency of someone returning to Medical Lake or Cheney to board in Spokane with a suitcase heavily laden with alcoholic beverages. By 1916 Washington State had voted to go dry, and the 18th Amendment, prohibiting the manufacturing, sale and transport of alcohol for beverage purposes, was passed in 1919.



Several real estate developments were promoted near the interurban line. One within the Grandview/Thorpe neighborhood was called Stirling Heights. The west portion of Stirling Heights included a park on the north side of 27th Avenue with the slightly altered spelling of Sterling Heights. Mrs. Rebecca Stirling granted the park to the City of Spokane for \$1.00 with the restriction that there be no liquor or dance pavilion located there.



The Grandview-Thorpe Neighborhood Council meets quarterly at various locations. Contact the neighborhood council Chair for the meeting location.

[grandviewthorpe.spokaneneighborhoods.org/](http://grandviewthorpe.spokaneneighborhoods.org/)



Like many other trolley systems in the United States, the passenger numbers on the Medical Lake line began to decline with the development of roads. The underpasses on Thorpe Road, once known as the Medical Lake Road, were built in 1913 and 1917. From 1918 to 1921, more travelers made use of the improving roads, forcing Washington Water Power Company to discontinue operation of the line in 1922. Some of the interurban cars were reused in another streetcar line in Arkansas. To the east of a trailhead at Assembly Road, a one-mile segment of the railroad bed was preserved in public ownership as the Reimer Trolley Trail in 2001 and became managed by the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Division.



Noncommissioned officers in the U.S. Army occupied houses built in the vicinity of 14th Avenue and “D” Street from 1941 to 1945. The development was later bisected by the construction of Interstate 90.

Grandview and 17th Avenues were paved in 1963 and sewer lines were installed in the 1970s. Grandview Park was developed between 1990 and 2007 with support from the Grandview/Thorpe neighbors on a portion of 23 acres the City of Spokane acquired from a land foreclosure on a debt owed for a local improvement district.



### Life in Grandview-Thorpe - Today

Grandview/Thorpe is set apart from other neighborhoods on the edge of the city, perched above sweeping views of Spokane and the Latah Valley and separated by steep bluffs and regional highways. Some think of the neighborhood as Spokane’s “other South Hill.” The quiet, wooded surroundings contribute to routine wildlife sightings of deer and moose on residential streets and in back yards near natural habitat areas. Residents consider the neighborhood one of Spokane’s little-known secrets, enjoying a serene lifestyle and walkable streets only a few moments’ drive—or a three-mile walk—from downtown.



The people of Grandview/Thorpe are often long-term residents, contributing to strong friendships across several blocks. Families with young children play in Grandview Park with neighbors. Throughout the year, neighbors get together to celebrate holidays with parties and barbecues, and newcomers are often welcomed with food. People also pitch in to help with regular community maintenance and cleaning events.



For exercise, many residents walk dogs on the quiet streets or head down to walk or ride the Fish Lake Trail, a popular paved trail on a former railroad line. The Trolley Trail is another well-used soft pathway, also on a former rail line. Walking, running, biking and hiking are popular activities.

Residents must drive to shopping centers or bike or walk to downtown. Employees typically drive vehicles to work because there are few





workplaces and no transit in the neighborhood. Children must take the school bus to other neighborhoods.

### **Grandview-Thorpe - Treasures**

- Grandview Park is a favorite destination with a splash pad, playground and barbecue grill. It is popular for meeting neighbors for a play date or dinner.
- Residents like to exercise on the Fish Lake Trails.
- People love the Reimer Trolley Trail, an unpaved neighborhood trail also within an abandoned rail line. It is a great place to walk, bicycle, ride horses and enjoy nature.



### **Grandview-Thorpe - Natural & Built Identity**

- Trees and streams
- Hilly terrain
- Undeveloped property
- Quiet, natural habitat with common wildlife sightings



### **Grandview-Thorpe - Neighborhood Tales**

*“The new ‘Swale’ on Lindeke street has created a beautiful ecosystem incorporating part of Finch Arboretum creek. The wildlife, birds, etc. love it.”*

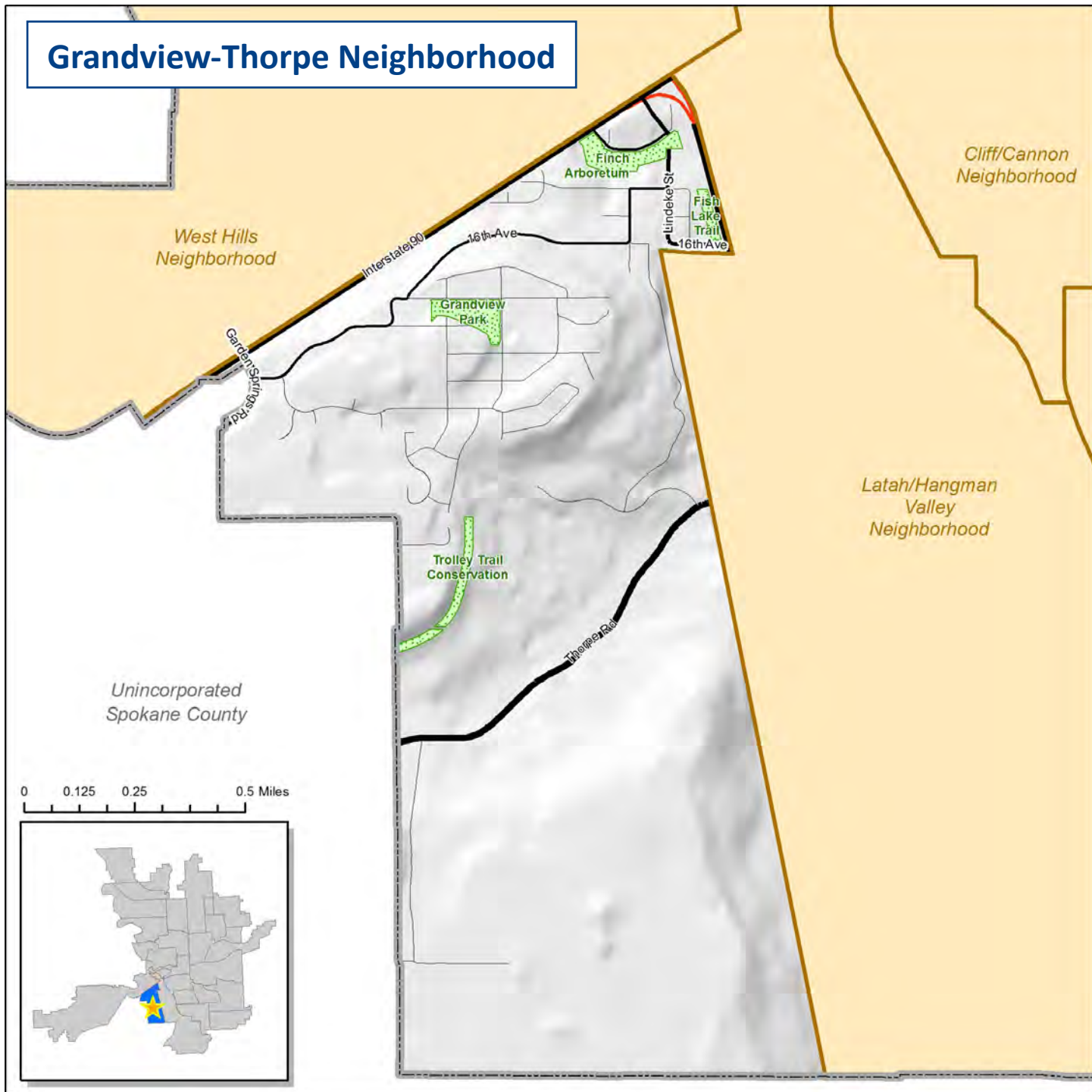
– Mary Wilber

### **Grandview-Thorpe - Annual Events or Activities**

- Yard Sales
- Block Watch
- Two annual cleanup events, typically in June and September
- Night Out against Crime



# Grandview-Thorpe Neighborhood



## SOURCES

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## Hillyard - Days of Yore

As the Great Northern Railway pushed across Montana, Idaho and Washington in 1892, a spot five miles northeast of Spokane Falls was selected as the railroad's storage and staging area. It was called the Spokane Material Yard until January 1893 when James J. Hill picked it for the division point between Spokane and Kalispell. This resulted in the rapid construction of major terminal and shop facilities on the site. The Hillyard shops became the major shop facility for the western part of the Great Northern systems and the largest west of St. Paul.

In 1912, the heavy repair shop (back shop) was opened, enabling extensive rebuild work of locomotives. In 1927, the shop superintendent and foreman convinced Great Northern president Ralph Budd they could build an order for heavy freight locomotives cheaper than any of the eastern manufacturers. The shops were awarded a contract to build ten locomotives, making Hillyard the first manufacturer of large locomotives in the west and bringing a sizeable payroll increase to Spokane. The shop's 800 personnel rolled out the last R-1 class locomotive assembled here in late 1928.



The history of the town of Hillyard paralleled that of the railroad. The townsite was platted for 5,000 people on October 25, 1892 by Leland D. and Kate C. Westfall and was named in honor of James J. Hill and the Great Northern Railway's yard to which it was adjacent. Conceived as an independent town, Hillyard remained that way until 1924, although the expanding City of Spokane had incorporated the lands to the west, south and east. Hillyard became incorporated as a town in 1907, with the railroad yards and shops being carefully kept outside the town limits.

In 1929-30, the shops were given another order for a larger version of the articulated locomotive and then returned to major overhaul and repair work. As the diesel locomotives took over larger portions of the railroad's work, all steam locomotive maintenance west of Minot, North Dakota, was concentrated here until the end of the steam engine's use on the western lines in 1953.



In 1924, after a number of discussions and attempts over the years to annex to the City of Spokane, an election was held on the issue. Eight days following a popular vote of 808-681, Hillyard became part of the City of Spokane. At that time it had a population of some 4,500 people and an area of just under one square mile. After all of the transfers had been carried out, an official celebration was held on the 11th of October





to conclude the annexation process, complete with a parade, dancing, and concerts.

The old steam locomotive backshop building was remodeled into a completely modern diesel heavy repair shop which was the railroad's largest facility west of the Rockies. The new shop was formally dedicated on November 19, 1954 with a celebration of 62 years of working together between the railroad and the Hillyard community.

An annual Hillyard community celebration called the Hillyard Hijinks occurred from 1934 to 1968.

The festival ranged from one to four days and included fundraising for various neighborhood civic groups. The Hillyard Hijinks community celebration was revived in 1970 as Jim Hill Days as part of an effort to promote the Hillyard community and offset the negative impact of the pending Burlington Northern merger. It was revived again in 1978 and held regularly in the following decades with the help of area businesses, residents and service clubs.



### **Life in Hillyard - Today**

Hillyard has an inherent identity and pride that is built on tradition, history, and place. At its core, Hillyard is a community of people living and sharing life together. Kids play in the streets, residents walk their dogs and everyone works to make Hillyard a better place. The neighborhood is family oriented, established, and in transition.

Neighbors enjoy access to parks and the pedestrian friendly nature of the physical landscape. Residents will admit the neighborhood is not perfect, but people are proud of the neighborhood's "rough edges" that keep it unique and real. It's a place that has real people with real stories and more community than any other place in the region.

The neighborhood has many dedicated and involved residents who volunteer most of their free time to a variety of organizations such as the Hillyard Neighborhood Council and Greater Hillyard Business association, to name a few. These efforts have created exciting changes over the years including a reconstructed Market Street, new business opportunities, and neighborhood revitalization. It is this strong sense of community, built on history and involvement, that attracts new residents to call Hillyard home.



People are proud of the historic homes, friendly neighbors, and the casual atmosphere. Residents enjoy a host of community events and get together for clean-up activities, children play-dates, barbeques, and many other events. A variety of people live in Hillyard including families, retirees, artists, immigrants, community-minded folks, visionaries, and professionals.





### **Hillyard - Treasures**

- Historic Hillyard Business District
- Hillyard antique stores
- Train station
- Hillyard Skate Park
- Schools

### **Hillyard - Natural & Built Identity**

- Hills to the east
- Plains where the wild horses used to roam
- Harmon Park
- Buddhist Temple
- The Yard
- Neighborhood Churches
- Shadow of Beacon Hill



### **Hillyard - Neighborhood Tales**

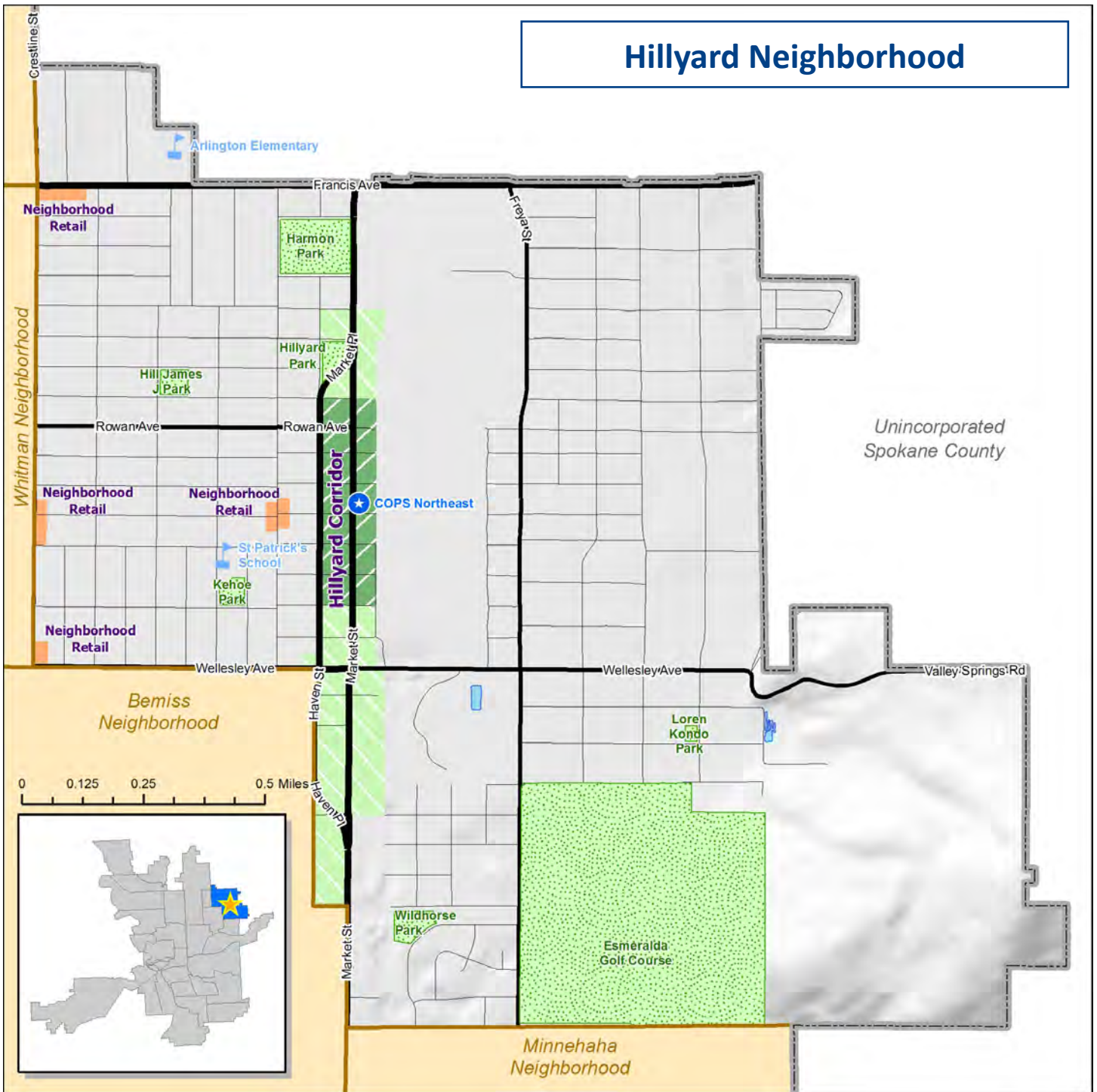
*“Hillyard is an old neighborhood that has seen its shares of up and downs. Its strength is that history and staying power and the vision of those young and old who choose to invest their lives in Hillyard.”*

– Luke Tolley

### **Hillyard - Annual Events or Activities**

- Hillyard Festival
- Hillyard Hippie Happening
- Chalk Art Walk

# Hillyard Neighborhood





## Latah/Hangman - Days of Yore

The Hangman or, more properly named, Latah Valley was formed primarily during the Quaternary period by periods of glaciating and a series of Great Lake Missoula floods that carved out the existing alluvial landscape. This left the valley with a naturally beautiful setting of sheer basalt outcroppings, sandy bluffs, cliffs, rich, deep valley soils which are among the region’s most fertile, and Latah Creek itself. The creek flows northwest from the Rocky Mountains to Spokane, where it meanders through Latah Valley before emptying into the Spokane River. The mouth of the creek at the Spokane River is located just beyond the neighborhood’s northern border.



In the late 1880s, immigrants were drawn to the area for the fertile soils and the plentiful wildlife. By the early 1900s, numerous small farms thrived. But, as the nation grew, so did the Latah Valley. Roads and railroads were laid down through the center of the valley. Portions of Latah Creek were straightened or re-routed for construction ease without consideration of the impacts to the ecosystem (such as increased erosion and flooding) and to downstream property owners.



Latah Valley is a large neighborhood, stretching from the Riverside Avenue bridge over Latah Creek to the north to the extreme southern boundary of the City of Spokane. The neighborhood is divided into two distinct areas: the older Vinegar Flats, located on the valley floor in the northern portion, and the more recent developments of Qualchan and Eagle Ridge, located to the south on the western hillsides. U.S. Route 195, railroad lines, and Latah Creek all bisect the neighborhood, creating areas of small, isolated clusters of homes.

### Vinegar Flats

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, local apple farmers delivered their product to a plant in southwest Spokane to be processed into vinegar. As workers built homes and cottages near the plant, one of Spokane’s earliest “creek” neighborhoods was born. The new community that blossomed around the vinegar plant became known as Vinegar Flats.



The vinegar plant is long gone, but the houses and history remain. With its location at the foot of a steep, sandy bluff, along with the construction of railroad and freeway bridges, Vinegar Flats was effectively severed from the bustling downtown only a mile away. As stately homes filled the South Hill ridge above, Vinegar Flats sank into a quiet existence. As





the years passed, small businesses appeared then disappeared, homes were built along muddy roads, Wentel Grant Park was laid out, and Vinegar Flats crept up the winding Latah Creek until it was pinched off where Inland Empire Highway meets the U.S. Highway 195.



After World War II, many Japanese produce farmers relocated around the valley. As more and more people discovered the natural beauty of the area, more homes were built. Property taxes began to rise and many nuisance lawsuits over dust, noise, and pollution were filed against the area farmers. In the late 1980s, city water and sewer was extended through the valley. Large housing developments appeared in areas that were once single family farms. As farmers saw their property values and taxes increasing and their profits declining, they sold out to large developers. Today, only a handful of working farms exist.



Today, Inland Empire Way, which connects the area with the rest of the city, is the main arterial in Vinegar Flats. This area is a patchwork of small homes, empty lots, greenhouses, riparian areas along the creek and city parks. Immediately to the north of the neighborhood are the high bridges over the creek of I-90, Sunset Boulevard, and the BNSF railroad. Located beneath and around those bridges is the aptly named High Bridge Park. The park is mostly undeveloped along the hillside and creek but has a picnic shelter, maintained grass area, and a disc golf course.

### **Life in Latah/Hangman - Today**

Qualchan/Eagle Ridge is the newest addition to the neighborhood and is composed of two separate but adjacent suburban style developments located along the hills in the southwestern portion of Latah Valley. This is the most modern part of the neighborhood as these two developments are still expanding. The boundaries of these developments are roughly the intersection of Cheney-Spokane Road and U.S. 195 to the north, the city limits on the south and west, and U.S. 195 on the east. At the northern end is the commercial center of Latah Valley with a new grocery store, a gas station, restaurants and other small shops.

Residents love the character of the neighborhood including its housing stock and tree-lined streets. The neighborhood is safe, clean, friendly, and is in close proximity to Downtown. Neighbors enjoy the community oriented feel of the neighborhood and participate in annual block parties and holiday events put on the by Eagle Ridge Homeowner's Association. The neighborhood is lined with craftsman style homes that are connected by quality streets that offer bike routes. Accessibility to trails, parks and natural features such as rock walls, bluffs, and the river creates a perfect urban/rural blend.

### **Latah/Hangman - Treasures**

- Qualchan Golf Course
- South Hill Bluff area Trails

### **Latah/Hangman - Natural & Built Identity**

The neighborhood has a terrain with hills and bluffs. Residents enjoy wildlife activity in the natural areas of the neighborhood.

### **Latah/Hangman - Annual Events or Activities**

Barbecue, movies, and holiday events sponsored by Eagle Ridge Homeowner's Association.

# Latah/Hangman Neighborhood

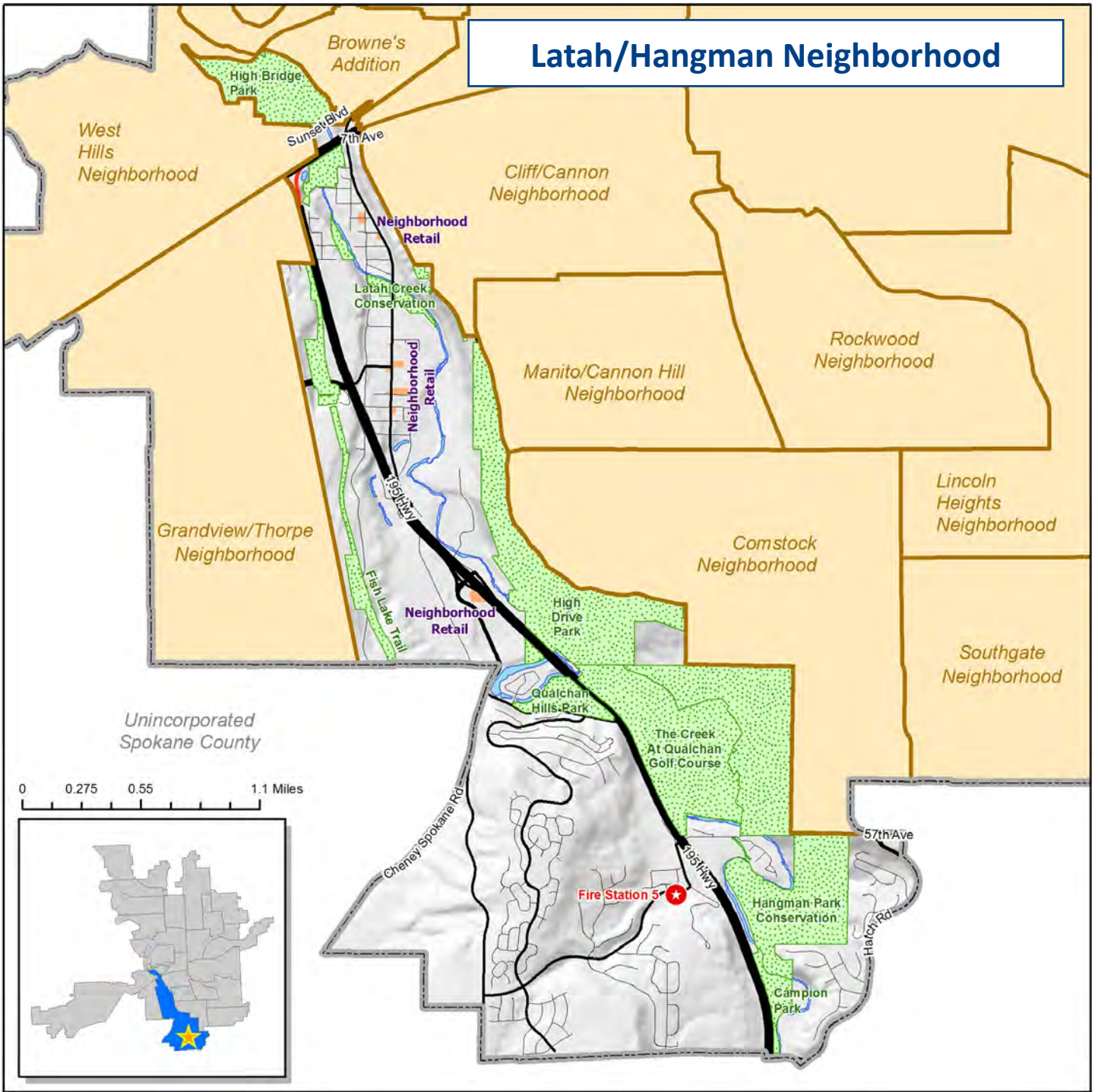




Photo: BethAnn Long

## Lincoln Heights - Tales of Yore

Lincoln Heights' main east-west connector, 29th Avenue, was established as a county road through the neighborhood in 1885. A period of economic recovery following Spokane's fire and the Panic of 1893 fueled competition between Spokane's street railway companies for selling home sites, driving the extension of the Standard Traction Company's Rockwood street car line east within 29th Avenue, from Southeast Boulevard to Myrtle Street, to serve the new developments. Two other Standard Traction streetcar lines terminated in the neighborhood: one at 12th Avenue and South Altamont Boulevard, and the other at 17th Avenue and Ray Street. The landscaping consultant John C. Olmsted, of Brookline, Massachusetts, favored the name "Rockwood" for the emerging neighborhood, but instead it came to be called Lincoln Heights.



A major landowner of this period was Charles F. Adams, Jr. of Boston, who represented his family's real estate trust and who was a trustee and major stockholder in the Washington Water Power Company. Adams was a Civil War veteran of the Battle of Gettysburg and grandson of the sixth U.S. President. His father, Charles F. Adams, Sr., was President Lincoln's foreign minister to the United Kingdom during most of the Civil War, a position the elder Adams held until 1868. Adams Elementary School, built in 1908 adjacent to the Lincoln Heights Addition, bears this famous family's name.



North of the Lincoln Heights Addition, the Olmsted Brothers' firm recommended creating a park in order to provide benefits to the surrounding area as it grew. At the time of the Olmsted Brothers' 1908 report, there was little development in the vicinity, including only one street, Southeast Boulevard. The new park would contain 78 acres of developed and undeveloped areas connected by winding drives and walks, with a wading pool and other children's recreation amenities, and swamps converted to "charming little lakes" by way of supplying additional water to compensate for Spokane's dry summer climate.



Charles Adams, Jr. visited Spokane personally to close the sale of his family's 900-acre property on the eastern edge of the city, three months prior to local development company partners William Kiernan and Jay Lawyer's filing of the Lincoln Heights Addition in 1909. Although the development opened with strong sales and streets and sidewalks were installed, many of the long lots remained vacant for several decades. The area retained a semi-rural character as the boom subsided.

Meanwhile, prominent philanthropists Levi W. and Mary (May) Arkwright Hutton advocated for city parks and partly realized the Olmsted Brothers' vision by donating some 31 acres of land in 1912 to establish Lincoln Park.

The Huttons then moved from their building downtown to a large house they built adjacent to the park at 17th Avenue and Crestline Street in 1914. May Hutton was nationally known as an activist in the women's suffrage movement. She died in 1915 from a kidney condition at the age of 55, having inhabited the





new home for only 15 months. Levi Hutton, who served as a member of the park board and donated funds to construct the wading pool and playground equipment in Lincoln Park, continued to live there until his death in 1928, at age 68. The park eventually grew to 51 acres by 1942. The wading pool existed until at least 1963, when the first swimming lessons for the city's children under 7 were offered there. It was later replaced by a ball field.

The Lincoln Heights Shopping Center was constructed in the 1950s and expanded in the 1970s on 29th Avenue, near the northern terminus of Regal Street.

## Life in Lincoln Heights - Today



Residents live in Lincoln Heights because it is quiet, with a reasonable cost of living and nearby shopping and services. Parks and residential streets are shaded with abundant Ponderosa Pines, Spokane's designated city tree. Nearby wetlands provide open space for filtering storm water and providing habitat and recreational opportunities. Nice days bring many neighbors outdoors to walk, exercise their dogs, bicycle, or run in the streets, on the Ben Burr Trail or in Lincoln or Thornton Murphy Parks. Children primarily walk to school.



The Lincoln Heights Shopping Center along 29th Avenue is home to a wide range of professional and personal services, as well as small retail stores, supermarkets, and a variety of restaurants. 29th Avenue provides Lincoln Heights with a bustling center, providing frequent transit connections for nearby retirement communities. Many residents can walk here to shop for groceries, books, and hardware—or eat at diners, pubs and coffee shops. The Southside Senior and Community Center, near the shopping center and adjacent to Thornton Murphy Park, is very active with programs, classes offered with Community Colleges of Spokane and other partners, and health-related and recreational activities.



The neighborhood contains a mix of older and newer homes, primarily owner-occupied. Styles of homes range from early 1900s Craftsman to mid-century ranchers and newer split-levels. Many residents keep attractive yards and gardens. Neighbors introduce themselves to newcomers and some even offer home-grown vegetables during plentiful seasons.

## Lincoln Heights - Parkland Treasures

- Fifty-one acre Lincoln Park is a favored destination for walkers and runners with a biking path circling a pond, a natural area, and great views of the city.
- Eight-acre Thornton Murphy Park is connected via bike lanes to Lincoln Park.
- Five-acre Froggy Pond, 30th & Havana, has wetlands that absorb storm water runoff, as well as provide nature trails.
- The Ben Burr Trail connects Liberty and Underhill Parks, one mile apart, sports beautiful views of Spokane and is a great place to spot deer.
- Thirty-Fifth Avenue is a favorite neighborhood street with a tree-lined







median. The median was originally railroad right-of-way, but the railroad was never built.

- Glenrose Prairie, to the east of the neighborhood, offers local roads that are popular with bicyclists. Glenrose connects Lincoln Heights to 2 ½ mile hiking trails winding through Dept of Natural Resource and Dishman Hills land.

### Lincoln Heights - Natural & Built Identity

- Altamont Hill is a defining feature that contains many beautiful historic neighborhood homes, and has been the site of a Mother’s Day historic home tour. Altamont Circle was once a horseracing track. The carriage house still stands.
- Lincoln Heights shopping center anchors the neighborhood with a service and retail district, including a hardware store, drug store, bakery, craft store, restaurants, bookstores with new and used books, and movie rental stores. There are numerous places to eat in Lincoln Heights.
- There are 9 churches in Lincoln Heights and 5 schools.
- Haase’s Greenhouse, a hidden treasure along 34th Avenue, is a locally owned nursery.
- Proud residential gardeners have been featured on city garden tours.
- Basalt rock outcroppings on uneven terrain provide open space for pine trees and wildlife habitat. The many rock features and ridgelines create winding or dead end streets. Ridgelines provide homes with great views.

### Lincoln Heights - Neighborhood Tales

*“The first night we were in our new home, we decided to go outside and sit on the front porch to enjoy the quiet night after a long day. After a few minutes chatting, we heard a rustle and looked over to see two deer about 40 feet down the sidewalk eating crab apples off our neighbor’s tree. We were stunned! And that cemented the love of our new home right then and there.”*

– Gini Nowitzki

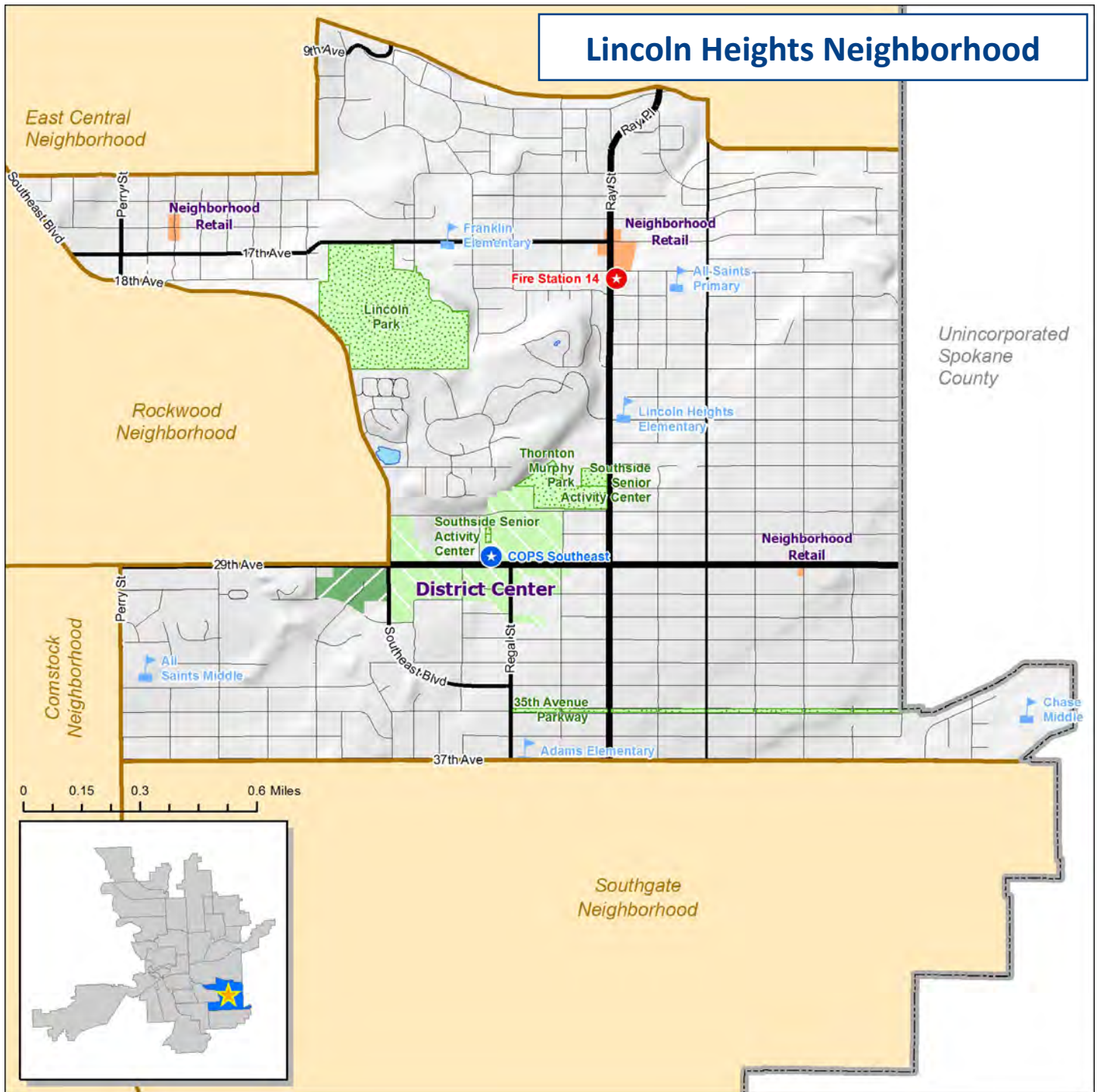
*“Sharing a laundry room has allowed me to meet interesting people. The stories people share with me when doing laundry are both interesting and startling.”*

– Alvaro Figueroa

*“We have great neighbors that look out for each other.”*

– Marilyn Lloyd

# Lincoln Heights Neighborhood



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## Logan - Days of Yore

Situated close to the heart of Spokane, the Logan Neighborhood has developed as one of the oldest residential neighborhoods in the community. Platted and developed between 1884 and 1889 by Sylvester and Ida Heath and the Jesuits of Gonzaga College, the area developed as a “suburb” of downtown Spokane. The pattern of wide streets and boulevard landscaping was introduced by the priests as a reflection of popular trends in Europe and cities of the eastern United States. The wide streets, in particular, served the function of parade grounds for college men enrolled in the Reserve Officer Training Corp. These were horse and buggy days and the generous platting accommodated the mix of pedestrian, horse and occasional “horseless” carriage with only minor conflict.



Gonzaga College was established with a land purchase in 1887. In 1892 Gonzaga College, later Gonzaga University, started to receive electricity and city water. The University has continued to grow and now is a nationally recognized, liberal arts university with an enrollment of more than 7,800 students. The Logan neighborhood has a strong tie with Gonzaga University and continues to serve as the home for faculty, staff, and students.



The McGoldrick Lumber Company was the city’s largest employer for many years. J.P. McGoldrick purchased the mill from A.M. Fox in 1905 and relocated here from Minnesota. Although the business no longer exists, the company had a strong influence on the neighborhood. The company was located adjacent to Gonzaga and on the Spokane River. Logs were floated on the river to the lumber mill. Gonzaga’s present day baseball field and Lake Arthur were all once part of the company’s operations. Mr. McGoldrick made it a point to see that all of his employees were able to own a home and was one of Spokane’s most beloved employers. A devastating fire in 1945 caused the mill’s closure the following year.



The Model Pharmacy, owned by the Armstrong family, was once featured as the first drive-through pharmacy in the United States in an industry magazine. They sold malts, nuts, and candies at the counter along with filling prescriptions and retailing other sundry goods. The family later sold the pharmacy, which then became the legendary Donut Parade.

The Logan neighborhood has evolved to contain a mix of residential structure types. Two Historic Districts lay within the neighborhood boundaries: the Mission Avenue Historic District and Desmet Avenue Warehouse District, both of which are listed on the National Historic Register. Logan Elementary is one of the founding schools of School District 81.

## Life in Logan – Today

Logan boasts verdant canopies of overarching trees, four parks, three major retirement centers, the Hamilton Street Business District, two elementary schools, a high school, a university and a law school.



The Logan Neighborhood Council meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at Fourth Memorial Church at 2000 N Standard Street.



A competitive cost of living and close proximity to universities and downtown attract people to the Logan neighborhood. It is an established neighborhood where many enjoy peace and quiet in daily life. People sometimes bike or walk to meet their shopping or travel needs.

### Logan - Treasures

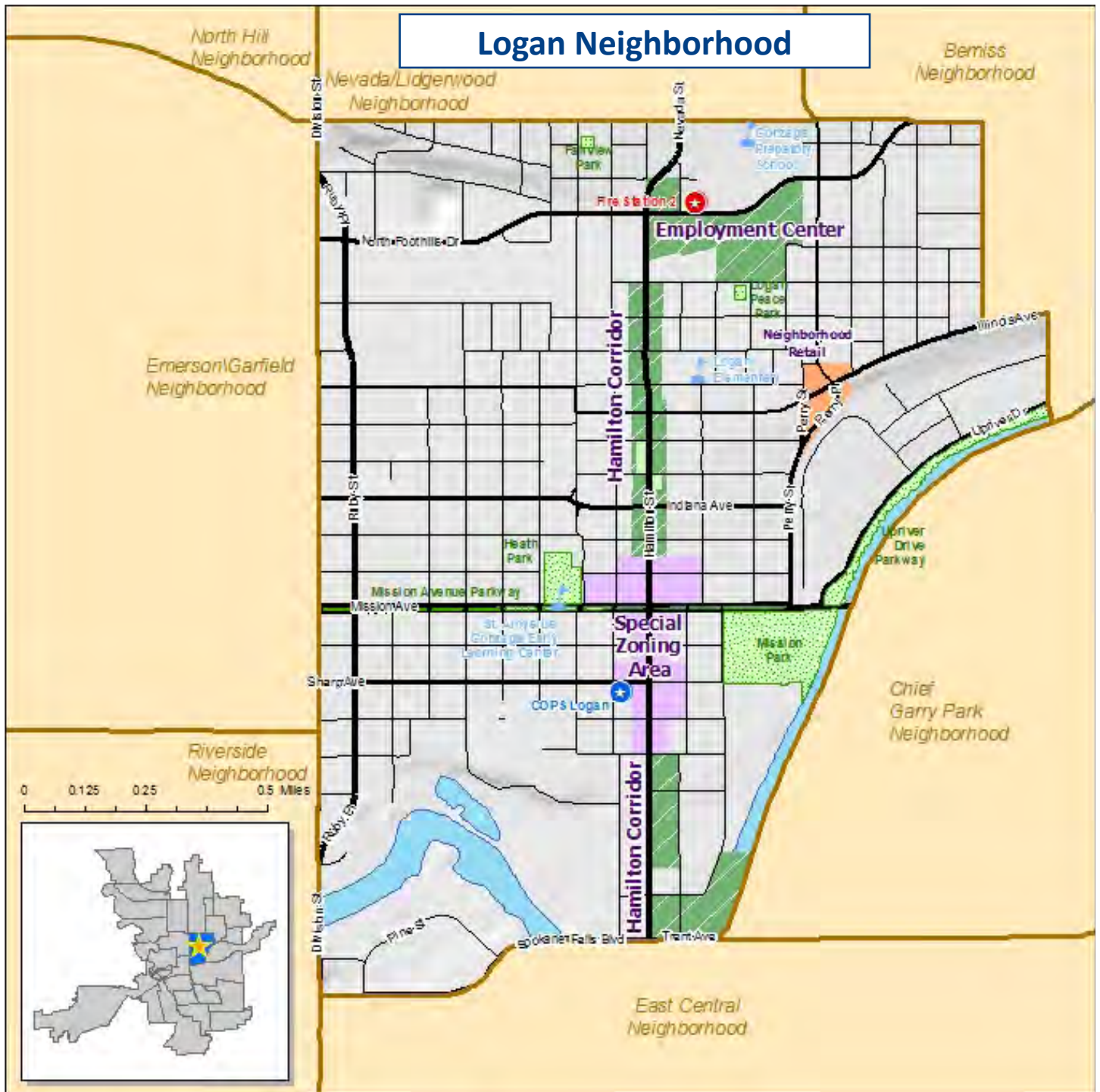
- Many historic homes and other buildings from the early 1900s possess distinguished architectural character in the Queen Anne and Craftsman styles. These add cherished value to the Logan neighborhood.
- “The Crosby House” Bing Crosby museum at 508 East Sharp Avenue
- The Donut Parade was featured in the film *Different Drummers* (1993).



### Logan - Natural & Built Identity

- The Spokane River is the most outstanding physical feature of the neighborhood. Recent development has taken advantage of showcasing the river’s qualities. The river defines the neighborhood’s south and east boundaries.
- The Division-Ruby Street corridor along the west boundary hosts regional commercial destinations in the neighborhood’s backyard.
- The Hamilton Street corridor serves as the neighborhood’s central mixed-use district, including several historic industrial and commercial buildings. Pedestrian streetscape amenities such as special paving, street lighting, street signs, and art are important components of this corridor.
- Gonzaga University is a major educational institution with many iconic structures, such as the Administration Building and St. Aloysius Church
- The Centennial trail is a favorite destination for recreation in the neighborhood, providing river views and a link between Mission Park and Gonzaga University. It crosses above Hamilton Street on an overpass that allows distant views both ways along Hamilton.
- The Iron Bridge provides a spur from the Centennial Trail and river crossing that offers a different view of the river.





# Logan Neighborhood

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## Manito/Cannon Hill - Days of Yore

Catalysts for residential development in Manito/Cannon Hill included the streetcars (1888-1936), parks, boulevards, and Wilson Elementary.

In the 1880s, a clay deposit was discovered on the land that is now Cannon Hill Park. The clay was used for making bricks and the site became a brickyard. Once all of the clay was harvested, the brickyard was moved, making way for Cannon Hill Park amenities in later years.



To the east, Francis Cook purchased 160 acres which includes all of the present Manito Park. He called the area Montrose Park. His plan was to develop home sites in the area. In 1888, Cook built a streetcar line that ran along Grand Boulevard and ended at a car house near 37th to provide transportation to future residents. But, Cook lost everything during the 1893 depression. Jay P. Graves, who made a fortune in mining, took over Cook's streetcar line, naming it the Spokane and Montrose Motor Company. Other streetcar lines in the area included one that zigzagged southward west of Manito Park along Bernard and then Browne before ending at 33rd and Division; and the Washington Waterpower Company's (WWP) North Monroe-Cannon Hill line that meandered southward along Jefferson, Madison, Lincoln (west of Cannon Hill Park) and Howard before ending at 29th.



In addition, Graves and a group of partners formed the Spokane-Washington Improvement Company to develop and sell properties in their new Manito Addition (between 14th and 33rd Avenues north-south, and Division and Hatch Streets east-west). Realizing the value that a park and other city services would add to the adjacent residential parcels, Graves' company, along with other investors including WWP, made a deal with the city to donate approximately 95 acres of land for Manito Park in exchange for roads and utilities. Manito Park was dedicated in 1904 and originally hosted a zoo. Manito Park, Manito Boulevard, and subdivision development cumulatively resulted in a real estate boom in the area, as reinforced in a front page article in the Spokesman-Review on August 4, 1907 stating, "park improvements add fifteen times their cost to adjacent property... property adjacent... is 100 per cent more valuable than it would have been in the same district without the park or boulevard improvements having been made." Since that time many updates have been made to Manito Park, including the rose garden, a Japanese Garden, the sunken gardens, the greenhouses, playgrounds, shelters, and other improvements. Manito Park and Manito Boulevard have since been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



The Olmsted brothers developed their design for Cannon Hill Park when they arrived in Spokane in 1907. The plans included a recommendation to replace the old brickyard with a park dedicated to "quiet recreation." The design included a stone shelter, two pergolas, and a children's wading pool. The wading pool was easy to construct as a depression left in the ground by the brickyard left a natural pool, shallow enough to play in to cool off in the summer



The Manito/Cannon Hill Neighborhood Council meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m., Wilson Elementary Library

<http://manitocannonhill.spokaneneighborhoods.org/>



and freeze for ice skating in the winter. The park was originally named Adams Park because the land was owned by John Quincy Adams' grandson and was changed to Cannon Hill Park for A. M. Cannon, local banker and real estate developer.

The Olmsteds also outlined a vision for High Drive Parkway and Adams Boulevard (21st Avenue) for the purpose of "pleasure driving and walking" and to connect parks in their 1908 System of Parks and Parkways. In 1909, Adams Boulevard was developed as part of the Cannon Hill residential addition, and included some of the nicest homes in the city.

Wilson Elementary opened in 1927. The modern, thoughtfully designed school was such an attraction that in 1926 the Spokesman Review credited it with stimulating construction of 12 new houses in the neighborhood before the school was even completed.



### Life In Manito/Cannon Hill - Today

This is a classic, well-designed, built, and maintained neighborhood of yesteryear. Most homes were built in the early twentieth century. It has a layout of short grid streets and blocks, with nearby parks and schools that residents can walk to. Residents love the mature trees throughout the neighborhood. During all seasons, people can be seen outside walking and enjoying the experience. Living here is as popular today as it seemed to be decades ago. Many residents have lived in the neighborhood for several years and know their neighbors. Often, when residents have needed a larger house, they have upsized within the neighborhood. Block parties are common, continuing close neighborhood ties. Neighbors can choose a new book to read from a "little free library" along many sidewalks. Popular neighborhood hang-outs for all ages are the "Scoop" ice cream shop, Rocket Bakery Coffee Shop, and the City's Manito and Cannon Hill parks - including the "Park Bench" in Manito Park. Neighborhood shopping, restaurants, banking, and other services are close-by at 29th & Grand. A mix of families, younger and older professionals, and retirees live in the neighborhood. The area is close and convenient to downtown Spokane, and is well served by Spokane Transit with two bus lines routed through the neighborhood. It's a great neighborhood in which to walk, run, or bike. Sidewalks are prevalent and separated from the street edge, and bicycle routes, bicycle lanes, and low traffic volume streets exist in the Manito/Cannon Hill neighborhood. Yard sales are common on many warm weather weekends, and neighborhood gardens can be found here and there. Many residents have said that they feel "safe" and "connected" in this neighborhood.



### Manito/Cannon Hill - Treasures

- Historic Manito Park (pubic gardens, greenhouse, pond area, walking trails, playground). In 2009, Manito Park was identified as "Best of Attractions - Spokane, Washington" by UpTake.com.
- Tree-lined Manito Boulevard.
- Cannon Hill Park.
- Manito White House and other historic homes





## Manito/Cannon Hill - Natural & Built Identity

This neighborhood is within the commonly referred to South Hill area of Spokane. The southern portion of the neighborhood is built on higher level ground. The northern portion slopes uniformly and increasingly downhill toward the center of Spokane and the river valley. The area has been fully developed for many decades with mostly mid-sized single family homes, along predominant east-west street blocks. The homes are similar in size, but are quite distinctive from one another with façade design, colors, materials, and roof lines. Many of the lots still have alley access, which was common during that period of residential development. Most of the mid-sized and smaller houses were originally built without garages. Consequently, many homeowners through the years have added a detached garage if their property provided the space and access. Native, majestic ponderosa pines remain scattered in front and backyards, along streets, and within the two historic parks. Other mature, deciduous street trees add grand definition to the corridors and boulevard streets. Smaller, native basalt rock outcroppings are found throughout the area, which were avoided and built around years ago. Occasionally wild turkeys wander the neighborhood. Scenic High Drive is the western boundary of the Manito/Cannon Hill Neighborhood.



## Manito/Cannon Hill - Neighborhood Tales

- *“Apparently in the early days there was a “speak-easy” in a house near 25th Street and Madison.*
- *“Manito Golf and Country Club used to be on the west side of Hatch Road before the club house was moved to the east side and Quail Run gated community was developed. My girlfriends and I would pick up lost golf balls and sell them to her dad for 5 for 25 cents.*
- *“There were two “penny candy” stores, one at 37th & Grand across from Sigman’s Grocery and one on Grand just south of 29th, before Manito Shopping Center was developed.*
- *“There was a gas station near the current post office on Grand that rented tandem bikes for 50 cents an hour.*
- *“Learning to swim at Comstock Swimming Pool.”*

-M. Wittstruck



## Manito/Cannon Hill - Annual Events or Activities

- Holiday Lights at Gaiser Conservatory, Manito Park.
- Annual Friends of Manito Park Fall Plant Sale
- Meals on Wheels Great Pumpkin Race



# Manito - Cannon Hill Neighborhood



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## Minnehaha - Days of Yore

In the late 1890s, Edgar J. Webster, a Spokane lawyer, discovered a mineral spring on the site of the current Minnehaha Park. He later turned the site into a spa. The stone building still located in the park was the home of Webster and served the spa and other endeavors which followed. Mr. Webster sold the land to Mr. and Mrs. John Hieber, who for a time used the mineral water for their brewery. Between 1918 and 1924, the site was rented to several motion picture companies. The Minnehaha neighborhood was served by the Ross streetcar line, also owned by Mr. Webster, which ran from downtown Spokane up to the park.



Minnehaha Park and much of the surrounding neighborhood was annexed into the city in 1907. The Park is located close to the eastern edge of the city limits and adjacent to Esmeralda Golf Course to the north. In 1909, the city of Spokane purchased property for park purposes but park development did not start until 1924.



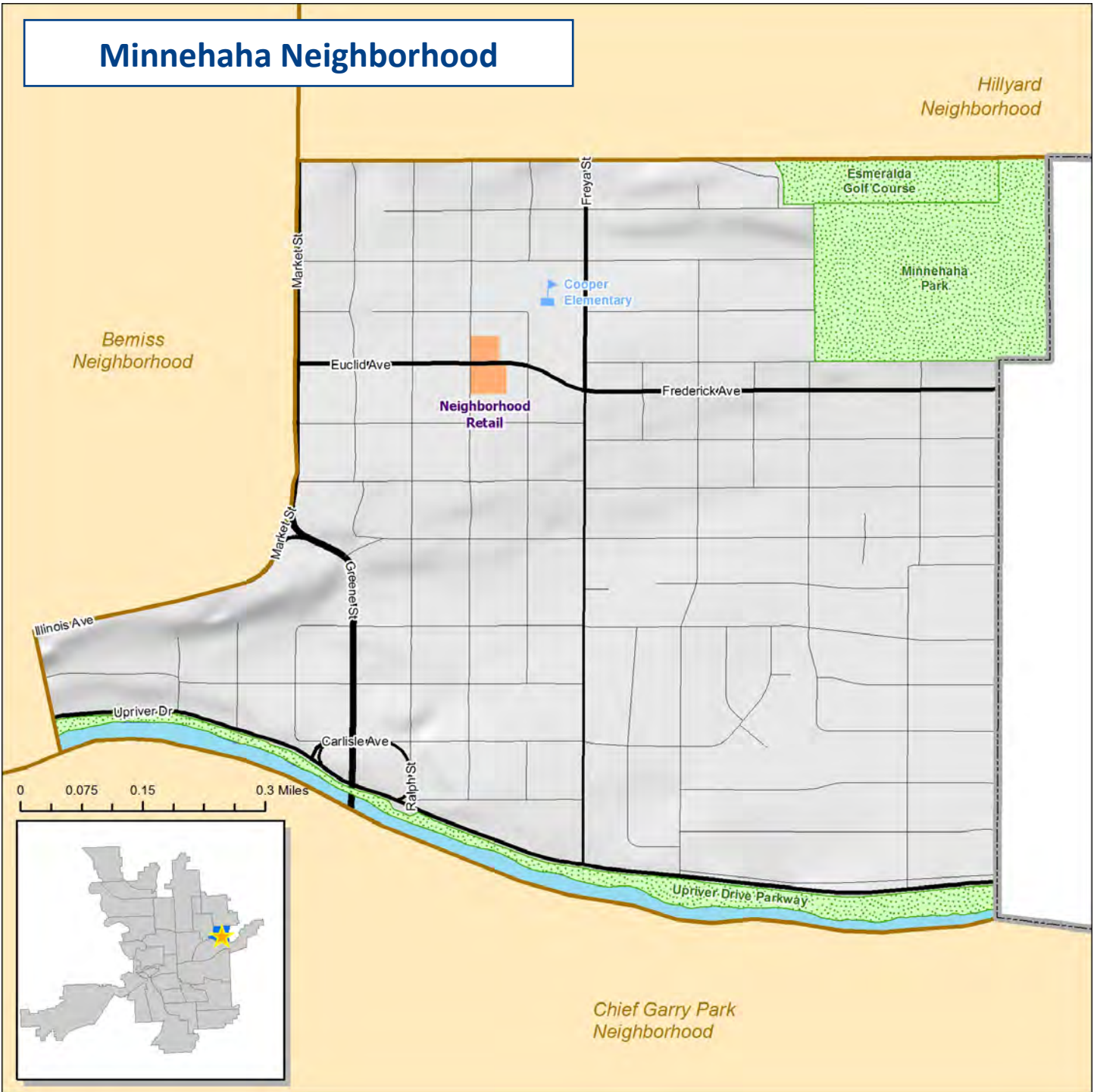
Minnehaha School, now named Cooper Elementary, is the anchor to the neighborhood and was annexed to District 81 in 1908. It was then renamed in honor of James Fennimore Cooper, the American writer. The current building was built in 1979 and continues to serve the neighborhood and its children. A grocery store near the school named Mauro's served the neighborhood and the greater Spokane Italian community (Mauro's is now closed).

The Minnehaha neighborhood is also known for its location as an access point for outdoor recreation with its proximity to the trails on Beacon Hill, the Centennial Trail, and the adjacent rock climbing at Minnehaha Rocks.



The Minnehaha Neighborhood Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at Cooper Elementary at 3200 North Ferrall Street.

# Minnehaha Neighborhood





*At the time this profile was prepared, Nevada/Lidgerwood was in the process of dividing into two neighborhoods. The proposed dividing line was Francis Avenue. As this division was not finalized at the time of publication this profile applies to both parts of the Neighborhood.*

## Nevada/Lidgerwood - Days of Yore

The Nevada/Lidgerwood neighborhood's development spans over a century. South of Wellesley, the age of structures includes every decade since 1900, but most development occurred between 1910 and 1950. The south half of the neighborhood (Dalton to Francis) was annexed to the City between 1891 and 1907, while the northern portion was annexed between 1967 and 1994.



The original Lidgerwood Park development covered a full section of land, which was subdivided in 1889 by John and Harriet Lidgerwood, Patrick and Ida Byrne and Chester and Beatrice Glass. Dr. Byrne sacrificed a large and very lucrative practice in Yonkers, New York to concentrate all his attention and time to his real estate interests in Spokane Falls. John Lidgerwood was also from New York, and he, Byrne, and Chester Glass were determined to make the Lidgerwood Park property the "choicest and healthiest residence section of this city."



Mr. Glass was one of the initial owners of the City Park Transit Company (CPT). The company had plans calling for a line through the Lidgerwood Park real estate development, then back to the city center by a different route. On October 23, 1890, the CPT opened its line to serve Lidgerwood Park. Because the CPT built its line to serve that development, it was often called the Lidgerwood Line. One hundred and fifty lots in Lidgerwood Park were auctioned off as part of the opening celebration.



In 1892, the Lidgerwood Electric Railway Company placed an advertisement in the Daily Chronicle proclaiming that its "Pavilion in the Woods" on the line of the railway, was now open to the public, complete with refreshment rooms and dance floor. In the same article, the company advertised the availability of a large block of land, suitable for a quarter mile race course in the woods, close to the Pavilion. It is believed that this block later became the site for the NorthTown Mall.

The neighborhood's first school, Longfellow Elementary, was completed in 1893 on Rochelle Street (later renamed Cincinnati Street). As the population grew in the Lidgerwood Park area, Longfellow underwent a series of building additions and was ultimately rebuilt in 1980.





Hamilton Elementary is the second oldest neighborhood school. It was originally built in 1903 as the Kenwood School with four classrooms. In 1909 a new building was constructed of brick with eight rooms and a playroom at a cost of \$33,900. In the early days of Hamilton School it was not unusual to find Native American tepees pitched on the west side of the school. The Native Americans came to the school to fetch water from a well. In 1972, the building became the annex to Continuation High School, later named Joseph Jantsch High School, and remained so through the 1980- 1981 school term. In 1981, Jantsch High School took over Havermale Junior High School and became a single-campus school. Hamilton School was left without students for the first time in 78 years. It was sold as surplus property to the Zion Faith Association in 1982.



The initial stages of the NorthTown Shopping Center at Wellesley and Division occurred in the early 1950's with a new 30,000 square foot Albertson's Supermarket. Between Wellesley and Francis, development occurred primarily in the 1950s and 1960s. The last major developments in this area occurred along Division, evidenced most noticeably by the Franklin Park Mall in the mid-1970s and a multi-block commercial project at Francis in the 1980s. North of Francis, urban growth was precipitated with the development of "Continental City" in the early 1960s. This area continues to develop with various housing densities, offices, and general commercial uses, including the Northgate shopping complex at Francis and Division.

### Life in Nevada/Lidgerwood - Today



The neighborhood has a casual and inviting atmosphere. Nevada/Lidgerwood is an established neighborhood with many residents enjoying the grid street patterns that allow for easy navigation and quick access to downtown and other parts of the city. The low cost of living has attracted many residents to the neighborhood while offering a peaceful place to call home. A diverse group of residents call Nevada/Lidgerwood home, including families, retirees, and professionals. Residents enjoy shopping in the neighborhood, going to the parks, biking, running, and getting together for yard sales and neighborhood barbecues.

### Nevada/Lidgerwood - Treasures

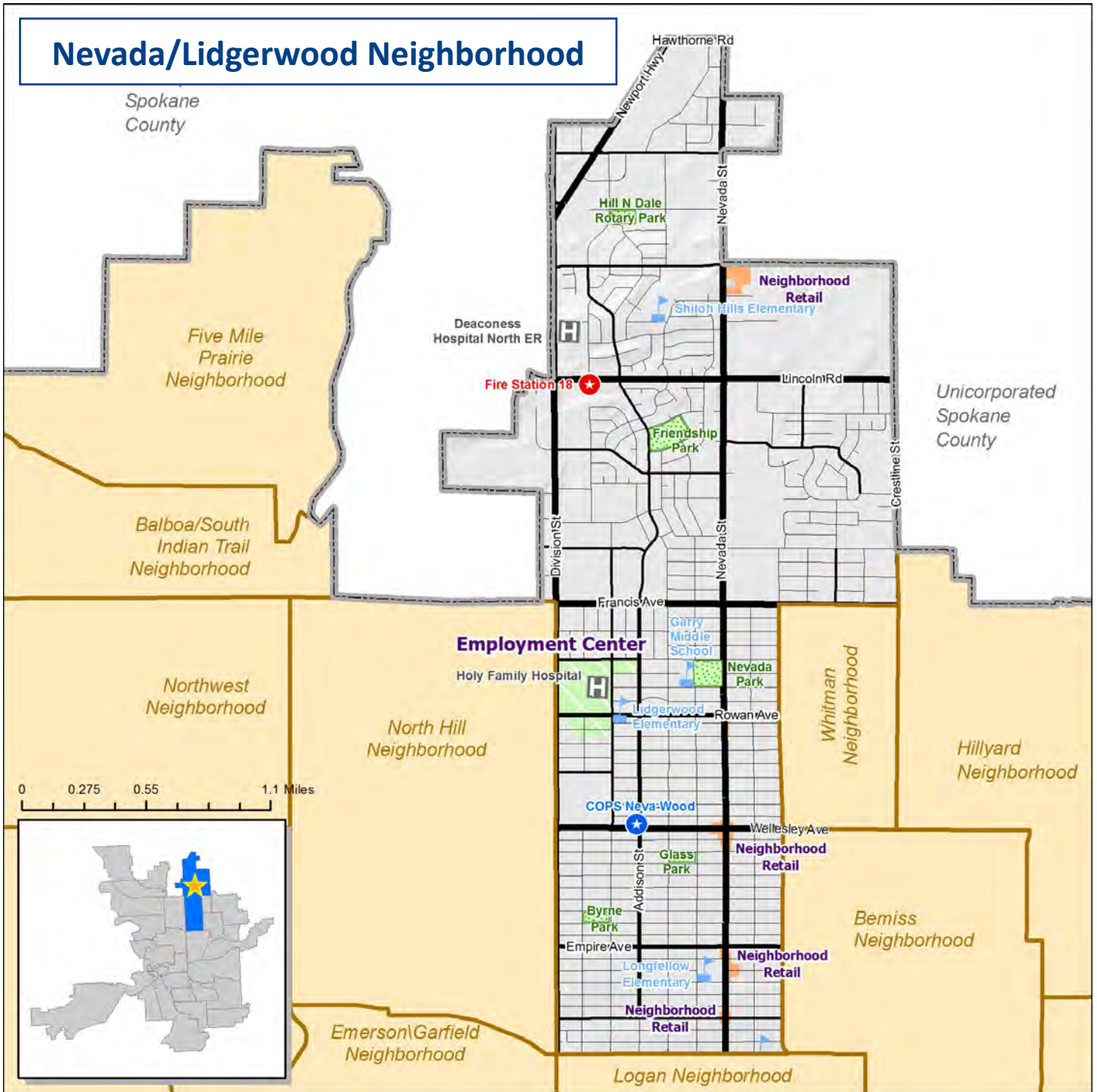
- Parks
- Schools



### Nevada/Lidgerwood - Natural & Built Identity

- Grid Street Pattern
- Flat Terrain
- Parks

# Nevada/Lidgerwood Neighborhood





## North Hill - Days of Yore

The Monroe Street Hill once marked the northern border of the city. With the development of a street railway system in the early 1900s North Hill began to transform from a forested rural community into a residential neighborhood served by businesses, schools, churches and parks. Many homes were built in North Hill during the early 1900s near streetcar lines along Howard and Madison Streets. Styles include Craftsman bungalows, cabins, Tudor and Swiss Chalets and two-story farmhouses. More contemporary homes and low-rise apartment buildings were built throughout the 50s, 60s and 70s in the northern part of the neighborhood. Infill housing and new businesses continue to transform our diverse neighborhood.



The Garland District began in 1910 with the building of the street railway system, particularly the Post Street line. By the late 1920's, the district started to take shape. Three buildings in particular are eligible for the Historic Register. The Masonic Temple, built in 1922, is an example of late Romanesque revival style with gabled parapets, round arches and decorative motifs in the brickwork. In 1935, the Milk Bottle was built as part of the Benewah Creamery Chain. The Garland Theater, established in 1945, an example of Art Deco architecture opened on Thanksgiving Day. This theater had almost 1,000 seats & a gift shop. At the time it was considered a very modern movie house. In 1954 they installed a wide screen, stereophonic sound system, new seats & curtains for \$20,000. Some businesses still have their original neon signs dating back to the 1950's.



Parks began about the same time. B.A. Clark Park at Division & Garland was named for B.A. Clark, the Supervisor of Playgrounds who helped execute the Park Fund to partially implement the Olmsted Brothers firm's recommendations in 1913. History of our largest park, Franklin Park at Queen and Division, records the grading and planting occurred from 1910 to 1912.



Ruth Park was adjacent to the Byrne's Addition School, built in 1910. Dr. Patrick S. Byrne, donated the land for the school at Whitehouse Street and Dalke Avenue in 1908. Dr. Byrne's daughter's name was Ruth.

The history of the neighborhood is partially reflected in the construction of the three public elementary schools: Madison, Willard and Ridgeview. The first, Frances Willard Elementary School, opened in 1908 as a small brick building with four rooms, and quickly tripled in size by 1911. The old Willard Elementary School building was replaced in 1980 with



The North Hill Neighborhood Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at The Gathering House at 733 West Garland Avenue.

<http://northhill.spokaneneighborhoods.org/>



the new school facing Longfellow Avenue. Dr. Patrick S. Byrne, a mayor of Spokane, helped plan an early part the North Hill neighborhood. In 1908 he donated about one-half acre for the Byrne's Addition School, built in 1910 at Whitehouse Street and Dalke Avenue; later renamed the Madison School in 1915. A new Madison School opened four blocks to the south in 1949 adjacent to Franklin Park. Following a successful bond initiative, a third elementary school was added to the neighborhood when Ridgeview opened in September 1953 as Ridgeview Primary School, which then rapidly expanded over the next few years.

### **Life in North Hill - Today**



The North Hill neighborhood draws people who want to live in a, well-established neighborhood, with many peaceful, quiet streets, unique older homes, reasonably priced housing options, and walkable destinations. Other reasons people choose to live here are proximity to work, neighborhood shopping, parks, and schools. Yards and houses are kept tidy and neighbors watch out for and take care of each other.

A diverse mixture of families and single people of all ages live here, including many who are characteristically easy-going and casual. Neighbors greet each other while working in their yards and occasionally get together for neighborhood activities like basketball games, yard sales and children's playdates.



The Garland Avenue business district is a unique commercial district. This area provides the neighborhood with walkable, nearby entertainment, art-oriented shops, services, restaurants, and nightlife, as well as some funky shops. Notable businesses and attractions include Ferguson's Café, the Garland Theater (a popular independent movie theater), and the Blue Door Theater, which bills itself as "The Inland Northwest's Premier Improv Company." Ferguson's Café, described as "a neighborhood staple" which first opened in the 1930s, appeared in three feature films: *Why Would I Lie?* (1980), *Vision Quest* (1985), and *Benny & Joon* (1993).



Our main arterials serve the basic needs of our residents. For example, on the western Maple-Ash Street corridor, a cluster of businesses serves nearby residents at the Rowan Business Center. This area features hardware and auto supply stores, a gas station, 'take out' pizza, and a small café. Friendly staff and basic supplies and services, similar to a small town, offer the neighborhood a convenient alternative to the big box shopping centers. Similar clusters that exist on other arterials offer a blend of residential homes and businesses.

Many professional and small business enterprises line Francis Avenue, which defines a corridor along the northern edge of the neighborhood. The Division commercial area, on the eastern edge, fulfills needs for banking, health care, office equipment, restaurants, coffee shops, a new health food store, and other retail needs. Weekly needs such as





supermarkets are a short drive away and there is a nearby summer farmers' market in the adjacent Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood. Plans for a similar market in the Garland District are underway.

Active churches in the neighborhood make a big impact on the community. One church parking lot is used as a staging area for neighborhood cleanup events for people from throughout the neighborhood to gather and help out.

Neighbors head to the bluff south of Garland to walk and enjoy the view (including downtown's Fourth of July fireworks), or to one of the neighborhood's three bustling parks: B.A. Clark, Franklin and Ruth. Commuting to downtown takes only minutes by bus, or about a five-minute drive or bike ride. Some residents can walk downtown in as few as twenty minutes.

### North Hill - Treasures

- Numerous older Craftsman style homes, built in the early 1900s.
- The Milk Bottle, formerly the drive-up Benewah Dairy, an iconic restaurant and ice cream parlor set within a two-story white-and-cream-colored bottle shaped building built in 1935 on Garland Avenue.
- The refurbished Garland Movie Theater, which opened in 1945 as Spokane's first cinema outside downtown, sports a prominent neon sign, seats more than 600 people, and since the 1980s has shown discount movies. Its location is a defining feature of the neighborhood.
- The southern bluff offers neighborhood views of Spokane, sunsets, and wildflowers. The area defines a gateway to the neighborhood. The Monroe Street Hill once marked the northern border of the city. Both sides of the Post Street Hill feature the presence of this wildlife corridor that extends west to the Spokane River. The area is filled with natural vegetation and gives a sense of wilderness within the city.
- Great parks, churches and schools.
- Ruth Park is a hidden gem in the north part of the neighborhood, mainly used by people who live nearby.
- Franklin Park is a favorite destination with diverse uses that invite people to use it: sports fields, a pathway, covered gazebo, children's play area, pine grove, and more.
- BA Clark Park provides a defining feature, with a preserved grove of pines, colorful trees and inviting features, such as a picnic shelter, play area, ball fields and a perimeter walkway.





## North Hill - Natural & Built Identity

- The Garland Avenue Business District’s interesting buildings, featuring café windows, where customers view daily life in the street, and specialty businesses that offer visual, performing & musical arts, retail and a range of services.
- Southern bluff with a walkway offering great views open to the public
- Brick building materials that highlight some of our historic buildings.
- Large, mature street trees and neighborhood trees that provide green space for neighbors to enjoy, shade in summer and nesting for a variety of birds.
- A pedestrian-friendly grid pattern of level, tree-lined streets with sidewalks to parks, schools and business areas.
- Access to rear yards from alleys



## North Hill - Neighborhood Tales

*“I like living near the Garland district, to have a destination to walk to, and that the historic architecture has been preserved.”*

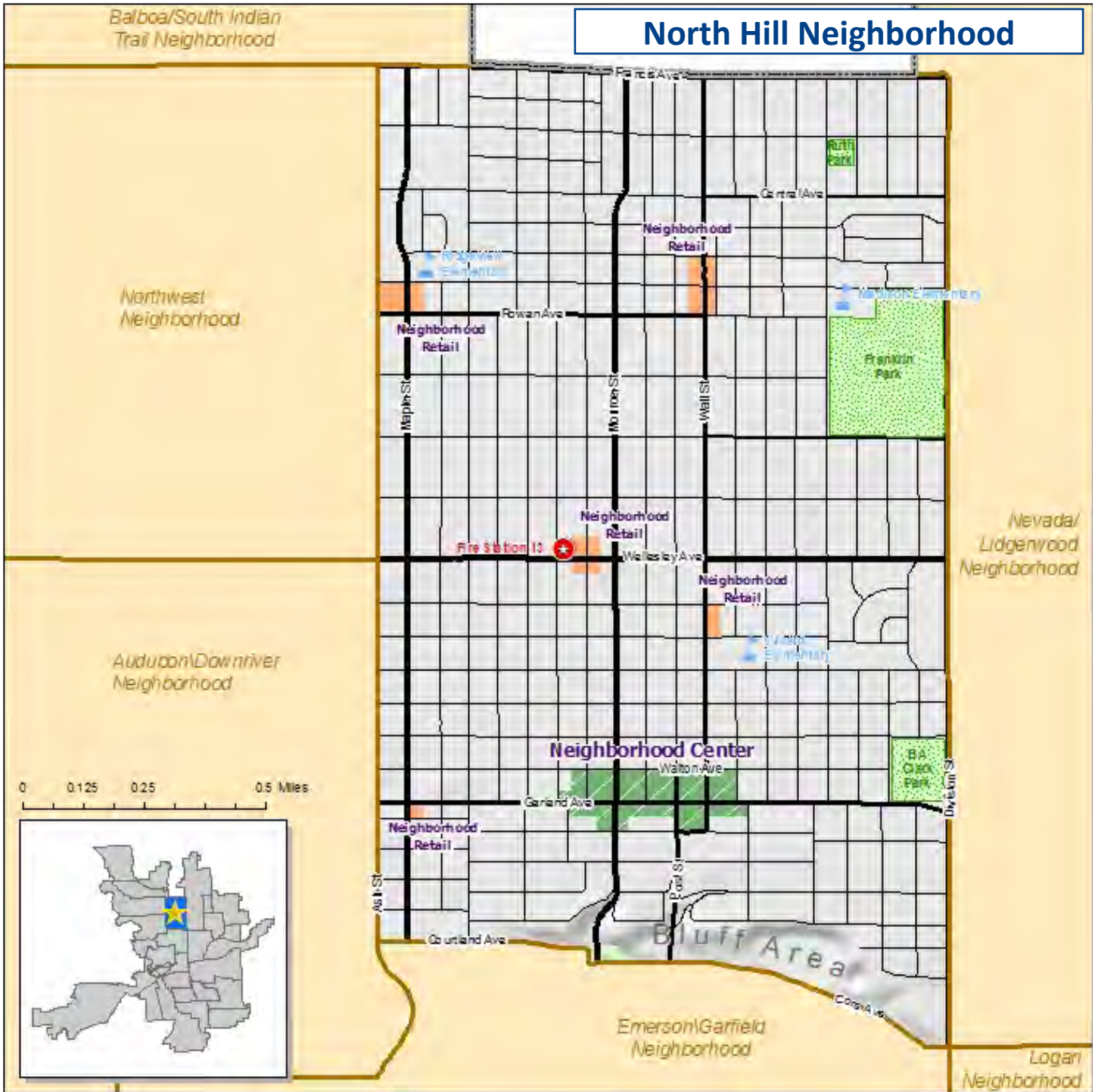
-- Anji Mertens

## North Hill - Annual Events or Activities

Throughout the summer, Clark and Franklin Parks host ball games. Franklin Park has many events including horseshoe tournaments, soccer games and picnics. It includes a gazebo for large gatherings and playground equipment including a splash pad during the summer.

Neighbors attend the Garland Street Fair, a festival held each summer in the Garland Avenue business district.





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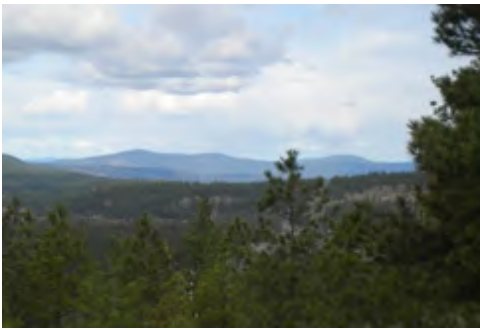
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## North Indian Trail - Days of Yore

The North Indian Trail neighborhood is located in the northwestern corner of the Spokane city limits. Its name is derived from the Indian Trail Road, an arterial that runs in a northwest direction through the neighborhood from Francis Avenue to the south and to undeveloped County land to the north. The neighborhood is mostly developed, with a few remaining open spaces. Stands of Ponderosa Pine trees remain in many parts of the neighborhood.



Indian Trail Road, once referred to as Pioneer Road and then formally named Sturman Road during the early part of the 1900s, connected the Columbia River to the Little Spokane River and was used for centuries by Native Americans who lived in the territory to the north. Trappers from the Hudson's Bay Company post that was built in the 1800s at the confluence of the Spokane River and Little Spokane River also used the road, as did pioneers, prospectors, and troopers en route to Spokane. A stagecoach ran from Spokane to Colville. It was the popular and shortest road to the northwest country.



Samuel C. Sturman was an early settler who arrived at the Little Spokane River area from North Dakota in 1885. The school that once stood at the junction of Rutter Parkway and Indian Trail, to the north of the present-day neighborhood, was known as Sturman School, and a bridge three miles above the confluence of the Little Spokane and Spokane rivers was also named after him.



The area remained rural in nature with large tracts of undeveloped land until the City annexed the area north of Francis Avenue in the 1950s, followed by extensive development of mainly single-family homes on relatively large city lots. The area grew rapidly northward over the next two decades and in the 1970s, the North Indian Trail neighborhood began its initial development with single-family homes, which continues to the present day. In 1981, the new Woodridge Elementary School opened its doors to North Indian Trail students. All of the students who attend the school are within walking range; no students are bussed.

The western edge of the neighborhood features homes overlooking the Spokane River Gorge. Residential development also features some duplexes, and apartments were built close to the 32-acre Sundance Plaza shopping complex, developed at the intersection of Indian Trail Road and Barnes Road in 2002. The shopping center serves surrounding communities including Five Mile Prairie, Rutter Parkway, Seven Mile and the rural areas beyond.





## Life in North Indian Trail – Today

This neighborhood has become a popular area for Spokane citizens to call home. It has steadily been developed, retaining much of its open, scenic appeal. A mix of citizens- families with children, singles, retirees, and professionals live here, many in newer single family homes. Many residents make the daily work commute into central Spokane on weekdays. Indian Trail Road is the major transportation corridor providing access to the area, connecting to local streets and subdivisions. A large neighborhood commercial center serves the community, located at North Indian Trail Road and West Barnes Road. Restaurants, banks, grocery, and a variety of retail stores are found here. The Indian Trail Public Library and Providence Health Care Clinic are other popular and convenient facilities. Adults and kids enjoy Pacific Park with its playground, splash ponds, and open space.



*“I think the best features are the nearby open spaces like the power line corridor which goes up to the north end of Five Mile Bluff and Riverside State Park. Also close and connected to Indian Painted Rocks and the Little Spokane River Natural Area”.*

-Ed Bowers

*“Family oriented community.”*

-Linda Gervais-Falkner



## North Indian Trail - Treasures

- Pacific Park
- Vistas from ridgelines above the Spokane River Gorge to the west.

## North Indian Trail - Natural & Built Identity

A diverse natural environment exists in the North Indian Trail Neighborhood. The neighborhood has an ever-changing landscape with mature pines, native grasses, hilltops, valleys and ridges. The topography and natural features have dictated where development has occurred over the last few decades. This variety of terrain brings an added distinctiveness and separation to many of the subdivisions located within the neighborhood. Some subdivisions have open views on a plateau, several exist within a forested valley, and others are built on broad, gentle side-slopes. The built environment consists primarily of single family residential developments with suburban characteristics of larger building lots, front and backyards, with mid-sized to larger homes. A variety of other housing choices exist as well including apartments, duplexes, and condominiums, all with different features and amenities. Residents here enjoy tree-lined streets and an abundance of open space and natural vegetation. The North Indian





Trail neighborhood is on the “edge”, both geographically from the City, and above the scenic river gorge below.

### **North Indian Trail - Neighborhood Tales**

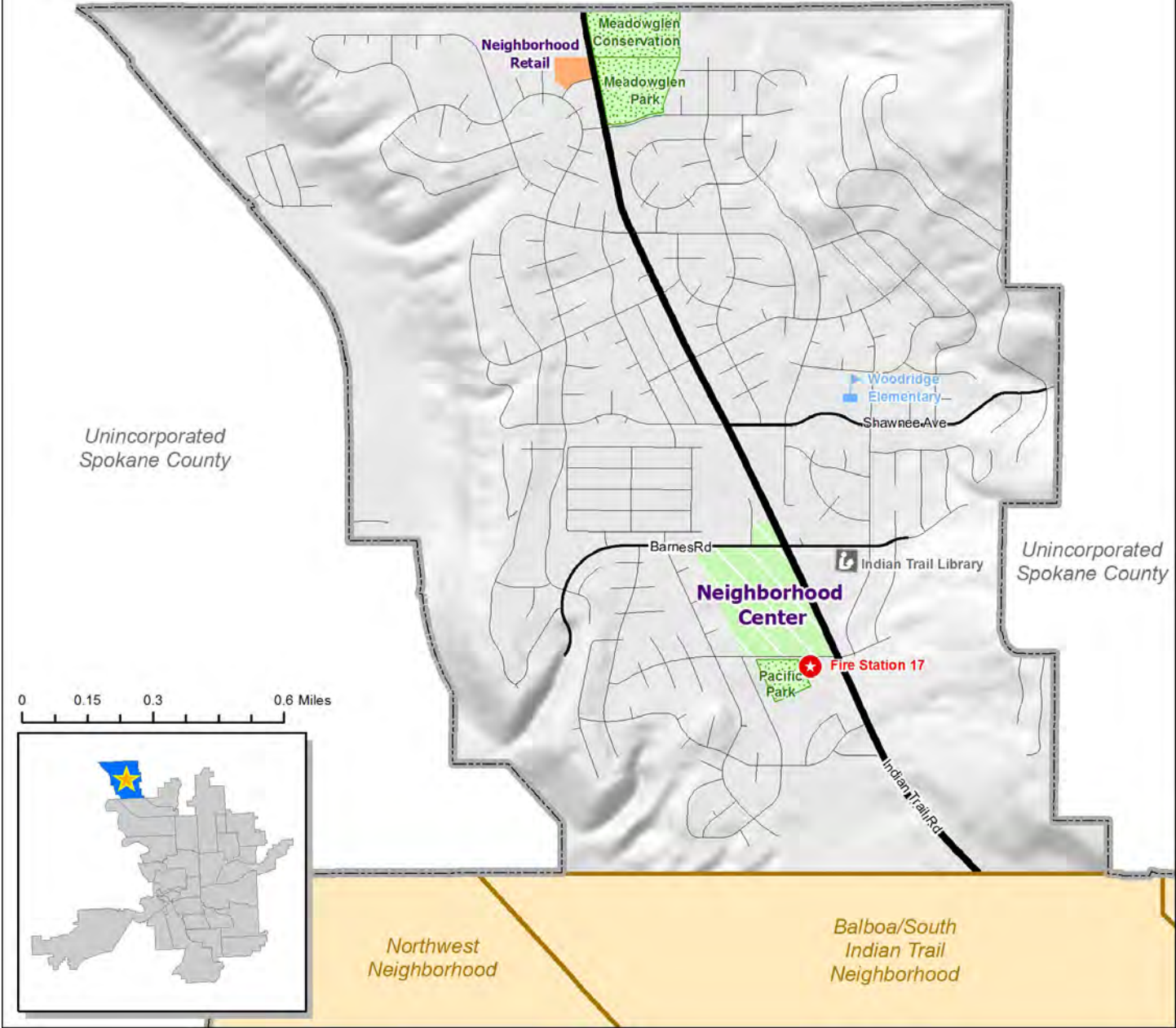
“When I was a kid Indian Trail was not half as developed as it is now. It was still out in the country, but now it has many commercial establishments and is a great place to live. You still feel somewhat outside the city but have the convenience of grocery stores, restaurants, etc.”

-Corey Blair

### **North Indian Trail - Annual Events or Activities**

- Annual organized neighborhood yard sales.
- Wednesday night summer community picnics with live music.

# North Indian Trail Neighborhood



**SOURCES**

“County Pioneer Recalls Early Days,” Spokane Daily Chronicle, Rowland Bond, July 4, 1968.

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## Northwest - Days of Yore

Local Native American tribes used the Spokane River on the west side of the neighborhood for fishing and winter camps for trading. On the east side of the neighborhood a thoroughfare crossed from springs located near Euclid Avenue and Maple Street to Indian Trail Road at Francis Avenue, carrying native people, trappers and early settlers between the large falls to the southeast and the Little Spokane River to the northwest. Plants with edible roots, bulbs and berries grew here. Gridded street subdivisions later replaced the native trail, but the area around the springs was purchased by the Eastern Washington Historical Society and became protected conservation park land. Rival streetcar companies extended street railways within Northwest and Driscoll Boulevards to serve the growing neighborhood.



During World War II the U.S. Army built the Baxter General Hospital, located between Assembly Street and Fairmount Memorial Park to care for wounded veterans returning to the region during World War II, with 300 buildings and 2,001 beds. Portions of this 200-acre site became the Veteran's Affairs Memorial Hospital in 1948 and Joe Albi Stadium, which originally opened as Memorial Stadium, in 1950. A nearby rope tow operated as City Ski Acres in the late 1950s.

## Life in Northwest Today

Good schools attract families, while professionals and retirees are attracted by well-built and relatively inexpensive housing along tree-lined streets, which are shady and hilly in some places. People are proud of well-kept yards. The neighborhood has tall stands of pines that articulate the horizon.

The neighborhood is described as friendly, stable, established and casual, full of hip, trendy, and established people and families. Many shop at nearby farmers' markets and get together for yard sales, block parties, and fall cider squeezes. Some neighbors proudly introduce themselves, welcome and accept newcomers, host barbecues, and generously help clear sidewalks and help with other tasks, such as lawn care, landscaping and moving furniture.



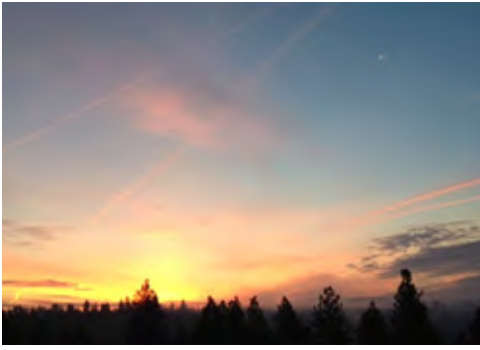
In their spare time, many people walk to Joe Albi Stadium or the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex. The stadium hosts football, Junior Bloomsday and other activities, while the sports complex features a BMX track, a skate court, soccer fields, softball fields and a perimeter walking trail. People go to parks to hike, bike, walk, and run on bike routes and trails—some of which offer terrific views of the river and city. Families visit parks, such as Loma Vista Park, to enjoy the open air or to fly a kite.

While the neighborhood is predominantly residential, there are many other isolated commercial pockets sprinkled throughout, mostly near old trolley lines, where residents go to find groceries, hardware, specialty pizza, great breakfast, cozy cafés, pubs, a bakery and an eclectic garden shop.



The Northwest Neighborhood Council meets the third Thursday of each month (except July, August and December) at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at Browne Elementary at 5102 W. Driscoll Blvd.





### Northwest - Treasures

- Riverside State Park is a regional treasure. It was formed from 1933 to 1936 when the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the Aubrey L. White Parkway, rock walls next to the roadway, trails, and several structures, including the swinging bridge across the river at the Bowl and Pitcher. The parkway is popular for running, bicycling and driving. A campground in the park offers real camping in the city along a beautiful river.
- Upriver from the Bowl and Pitcher, “Black Water” near the Downriver Disc Golf Course is a mellow spot with deep, dark water where folks can relax or swim in the river and view swallows burrowing in small tunnels dug into the soft, sandy riverbank.
- Along the river near Camp Seven Mile, Plese Flats is a beach suitable for easy river raft take out near parking and a picnic area.



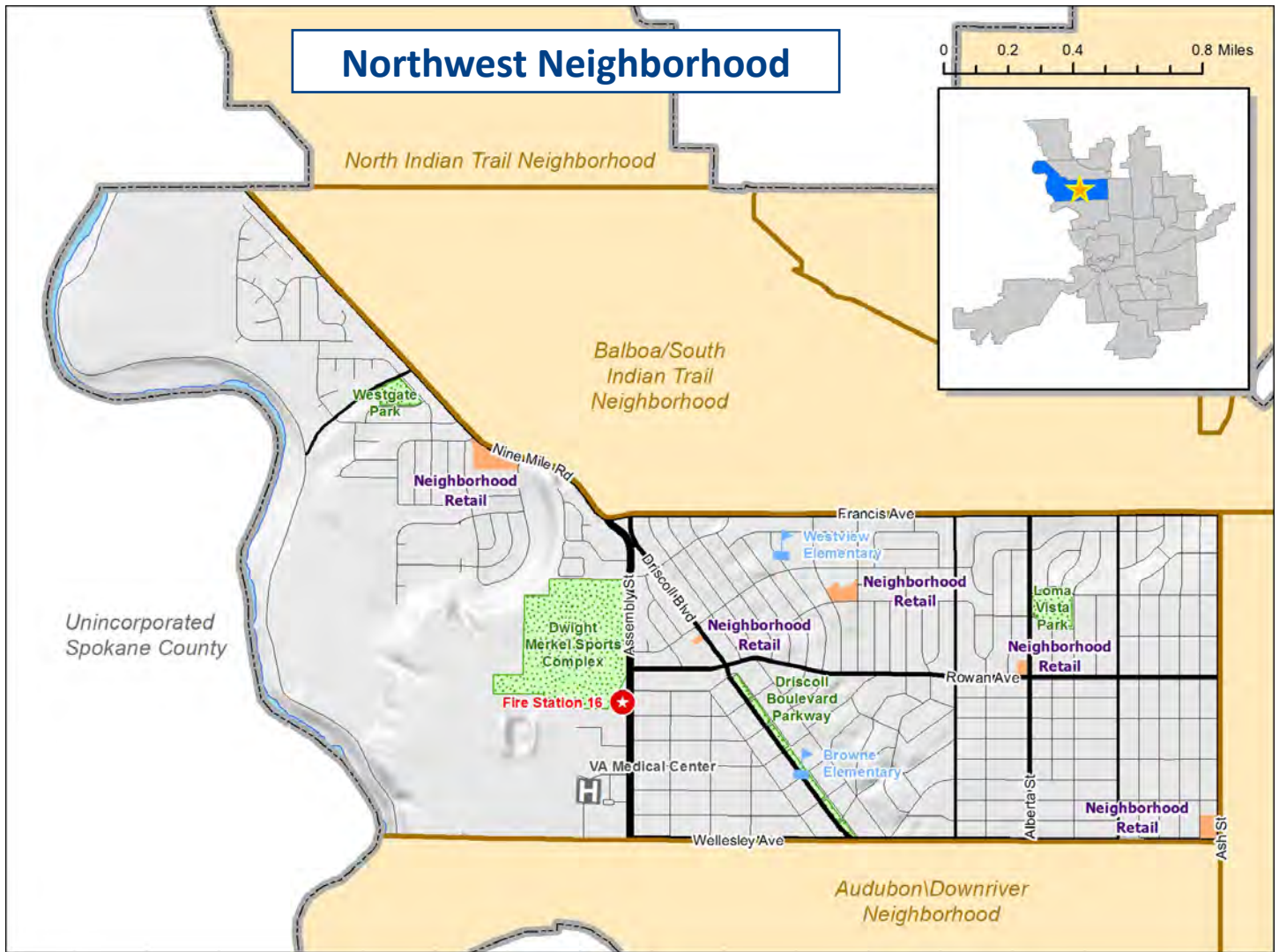
### Northwest - Natural & Built Identity

- The Spokane River forms the neighborhood’s western boundary, contributing to a keen awareness of nature’s presence. River access, wildlife, hilly terrain and basalt rock define the natural environment.
- The interior of the neighborhood is characteristically flat with shaded streets.
- St. Charles Catholic Parish represents later-20th-Century architecture featuring a combined bell tower and fountain.
- Ranch style homes, brick materials, cottage style homes.
- Gridded streets give way to curvilinear pockets such as the Boulevard Park Addition near Driscoll Boulevard. Greenbelts and the bluff provide favorite destinations and great views for neighborhood walks.
- Fairmount Memorial Park contributes a quiet, peaceful location for contemplation.



### Northwest - Neighborhood Tales

*“On the day I moved in a neighbor brought over two bags full of fresh vegetables that he had grown in his garden.” – Justin Helm*



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Peaceful Valley reflects both its working class past and the people who currently live there: independent, feisty, neighborly, often bohemian. The tolerant live-and-let-live attitude has been attractive to artists and writers, and others who have sought a more unconventional place to live along the Spokane River, which has shaped the valley and the lives of the people who have long lived in its constant presence.

## Peaceful Valley - Days of Yore

Peaceful Valley has a rich history and is a unique part of Spokane. A natural bluff dominates and separates Peaceful Valley from the Browne's Addition neighborhood to the south. The Spokane River to the north and the confluence of the river and Latah/Hangman Creek to the west have shaped the history and formed the neighborhood boundaries. Main Avenue feeds directly uphill into Downtown Spokane to the east boundary at Monroe Street. This area was a traditional gathering place for Native Americans as a trading center for bartered goods and the abundant salmon which were harvested from the Spokane River and Latah Creek.



Early settlers came to Spokane; they too appreciated the view of the falls from Peaceful Valley. The typical home was often dictated by the platted narrow lots, only 25 feet wide, but deep enough, at 100 feet, for a second home, often rented out, behind the street side residence. Housing seasonal laborers, the turn of the century shotgun-style houses were an affordable option for loggers and miners. Once called Poverty Flats and Spring Flats (from the natural springs flowing from the south bluff) the neighborhood still has a distinct mining town air to it. These small narrow houses would only later be fitted with toilets and garages.

Among the builders were many Finns, who brought with them their sauna tradition, some unique architectural features, and a talent for labor organizing. The Finnish Social Hall, long gone, was a focus of music and dancing, political meetings, and other community events. There were also community saunas and livery stables.



In 1901 the Spokane Casket Company began operations on Water Avenue and was the only major manufacturing and employment source within the neighborhood. At the height of its operation it employed fifty people. The property is now park land along the river.

In 1912, land, created by debris infill from the 1889 fire, was purchased by the Park Board to create Glover Field. A photograph from this same year shows Maypole Dances in the field. The field held a stadium until the bleachers were condemned in 1925. Native Americans, representing 28 different tribes erected teepees on fields and roadsides throughout Spokane, including Glover Field with its spectacular view of the Spokane River Falls during the Indian Congress of 1925 and again in 1926. The Spokane Betterment Organization, a group of business boosters, sponsored the events following the passage of the 1924





Indian Citizenship Act which gave official status to all Native Americans.

In the early 1900s, most of the school children would climb the hill to attend class, even in the snow. But from 1917 to 1930, the Cowley School at the corner of Maple Street and Clarke Avenue served early elementary school age children. The school was closed in 1930 and only recently refurbished as a privately owned triplex residence.

In the past, nearly every lot was built, but the architectural significance of the modest vernacular homes was not well appreciated. Benign and intentional neglect led over the years to the destruction of a large number of homes and other structures. Alarmed at the loss of usable, restorable historic houses, a group of neighbors banded together in the 1990's, and because of their work and that of historian Nancy Compau, a large portion of Peaceful Valley is now on the National Historic District Register. The neighborhood has been infilled with additional new homes, many of them on a much larger scale, occupying multiple lots.



The Great Gorge Plan in 2005 was a significant three-year public effort that helped express the neighborhood and community's desire to protect and enhance the public's experience with the Spokane River. During that time, the Sandifur Pedestrian Bridge was completed, crossing the river at the far west end of Peaceful Valley and connecting with the Centennial Trail on the north bank.

### **Life in Peaceful Valley - Today**

The bluff and the river make Peaceful Valley a secluded hideaway adjacent to the busyness of downtown Spokane, offering walkable proximity to the public library, business, entertainment and restaurants. The neighborhood has only two street entrances: on the east from Monroe Street down Main Avenue, and on the west at the intersection of Riverside Avenue and Clarke Avenue by People's Park. For those walking, there is also one long, steep staircase at the south end of Cedar Street climbing the bluff to Riverside Avenue, and another, shorter stair climb, to the west, from Spruce Street.



The neighborhood has an eclectic group of residents including office workers, caregivers, teachers, lawyers, telecommuters, woodworkers, artists, musicians, etc. Those who live here take pride in the community's supportive attitude toward freedom of expression, which can be seen or heard when strolling through the neighborhood. Friendly neighbors will check on each other during the worst winter snows and are not shy about starting conversations with passersby from front porches.

The atmosphere of Peaceful Valley is unstructured and unpretentious, much like the art found scattered throughout. This neighborhood values creativity rather than luxury. Pristine lawns are often ditched in favor of unique gardens. Residents are self-described as eclectic, artistic, funky, relaxed and resilient.

The views from Peaceful Valley are unlike any other neighborhood. Whereas the West Central and Riverside neighborhoods look down upon the river, Peaceful Valley has a much more intimate perspective of the waterfront. The river draws deer, the occasional moose, red tail hawks, osprey, blue heron, bald eagles, skunks, raccoons, porcupines, beaver, river otters, and of course marmots. From Glover Field the view includes the historic Monroe Street Bridge, the Spokane Falls and the downtown skyline.



## Peaceful Valley - Treasures

- Glover Field - Established in 1912, it is named for the “Father of Spokane”, James N. Glover.
- The View of Spokane Falls.
- Peaceful Valley Community Center - Originally a barracks at Fairchild Air Force Base, it was moved to Glover Field and later became Spokane’s first Community Center.
- Peaceful Valley Park - Situated below the Maple Street Bridge, it extends the full width of the neighborhood from Wilson Avenue to the Spokane River.
- Historic Portraits - Local artist John Thamm was commissioned by the neighborhood to capture the face and spirit of many longtime residents who were devoted to this community and left an enduring impression on all who knew them. Thamm’s fading murals can be seen on the Maple Street bridge supports. Preservation of the murals is an ongoing concern of the neighborhood.
- River Access - Whether outside your door or a short stroll away, the river is a constant presence to be enjoyed. Most vacant lots along the river are public land, offering river access.
- Pietsch House - This is one of the oldest single-family residences in Peaceful Valley. Built by German bricklayer Franz Pietsch in 1891, the house features an Italian bricklaying method uncommon in Spokane. Other notable structures include Cowley School, Woodcutters Hall, and many surviving wood frame buildings.
- People’s Park.
- Most Valued Treasure - The sense of belonging to a tight-knit community that cares about its neighbors and neighborhood as a diverse extended family.



## Peaceful Valley – Natural and Built Identity

Lying just west of the downtown core, the aptly named Peaceful Valley is geographically secluded from the other Spokane neighborhoods. The Valley is cradled by its southern bluff and the Spokane River, which flows quietly past, a stone’s throw downstream from the torrent of the rushing falls cascading below the Monroe Street Bridge. The river influence is strong in the valley: Ospreys keep a keen eye from their nests perched above while Red Band trout (a protected subspecies of Rainbow trout) swim in the eddies and pools below. Much like the river, at first glance the pace in Peaceful Valley appears slow, quiet and serene, belying the true power and force of the currents within. It doesn’t take much more than a few minutes spent in the neighborhood to gain a sense and appreciation of the strength of community and neighborhood resolve lying just below the surface. While the underbelly of the Maple Street Bridge looms overhead and is a predominant feature of the neighborhood, its grandiose scale only adds to that sense of self-containment.



Peaceful Valley is the smallest of Spokane’s neighborhoods. The small scale of its homes and boundaries are only emphasized by the Maple Street Bridge,

tall apartment buildings lining the south bluff and the massive scale of Kendall Yards looking down from the length of the north bluff. Unique to the built environment of this settlement is color: The artistry of the residents comes out in the more unusual paint schemes of the old houses.

In continuity with much of Spokane's waterfront, hand built basalt and urbanite (broken concrete) walls follow Wilson, Main and Clarke Avenues. It's difficult to find a level street as the whole of the neighborhood gently slopes down to the riverbank. The Peaceful Valley River Walk offers the public relatively free access to the river from end to end. The urban forest of Peaceful Valley is a mass of various deciduous trees and conifers (as eclectic as Peaceful Valley residents themselves) scattered in yards and at irregular intervals along the walkway planting strips. The palate of trees is accented by small gardens in the yards of most residents. Gardens and art displayed on front porches and in yards is a matter of pride in the neighborhood.

### Peaceful Valley - Neighborhood Tales

*"Came home one day to find an elderly lady with a cane picking up the windfall plums in the yard. Thus I met Granny Quinn. Her picture used to be on one of the John Thamm murals on the bridge. Bought the house six months later. Loved the low key, unpretentious atmosphere...classical pianist next to a Clint Black fan."*

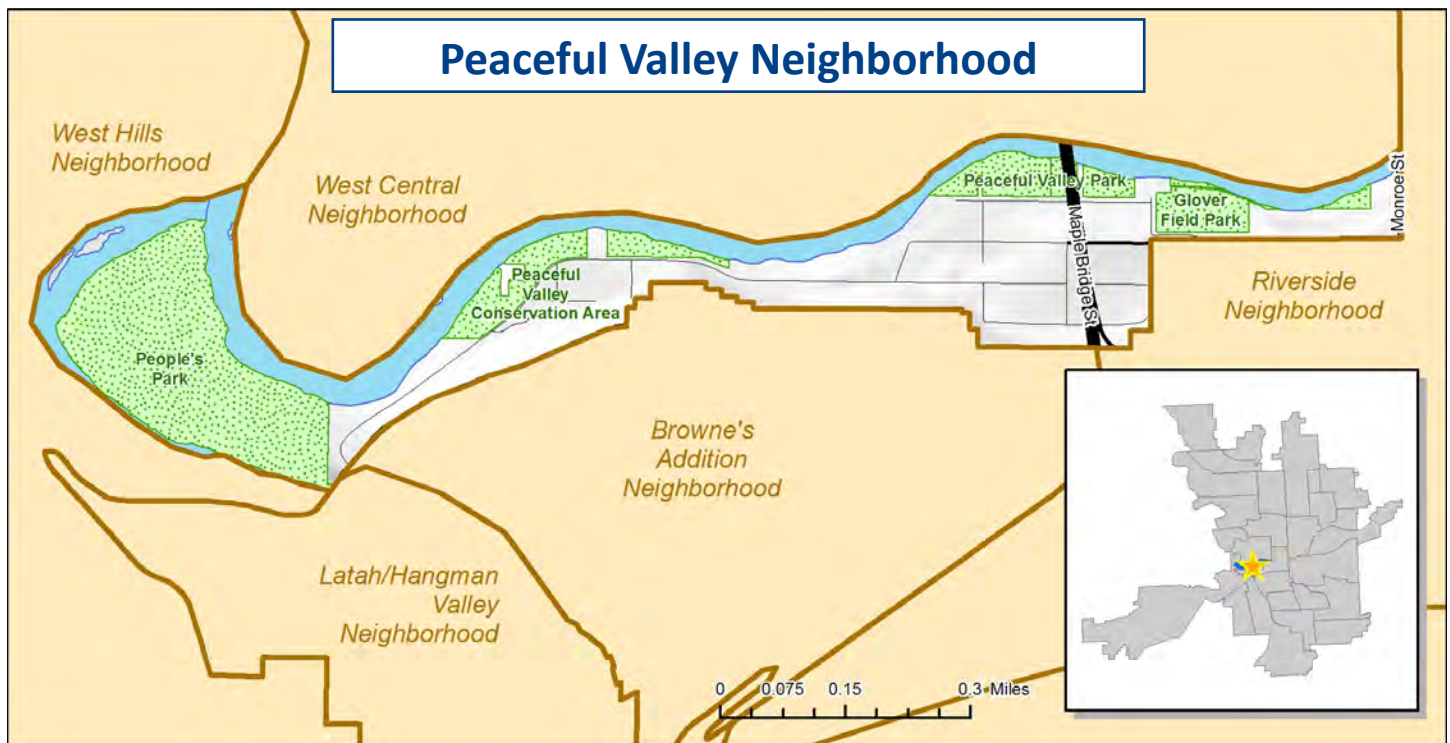
-Barbara Morrissey

*"When I first came here I saw a goat up on someone's second story balcony and I thought, how interesting. One house is known as 'the chicken lady's house' because the woman who used to live there kept her chickens inside with her."*

-Joanie Eppinga

### Peaceful Valley - Annual Events or Activities

Peaceful Valley Park, Glover Field, and the Peaceful Valley Community Center are great places for special activities. Please contact the Park Department to arrange for a use permit for your event.



Compau, Nancy Gale. Spokane's Peaceful Valley Historic District. The Pacific Northwest Forum, Volume X, Number 2, Pages 2-11, Spring 1985. Davis, H. et al. (1989).

#### SOURCES

First class for 100 years: Spokane public schools.  
Note: There are many great historic references on Peaceful Valley.





## Riverside - Days of Yore

The Riverside Neighborhood is located at the center of the City in downtown Spokane. At its heart is the central business core - the retail, cultural, visitor, and entertainment hub of Spokane and the inland northwest. The many amenities found in downtown Spokane provide Riverside neighbors with an abundance of options for living, working, and playing within their own neighborhood. The name "Riverside" is most appropriate, as it sits by the side of the scenic Spokane Falls tumbling dramatically through the downtown area.

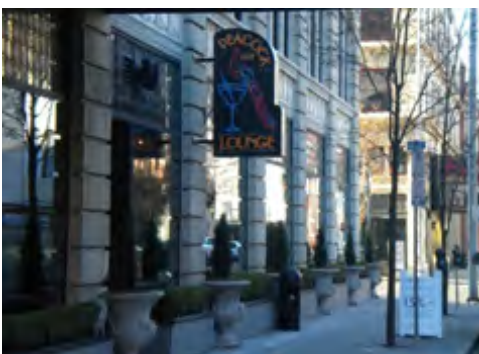
The Spokane Falls were originally a gathering place and focus for settlement for the area's indigenous people for thousands of years, due to the fertile hunting grounds and abundance of salmon in the Spokane River. The first American settlers to the Spokane Falls arrived in 1871, and by 1881, the Northern Pacific Railway was completed, bringing major European settlement to the area and making Spokane a transportation and commercial center for the Inland Northwest region.



In 1889, a fire destroyed the city's downtown commercial district. In the fire's aftermath, 32 blocks of Spokane's downtown were destroyed. However, Spokane continued to grow; the fire set the stage for a dramatic building boom.



Mining, agriculture, and logging were the primary economic influences to Spokane and the downtown core over the next several decades. Spokane became home to many entrepreneurs, companies and managers. However, following World War II, downtown Spokane experienced a depression. The retail stores lost customers to the new shopping malls in the suburbs. Downtown buildings fell into disuse and disrepair. In 1959, downtown business leaders decided on a strategy to revitalize the downtown - hosting a world's fair. Expo '74 transformed the Spokane's riverfront and downtown and reinvented the urban core. The Expo site became the 100-acre Riverfront Park, containing, among other features, the United States Pavilion, the INB performing arts center, the turn-of-the-20th-century Loeff Carousell, and the Great Northern Railway clock tower, the last remnant of the vast rail depot that was demolished for Expo '74.



The opening of the River Park Square Mall in the 1990s initiated another major downtown rebirth that included new apartments and condominiums, the building of the new Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena and expansion of the Spokane Convention Center. Other major projects include the renovation of the Davenport Hotel after being vacant for over 20 years, and the Fox Theater, now home to the Spokane Symphony. Downtown is also home to Spokane's city and county government offices and the United States Courthouse. The Monroe Street Bridge, originally built in 1888 to span the Spokane Falls, is a notable symbol of the city, long featured in the city logo. Retail stores, restaurants, pubs, theaters, and the park contribute to a lively downtown core and neighborhood life.





The downtown hosts numerous events that attract Riverside neighborhood residents, Spokane citizens, and visitors. The Arena is home to the Spokane Chiefs Hockey Club and Spokane Shock Arena Football Club. The Arena has hosted the NCAA March Madness, numerous big-name concerts, and in 2007 and 2010, the U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Other downtown events include the 8-mile Bloomsday run, Hoopfest, the world's largest 3-on-3 basketball tournament, and Pig-Out in the Park, celebrated in Riverfront Park over the Labor Day weekend.

### Life in Riverside - Today



Riverside is a Spokane neighborhood, but it's certainly not typical. It's also the historic and current heart and center of the City, including downtown Spokane. The people who live here experience concentrated, dynamic urban living. Numerous attractions for Spokane citizens and visitors alike are found here. The area is a regional center for entertainment, retail, government, cultural events, and business. In addition, over 15,000 people come and go daily, working within the Riverside Neighborhood. For those who like to be in the center of activity, this is the place to live. Spokane Transit Authority's central plaza is here serving transportation needs for the region. The growing Spokane University District and the region's major medical centers are located nearby in the adjacent neighborhoods of Logan and Cliff Cannon and both impact the Riverside Neighborhood. Life for residents in Riverside can be as diverse as they choose. Retirees can live a relatively quiet life in an apartment building or new condominium close to most of their needs, or a working professional can live and work in Riverside enjoying the proximity of the many amenities and activities throughout the week.



### Riverside - Treasures

- Riverfront Park (site of 1974 World's Fair, "Expo 74") Loeff Carousel, Historic Clock Tower
- Downtown Spokane; business, entertainment, cultural, and governmental center of Spokane and the region
- Spokane River/Spokane River Falls, historical beginnings of the City
- Fox Theatre
- Davenport Hotel
- Bing Crosby Theatre
- Spokane Convention Center, INB Performing Arts Center
- Centennial Trail (popular regional shared-use trail)
- Masonic Temple
- Catholic Diocese of Spokane
- Spokane Athletic Club
- Monroe Bridge
- Central Steam Heat Plant







- Review Building
- River Park Square Mall

## Riverside - Natural & Built Identity

The prominent natural feature is the Spokane River and most noteworthy is the timeless, cascading Spokane River Falls above the Monroe Bridge. This includes Canada Island, bisected by the river, which is also the primary site of Expo 74. Long ago the falls section was untouched by human development. Without a bridge crossing the expanse, it was a natural barrier separating the north and south banks with a significant gain in elevation from the river below. The character of the falls remains much the same as centuries ago with great amounts of watershed runoff from the east traversing over huge rock slabs within the river bottom. Atop the river's edge is the historical beginnings, and present day heart of the City of Spokane. This epicenter, including downtown Spokane, has changed dramatically over time with concentrated, dense development, and continues to evolve and change for the future. Today, a blending of historical and modern architecture with everything in between of large-scale buildings in Riverside defines the city's core and skyline. The area now includes the Riverside Historic District, West Downtown Historic District, and the East Downtown Historic District. The riverfront edge on the south side has seen many changes from human hands. Once a Native American gathering place and prime fishing area for salmon, it became a hydropower generating location, later a major railroad transportation hub, and more recently in the 1970's was reclaimed as an extensive riverfront public open space (Riverfront Park). Spokane remains a vital rail transportation center. The elevated rail lines built in the 1930's travel through the center of Riverside carrying trains day and night. Transportation changes also included the construction of Interstate 90 on the southern boundary of this neighborhood. Built in the late 1960's during the escalation of automobile travel in the US, the elevated high speed roadway required the demolition of the corridor and many historic buildings.

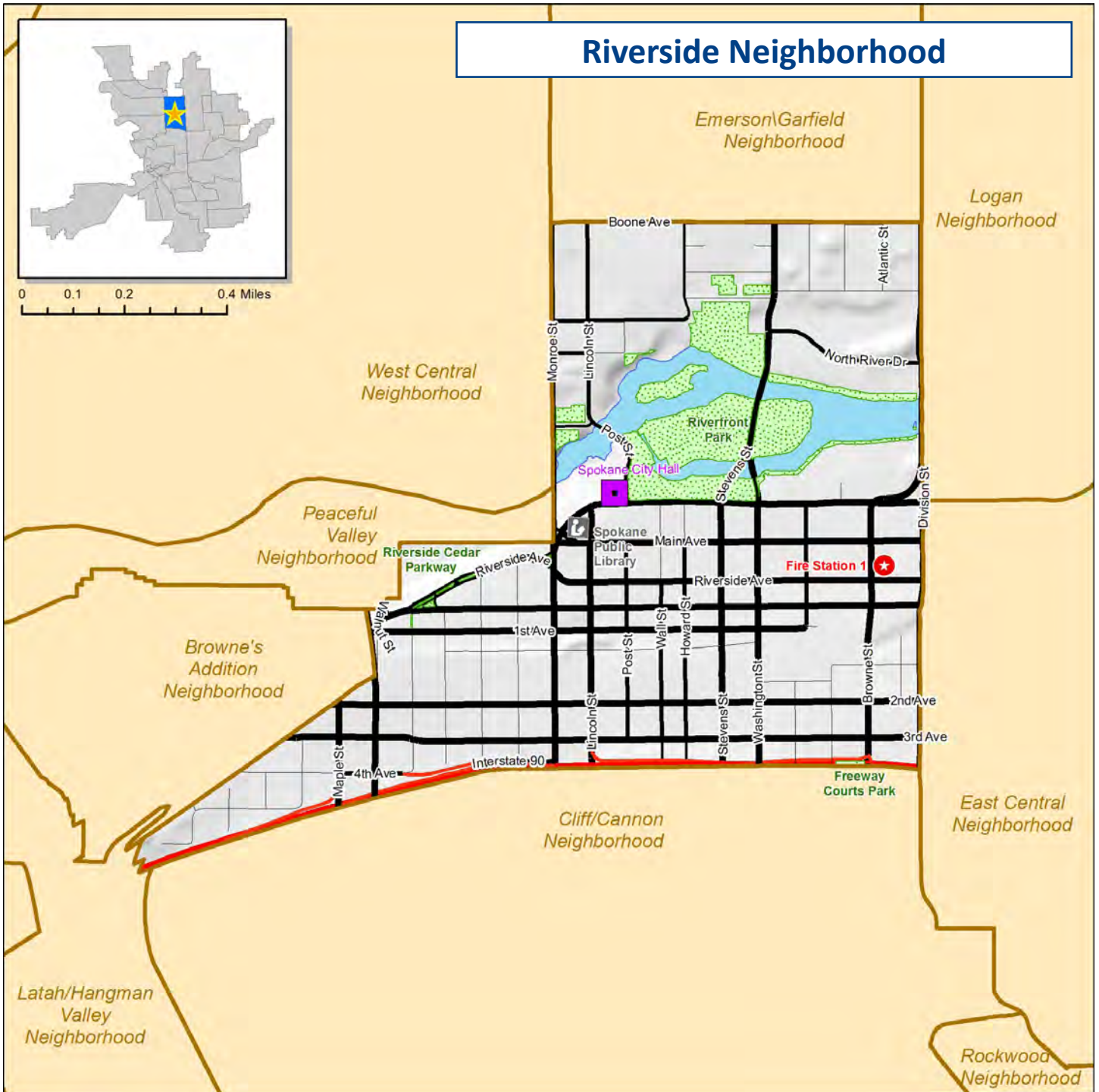


## Riverside - Annual Events or Activities

- Spokane Lilac Festival
- First Night Spokane
- Bloomsday
- Hoopfest
- Spokefest
- Pig Out in the Park
- Broadway plays, national touring events
- Spokane Symphony events



# Riverside Neighborhood



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## Rockwood - Days of Yore

Francis Cook, founder of Spokane's first newspaper and one of its most important developers, migrated to Eastern Washington in 1878 and soon acquired the 680 acres that have become a major part of the modern-day Rockwood and Manito neighborhoods. Because the rough, forested land with huge basalt outcroppings included distinctive stands of wild roses, Cook called his tract Montrose, literally Mount Rose.

Cook's holdings spanned a wide swath directly south of the bluff that sits above the center of the city's downtown. He had big plans. He built a fine home and created the first powered streetcar line, the Spokane and Montrose Motor Railway. He and his wife, Laura, were founding members of First Presbyterian Church. However, as was the case with many of the early real-estate, banking and business figures, the Panic of 1893 cost Cook dearly. He sold most of his holdings to pay his debts and lost the rest through foreclosure.



Mining and railroad magnate Jay P. Graves and his Spokane-Washington Improvement Company acquired the southern and eastern portions of Cook's land and supplemented them with parcels along the eastern edge. He added the streetcar route to his Spokane Traction lines and extended it to a proposed development at Lincoln Heights. In 1904, after a few of his associates bought parcels on either side of Grand Boulevard, Graves and the group donated rough-hewn Montrose Park to the city, which developed it into Manito Park.



Three years later, Graves associate Aubrey White, first president of the newly formed Spokane Park Board, hired the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, to upgrade existing parks and design new ones that would leave every citizen within walking distance of a public park. The Olmsteds, successors to legendary Frederick Law Olmsted, operated the nation's pioneer urban planning firm. Champions of the City Beautiful movement, they were deeply involved in Pacific Northwest projects, primarily the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition site that became the University of Washington campus.



In 1910, with Spokane in the midst of its greatest growth spurt, voters approved a \$1 million bond issue that effectively funded the Olmsted plan. Within three years, city park acreage expanded tenfold. By then, Graves and David Brown, the Hazelwood Dairy owner who had bought former Cook land between 14th and 17th avenues, had engaged the Olmsteds to design their own developments. Graves, with far more real estate at his disposal, funded a Rockwood Boulevard project that became the city's most desirable residential neighborhood and, in time, was recognized on the national register as the Rockwood Historic District.

Sweeping east and south from the foot of the Grand Boulevard hill to 29th Avenue, the district ranges from Hatch Street on the west and Arthur on the east, typifying Olmsted concepts by following the terrain with curved streets that wind through the remnants of the original ponderosa-pine and Douglas-



The Rockwood Neighborhood Council meets at 7:00p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at Hutton Elementary School, except in July, August, and December.

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fir forest. Three small triangular parks dot the southern portion along Garfield Road. A fourth triangular park sits not far from the district's northern Rockwood Boulevard entrance. The district's 350 homes, built over half a century in a variety of styles and sizes, are set well back from the curb and are fronted by large deciduous street trees.

The Rockwood Neighborhood Council represents nearly all of the historic district, as well as another Graves development, Rockwood Terrace, to its east and postwar tracts built north and south as Rockwood Boulevard expanded to the east along the former streetcar right-of-way. Council boundaries extend in a funnel shape from Grand, just above Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in the northwest corner, east to Southeast Boulevard and south to the southern boundary at 29th Avenue.



Neighborhood features include the magnificent Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, two pairs of Rockwood Boulevard entrance pillars, Hutton School, Lindaman's Bistro and Rockwood Bakery.

### Life in Rockwood - Today

The Rockwood neighborhood is a mature, stable neighborhood that residents describe as clean, well-maintained, friendly, and community-oriented. Professionals, families of all ages, retirees, and health-conscious individuals call it home. People enjoy the outdoors in the park-like neighborhood, walking with or without a dog, bicycling, or gardening. One favorite gathering place is the Rockwood Bakery on 18th Avenue. Many also enjoy the historic and extensive Manito Park. The neighborhood is close to downtown Spokane for those residents who work there with bus routes and a major bicycle route on Southeast Boulevard that help serve transportation needs. Rockwood retains a sense of grandeur and distinctiveness within Spokane. Hutton Elementary School helps anchor the community, particularly for young families. If you're a visitor, don't expect to navigate the area easily. The hilly terrain is responsible for streets that seldom follow a straight path. The meandering streets with their tree-lined canopies will take you on an ever-changing scenic journey.



### Rockwood - Treasures

#### St. John's Cathedral

In the early 1920s, the city's Episcopalian parishioners began to consider an appropriate home base for the denomination's growing regional membership. Under the leadership of Edward Makin Cross, who had become the bishop in 1924, the concept became reality with a major boost from prominent Spokane architect Harold C. Whitehouse.



Whitehouse, a member of the All Saints Cathedral west of downtown, was building a wide reputation as a designer of Northwest churches. After touring Europe, he recommended an English and French-inspired structure that fit the chosen location, a flat-topped bluff where Francis Cook's home once had a commanding view of Grand Boulevard. Work on the limestone and sandstone edifice, one of the few American examples of classic Gothic architecture, began in November 1925. On Oct. 20, 1929, three Spokane parishes, All Saints, St. Peter's and St. James, merged to form the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist and held the first service.



The façade includes a distinctive rose window that measures 23 feet in diameter. The cathedral houses a 4,039-pipe Aeolian-Skinner organ and one of the region’s few carillons. Its stained glass windows were created by nationally prominent designers.

The primary convention of the Diocese of Spokane, previously a missionary district, met in the cathedral on Nov. 1, 1964. Diocesan offices are located in the nearby August Paulsen House, which also serves as home for the bishop.

#### Other Rockwood Treasures

- Entrance pillars on lower Rockwood Boulevard and at Highland Boulevard and Hatch Street
- Large basalt outcroppings
- Numerous historic homes. In 1966, Rockwood Boulevard was designated an historic district on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Olmsted triangle parks



#### Hutton School

In response to the city’s rapid growth before World War I, construction of Hutton Elementary School began in 1920. Designed by partners Archibald Rigg and Roland Vantyne and built of masonry block with a tile roof and a stucco exterior, its Spanish colonial style building replaced the one-room Rockwood School at the corner of 24th Avenue and Hatch Street. Before the school opened in 1921, the Spokane School District named it for philanthropist Levi (Al) Hutton, who had struck it rich in North Idaho’s Hercules Mine.



Before long, neighborhood growth overwhelmed the new facility. Compatible wings were added to the original structure and, after World War II, temporary classroom buildings expanded the campus in front of and behind it. However, the temporary buildings remained in place until the school underwent a major restoration and expansion in 2014.

### **Rockwood - Natural & Built Identity**



The Rockwood neighborhood is elevated well above the Spokane River valley in south-central Spokane. It includes severe hillsides, ridges, gentle slopes, and, mostly to the south, some level expanse. Basalt rock outcroppings are found throughout, further dictating the layout of roadways and residential lots when the neighborhood was designed a century ago. Many lots are large but have a limited buildable area because of the topography. This helps create a great variety of site design and building architecture. A number of native rock walls serve a functional and decorative purpose. Existing specimen native trees, particularly ponderosa pines, are mixed with large, mature shade and street trees. Both create an urban forest setting that provides shade during the hot summer months. Extensive and detailed landscape planting are common on many of the homesites. The original neighborhood entrance pillars remain at the north end of Rockwood Boulevard and at the corner of Highland Boulevard and Hatch Street, adding to the historical identity. Pockets of open space and larger lots provide habitat for turkeys, quail, squirrels, and an occasional raccoon or skunk.



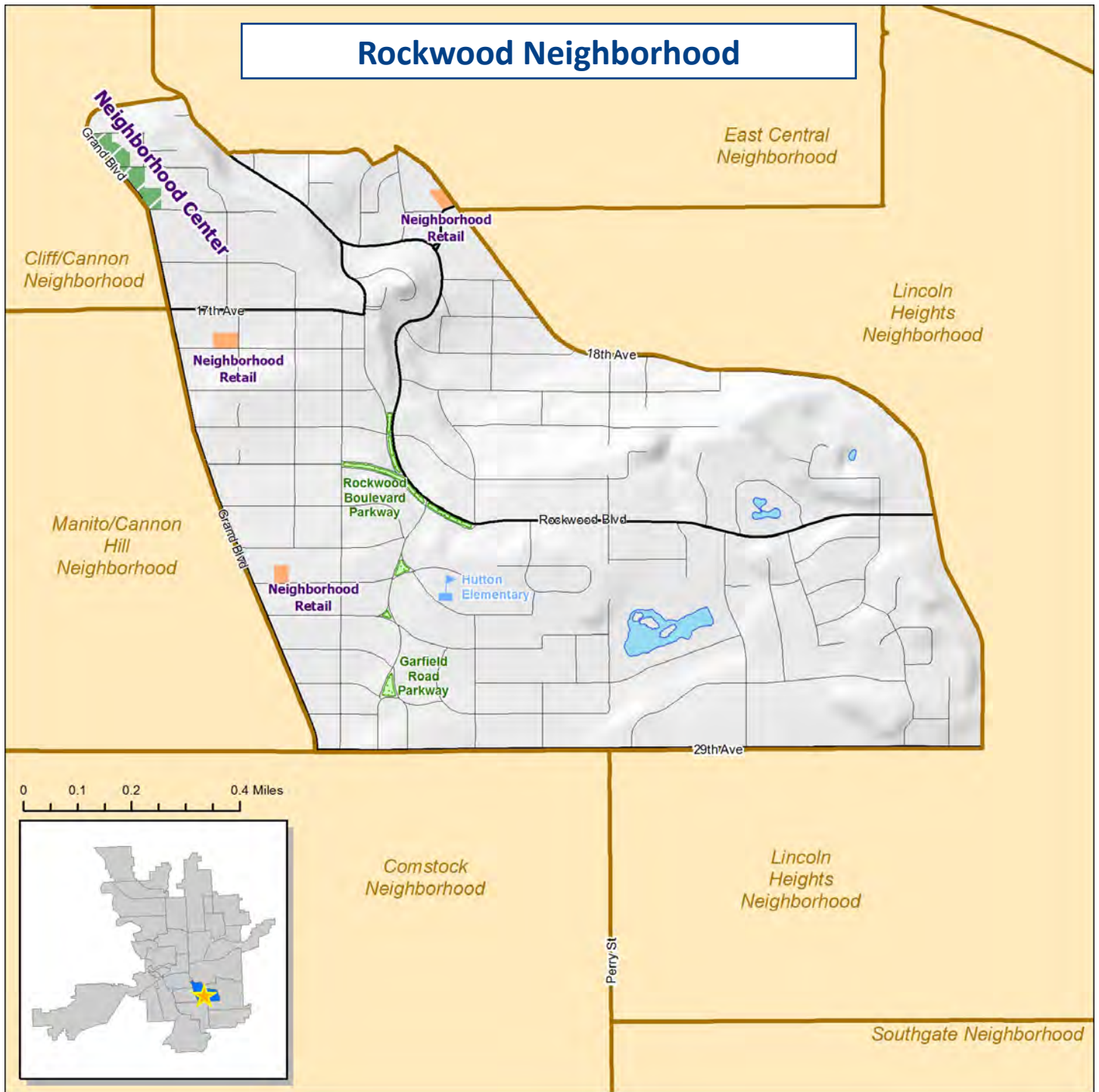
Of the Rockwood Historic District's 350 homes, 279 were classified as contributing properties – more than 50 years old with most or all of their exterior design features intact – when the National Register of Historic Places certified the district in 1997. Since then, a few dozen of the remaining 71, the vanguard of those built after World War II, have become contributors in theory by reaching the 50-year mark. Almost two dozen district homes have been placed on the Spokane City/County Historic Register.



Although time has blurred some of the details, district homes did not spring up overnight. The first houses, near the northwest end of Rockwood Boulevard, and scattered smaller houses on side streets near the boulevard's southeast end, were built in 1910. By 1918, Spokane's housing boom had come to an end. As a consequence, Jay Graves put 400 unsold Manito- and Rockwood-addition lots up for auction. Despite the deflated prices, only one-third of them sold. Many of Rockwood's lots sat vacant until the second half of the century.

Prominent local architects William Hyslop, Gustav Pehrson, Archibald Rigg, John E Anderson and Earl Morrison joined top contractors in development of the mansions that line the boulevard and adjacent blocks on Highland Boulevard and Upper Terrace Road. Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival predominate among the varied architectural styles. Smaller bungalows and cottages characterize the adjoining numbered streets. Many Rockwood neighborhood homes outside the district, ranging from early 20th-century Arts and Crafts bungalows to custom-designed Mid-century Modern homes, also might be eligible for listing on the local register.

Evidence of Spokane Traction's streetcar line remains along the central and southern portions of the original Rockwood Boulevard. Cars operated on a parklike shoulder along the south edge of the roadway. Clearly visible stretches begin at Upper Terrace and follow the sharp bend that begins South Rockwood. The berm continues almost to Arthur Street, where the boulevard ended. However, tracks continued eastward before terminating near the present site of Lincoln Heights shopping center. Streetcar service in the city ended in 1935.



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Special thanks to Jim Price who wrote most of this profile.





## Southgate - Days of Yore

The northern portion of Moran Prairie, which became the Southgate neighborhood, was used for a natural travel route by Native Americans between Latah Creek and the Spokane River. Later, the Mullan military road traversed the neighborhood near what is now Havana Street. It served as the main road for travelers through the region. These routes provided early access to white settlers.

The first settler to homestead in the area was Joe Jackson from Missouri, who offered a supply stop to traveling prospectors and trappers. He sold his farm to Joseph Morin, a French-Canadian bachelor, around 1870. The Morin property became known as the Morin Ranch. A mail station was established near the farm to serve mail carriers and their horses passing through prior to rail service through Spokane in 1877.



After Morin's death in 1889, caused by a loose bull, John J. Browne acquired the farm and nearby property northwest of 57th Avenue and Glenrose Road, where he and his sons farmed. The place names of Moran Prairie, with spelling altered, and nearby Browne's Mountain carry the names of these early residents.



Browne, a businessman described as Spokane's first millionaire, helped bring the electric Spokane & Inland Empire Railroad to his farm on Moran Prairie in 1908. The railroad was later known as the Spokane, Coeur d'Alene and Palouse Railway and the Inland Electric Railroad. This railroad served the Pine Grove Station in the Southgate neighborhood at the intersection of 37th Avenue and Havana Street, communities to the south, and several nearby stations until 1939, accommodating the development of fruit orchards on the prairie. Portions of this railroad bed are now part of the Ben Burr Trail.



The early hub of commercial activity was at the corner of Regal Street and Palouse Highway, where a series of stores were built and rebuilt after destruction by fires. Fruit growing ended due to regional surpluses following the formation of irrigation districts and loss of transportation viability. After a period of prosperity, many "acre-tract" dwellers along the railroad abandoned their homes and orchards in the 1930s, which were eventually destroyed by fire. A new wave of greenhouse and chicken farming arrived during the 1940s and 1950s. These forms of agriculture, in turn, were gradually replaced by commercial and housing development.







The area north of 44th Avenue and west of Havana Street was annexed in 1907, with several later annexations occurring after 1958 as Spokane expanded to the south. Ferris High School was built and opened in 1963.

### **Southgate - Today**

The Southgate neighborhood is family-oriented and safe, established well-kept. It has some newer apartments and commercial development such as Regal Center. In addition to families, the neighborhood is mainly comprised of retirees and professionals. Much of the neighborhood is laid back and friendly, with kids playing. Many neighbors are quiet and respectful, drawn to the neighborhood by the character of the South Hill—its people and mid-century, wooded residential developments—or because they grew up here. People are proud to call the neighborhood home because of its good schools, low crime and well-maintained homes. Younger families live near Ferris High School and longtime residents live near the Manito Golf and Country Club adjacent to the west side of the neighborhood.



Southgate residents chat on the street and attend sporting events, block parties, dinners, barbecues and games at neighbors' houses. Most shopping can be done within the neighborhood, although downtown is close and easily accessible. Residents support small businesses such as local coffee shops, restaurants and markets.

People enjoy the ability to walk to schools, businesses, and parks. Bicycling on newer trails and long-established side streets is growing in popularity. Residents and recreationalists take pride in the neighborhood's location as a transition from the city onto the surrounding Palouse countryside. For fun, many neighbors walk and bike in the neighborhood and in the rural area just south of town, with popular destinations including the nearby Southside Aquatic Complex, Ben Burr Park and Trail, and the Hazel's Creek natural area. Residents continue to focus on achieving better connections to address pedestrian and bicycling needs.



### **Southgate - Treasures**

- Ferris High School and its music department make residents proud.
- The Hazel's Creek wildlife area is a great natural feature in the center of the neighborhood. Its network of trails leads to area parks and is used by students accessing Ferris High School.
- The Moran Prairie Library is a favorite destination for lifelong learning, with books, movies, music, and programs for adults and children.





## Southgate - Natural & Built Identity

- Southgate draws identity from wildlife, groves of conifer trees, fields, basalt rocks, parks, and neighborhood gardens. Migratory birds, deer, coyotes and occasional moose can be observed.
- The residential neighborhood next to the Southside Sports Complex features a nice greenspace, nearby public transit and streets that are bicycle-friendly.
- Typical houses are traditional ranchers or two-story homes with tidy lawns and landscaping. Multi-level homes with varying roof cuts are common.
- Hamblen Park boasts a natural area and a playground near Hamblen Elementary.
- The 44th Avenue walking trail between Freya and Havana Streets and the Ben Burr Trail south of Myrtle Street are daily destinations for neighbors to exercise or visit while strolling.
- The Ben Burr Loop features long road runs and rides south of town, with minimal traffic, great views and occasional sightings of wildlife. Runners and cyclists are surrounded by foothills, fields, deer, coyotes, hummingbirds, and spectacular sunsets.
- Ben Burr Park provides basketball, a walking/biking trail and play equipment for young children.
- The Southgate Shopping Center is home to large stores such as Target and ShopKo, with many other retail and recreational facilities, such as hardware stores, an exercise gymnasium, pet shops and fine restaurants and pubs.



## Southgate - Neighborhood Tales

*“Waiting for a shuttle bus, an elderly woman asked if I needed a ride home since I was a veteran.”*

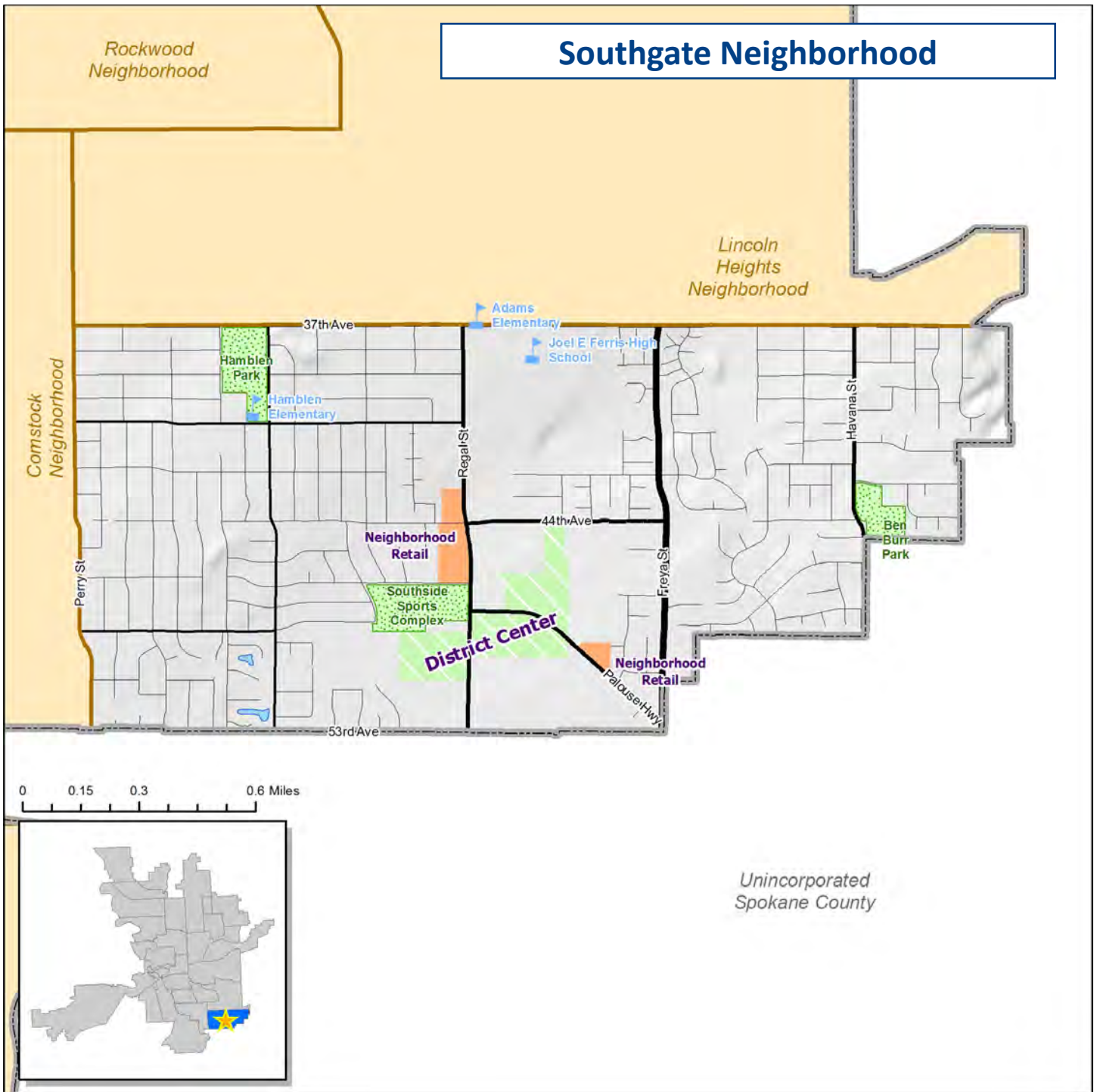
– David James Skjonsby

*“There has been more than one occasion in the fall when we have seen moose in our neighborhood. One time we opened the garage door and a moose was standing in our yard eating off our willow tree.”*

– Resident



# Southgate Neighborhood



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## West Central - Days of Yore

In 1887, The Spokane Falls Review wrote about the land that would become known as the West Central Neighborhood: "This high level plain slopes gently on both sides to the river bank. From every portion a view of the city and surrounding country can be obtained."

When Colonel Jenkins first homesteaded in the area in 1879, West Central was a wilderness only reachable by a simple ferry. Those who dared to go across the river fell in love with the view and saw potential in the land. Visionaries like William Pettet, Hiram Muzzy, Colonel Jenkins, and the Nettleton family saw that potential and were integral figures in creating what is now West Central.



William Pettet was a Spokane pioneer, civic leader, real estate promoter, and one of the most prominent citizens of Spokane. He arrived in Spokane in 1883 and made considerable investments in real estate. As the city grew, his holdings grew in value, in time making him one of the wealthiest residents of Spokane.

Hiram Muzzy came to Spokane in 1880 eager to prove his pioneering spirit. Eight years later he earned his homestead patent and quickly platted 160 acres into more than 500 city lots. Muzzy then sold his lots to other local developers and many of Spokane's aspiring newcomers.



In 1887, William Nettleton bought 278 acres at \$100 an acre and platted the property. The Nettletons had faith in the burgeoning City of Spokane and in the natural beauty of the river that surrounded the neighborhood.

By 1909, life in the West Central Neighborhood was booming. With Spokane's continued growth, residents had begun to spread across the banks of the river and sought to live in Spokane's newest suburb. West Central at that time was a destination point for the up-and coming middle class.



By the 1930s, much of the neighborhood was established, and West Central was celebrated as a neighborhood with a wide variety of architectural styles. From Queen Anne-Victorian to Craftsman and Bungalow to Cottage Style, these houses celebrated the different architectural styles that make up West Central. As houses came so did businesses, and well into the early 1960s there were stores and businesses of every kind to cater to the needs of the residents in the neighborhood.

During the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Northern Pacific Railroad and Union Pacific Railroads built routes through the neighborhood, which were abandoned by the early 1970s. An amusement park was located at the western terminus of the Boone Avenue rail line. First known in 1889 as



The West Central Neighborhood Council meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at the West Central Community Center.

[westcentral.spokaneneighborhoods.org](http://westcentral.spokaneneighborhoods.org)



Ingersoll's, the park was later reopened as Twickenham Park. It featured a forty-piece band and people traveled for miles to hear them play. In 1893 the Spokane Street Railway, a part of Washington Water Power, bought the whole park and expanded it into an amusement park patterned after Coney Island. Renamed Natatorium Park (named for the large swimming pool built in the park), it quickly became the recreation destination for Spokane residents. In 1909, the Looff Carousel (now located in downtown Spokane at Riverfront Park) became a centerpiece for the park. At its peak, Natatorium Park featured a heated indoor Olympic-sized swimming pool, amusement park rides, roller-coasters, miniature rail-road rides, and a baseball park. With the loss of rail car lines in 1939 and more people watching television in the 1950s, the park slowly faded from popularity. Natatorium Park was finally closed and dismantled in 1968.



In addition to many nature parks and trails, such as the Hamblen Conservation Area and High Bridge Park, West Central has A. M. Cannon Park (located on Maxwell). Established in 1912, it originally boasted playground equipment, a baseball field, tennis courts, sandboxes, and a wading pool. In 1929, a larger pool was built and AM Cannon Park became one of the more heavily used parks in the city. Today, it has even more amenities, such as a basketball court, picnic shelter, and water park.



In 2005, the Nettleton's Addition was placed on the National Historic Register, the largest historic district in Washington State.

### **Life in West Central - Today**



Everyday life in West Central has many contrasts. People of all ages, backgrounds, and income levels live, work, and play in this neighborhood. The mixture of old and new single and multi-family housing, light industrial, commercial, institutional and government facilities, scenic open space, and the proximity to downtown give the area a blending of sights, sounds, and activities. The Spokane County Courthouse complex is a major center of local governmental functions which brings constant activity on weekdays. The West Central Community Center, Native American Community Center, and A.M. Cannon Park provide facilities to help improve the lives of citizens in multiple ways. The popular Centennial Trail travels through West Central along the bluff of the Spokane River. The paved trail provides a significant non-motorized transportation route. Small and mid-sized businesses are located along Maple, Ash, and Monroe streets, serving a variety of needs of the community and greater Spokane. The neighborhood also has a small industrial presence with a number of light industrial businesses south of Maxwell Avenue. West Central still has the look and feel of its historical past, from the ever present courthouse tower, old streetcar rails remaining in the street pavement, and block after block of tightly built houses from the early twentieth century. In contrast, the new 77 acre, mixed-use community of Kendall Yards is steadily emerging, offering a modern living environment in the heart of Spokane.



In recent years more and more young families and singles are buying homes in West Central. Residents often get together with block parties and yard sales.





*"It has a beautiful future and it feels great to be a part of the transition. It is so close to downtown, has beautiful views off the Centennial Trail and is only going to get better!"*

-Rachae Dell

### West Central - Treasures

- Spokane County Courthouse
- Nettleton's Historic District
- Grace Baptist Church
- Muzzy-Shrine House
- Finch Hall
- Gardner & Engdahl Apartments/ The Gables
- Centennial Trail
- Monroe Bridge

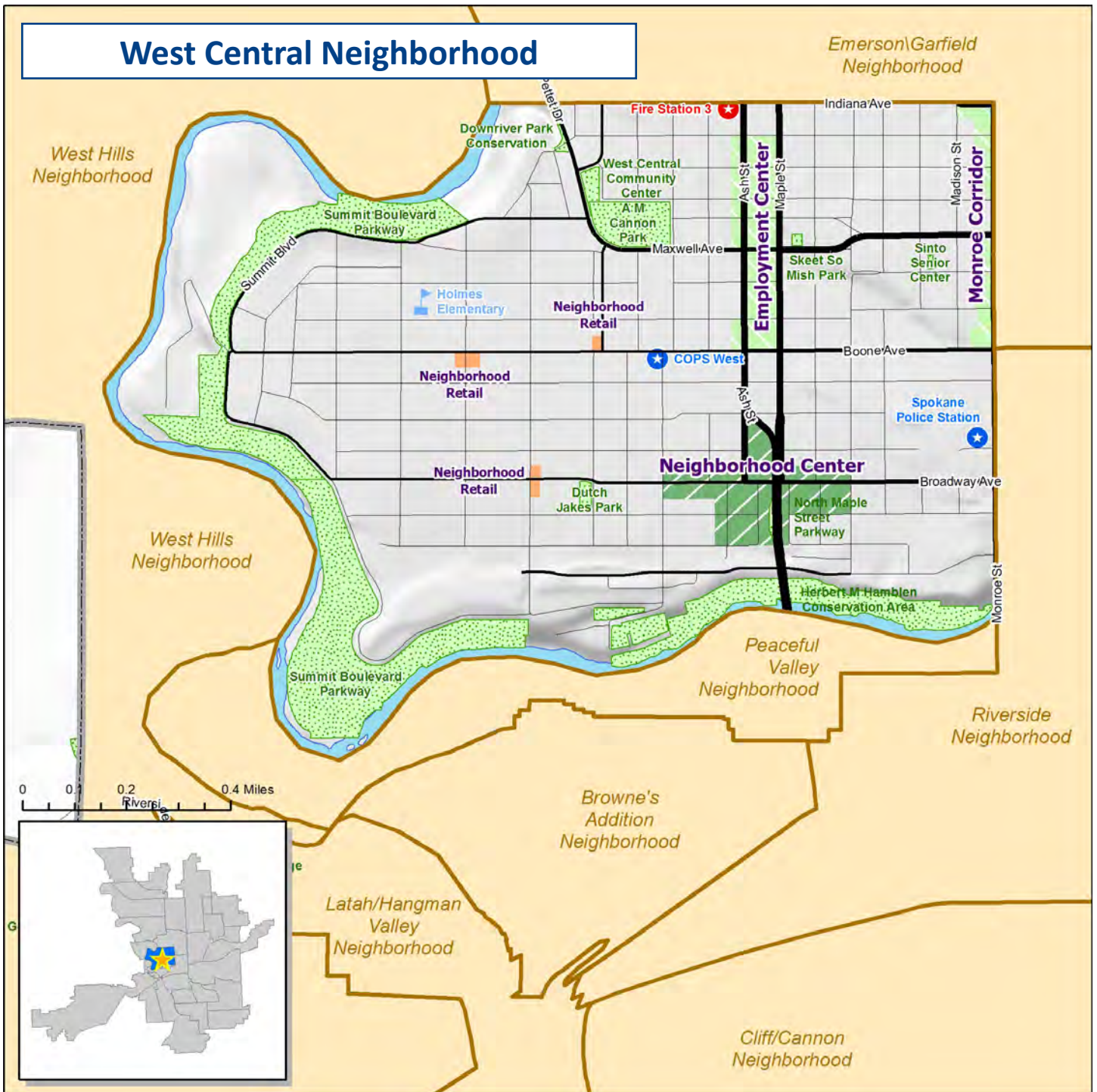


### West Central - Natural & Built Identity

The defining natural feature of West Central is the Spokane River. The meandering river, far below the built community, makes up more than 60 percent of the neighborhood's boundary. The other boundaries are Indiana Avenue on the north and Monroe Street on the east. The ridgelines above the river valley still provide spectacular views and sought after real estate. The river valley's northern bank has steep slopes with dense native conifers, native shrubs and grasses, scattered rock out-cropping and a variety of wildlife. The upper terrain is generally flat with periodic rolls and hills. Few native trees remain on the upper area, as West Central has been thoroughly developed. However, many old, large deciduous street trees planted years ago still remain. The construction of the Monroe Bridge over the Spokane River in 1911 allowed convenient access for the continuing development of West Central. East-west grid streets were laid out with small, single-family residential lots for modest housing for the growing population of Spokane. Today, most of these dwellings still remain in a variety of structural and aesthetic conditions. In general, West Central is in transition from a thriving working class community. The recent Kendall Yards development and the central location provide the neighborhood new opportunities. Presently, 29 historic buildings in West Central are listed on the local Spokane Historic Register.



# West Central Neighborhood



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<http://www.discovery-school.org/natatorium>. Figure 5 - The muzzy mansion.

Photo by Kelly Cruz, from: A Footprint to the Future West Central Neighborhood, City of Spokane, Washington, Neighborhood Action Plan May 2012.





## West Hills - Days of Yore

The Spokane Tribe camped near Garden Springs Creek for its water source and close proximity to Spokane Falls. In the 1880s, Chinese gardeners used the land along the length of Garden Springs Creek for planting vegetables.

The Indian Canyon area was also used by Native Americans; Chief Spokane Garry died there in 1892. Well into the twentieth century, people would go there to see the teepees and camps.



The Fort George Wright army post was constructed in 1897. Eventually streetcars travelled along Government Way to Fort George Wright, and along Sunset to the end of what is now Finch Arboretum. In their 1913 Report of the Board of Park Commissioners, the Olmsted brothers noted Fort George Wright's reputation as "the most beautiful army post in the west." The report also called Indian Canyon Park "the most naturally picturesque park" in Spokane's system.



Whittier School originally opened in 1891 at 9th Avenue and "A" Street to serve the neighborhood. Then in 1913, a new Whittier School was constructed at 7th Avenue and "E" Street. The new building was considered one of the most beautiful in Spokane, built on a high bluff overlooking the city and in direct view of anyone leaving the city going west over the Latah Bridge on Sunset Highway. Children of the military commissioned officers at Fort Wright attended Whittier along with other neighborhood children.



Also in 1913, part of the land for the future Finch Arboretum was purchased from Daniel D. Dwight and John A. Finch including the Garden Springs Park. The Latah Creek Bridge was also completed that same year. The bridge was built in order to reach the dry-land wheat farming areas in neighboring counties and promote commerce and development.

Commissioned in 1926, U.S. 10 (Sunset Highway-Sprague Avenue) was one of the first major highways to cross the northwestern states. The majority of people and products coming in and out of Spokane used the highway or the railroad. Commercial development followed, with motels and diners serving the motoring public. In addition, the highway was convenient to a tourist destination campground in High Bridge Park that operated from the early 1920s until the 1950s. The park hosted various uses over the years including federal public housing for military families and veterans during World War II.

In 1935, Indian Canyon Golf Course was opened for play, and in 1947, plans for Finch Arboretum began to take form when Finch trust funds were given to the park.







In 1960, a portion of Fort Wright's former grounds were taken over by the Sisters of the Holy Name convent, who established Fort Wright College. After Fort Wright was closed by the military, attendance at Whittier School plummeted and it closed in 1972. U.S. 10 was decommissioned as the major route from Seattle to Spokane in 1969, but the High Bridge campsite experienced a brief revival during Expo '74. In 1981, Whittier School was demolished and new homes have been built in its place.

### **Life in West Hills - Today**

The West Hills Neighborhood is an established place with a friendly atmosphere that has attracted a variety of residents. A diverse group of professionals, artists, families and retirees call West Hills home. The neighborhood has several natural features including river access, bluffs, basalt rocks, and wildlife which have attracted outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Neighbors enjoy visiting parks, walking, biking and visiting the Spokane River. A strong sense of community precipitates neighborhood events such as block parties, yard sales, clean-up activities, and picnics. The low cost of living combined with pleasant aesthetics such as tree-lined streets add to the stability and safety of the neighborhood.



### **West Hills - Treasures**

- Finch Arboretum – gorgeous historic park and arboretum with a variety of trees and shrubs, perfect for picnicking, walking, and exploring.
- Fish Lake Trail – Beautiful, clean, and well maintained trail perfect for running and biking
- The Boulevard Motel – Local motel that is well maintained. Owners plant a garden every year around the motel premises.
- People's Park – Sandy beach at the confluence of Latah creek and the Spokane River.
- Riverside State Park – Gorgeous views, varied terrain with something for everyone



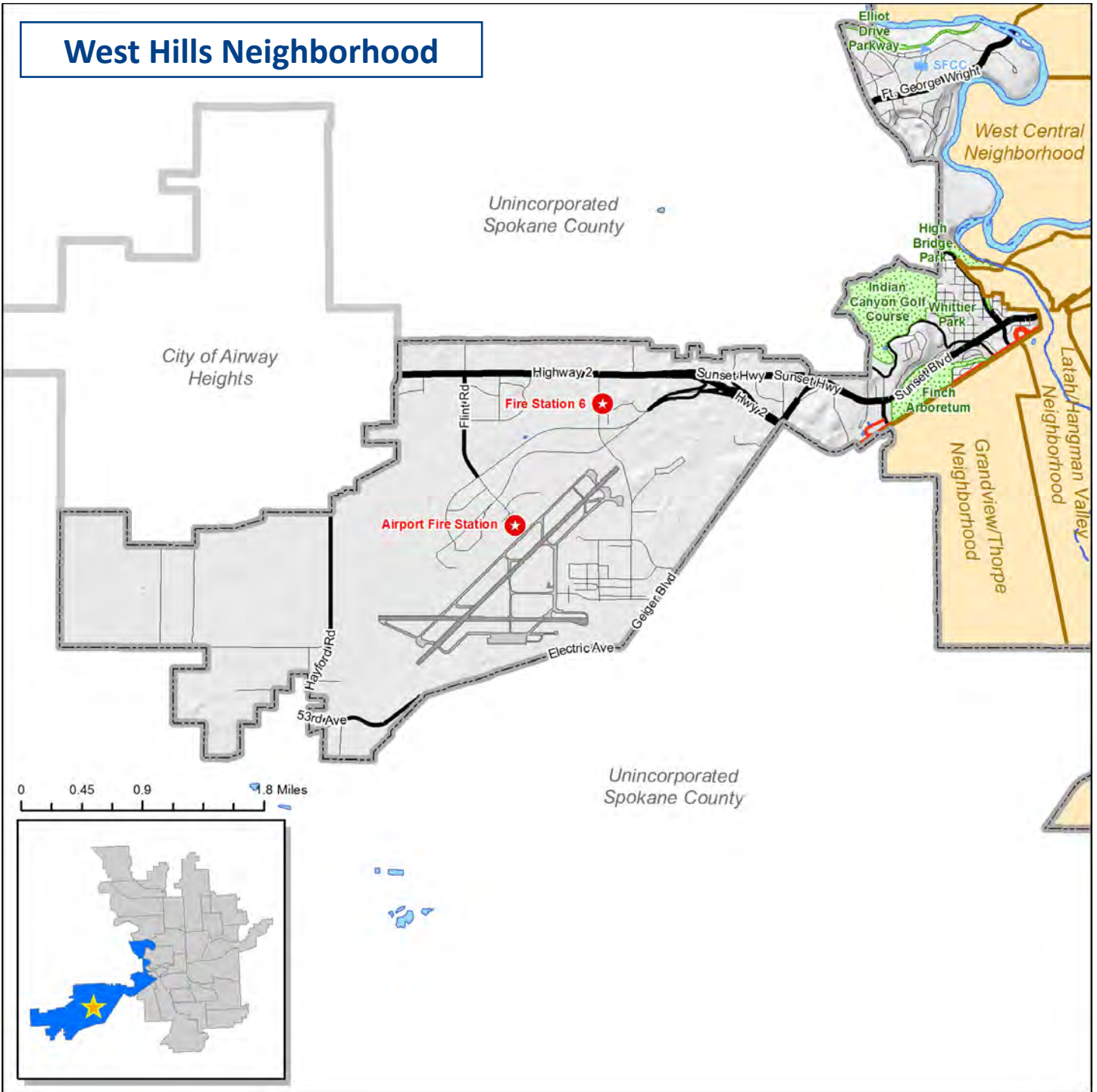
### **West Hills - Natural & Built Identity**

The West Hills neighborhood enjoys a variety of natural features that make it unique. Residents love access to the Spokane River and enjoy walking, biking, and hiking the Centennial trail. The neighborhood can be described as “outdoorsy,” with basalt rock, hilly terrain, bluffs, rock outcrops, and wildlife in proximity to residential development. The neighborhood embodies Spokane’s motto of “near nature, near perfect.”

### **West Hills - Annual Events or Activities**

- Block parties
- Easter egg hunts
- Spring and fall picnics

# West Hills Neighborhood





Original Whitman Elementary School

## Whitman - Days of Yore

The Whitman Neighborhood and the Whitman Elementary School are both named after American Missionary Marcus Whitman who led the first large party of wagon trains along the Oregon Trail.

The first Marcus Whitman School was built before the turn of the century; the second was completed in 1913 and consisted of nine classrooms and an auditorium. The third school by the same name still serves the neighborhood today and was built as one of 13 schools funded by the passage of a 1978 school bond.

Whitman principal, Arthur B. Dunning, and a group of concerned parents spearheaded creation of Rochester Heights Park in the late 1960s. Together the school and the neighborhood cleared out weeds and garbage in an empty lot owned by the city. Then they graded the lot to be suitable for park activities. Community Groups, the Army Reserve Unit, and the City of Spokane helped out with the final touches on the park.



New Whitman Elementary School

## Life in Whitman Neighborhood - Today

The Whitman Neighborhood has many long-life residents who have witnessed the neighborhood change and grow through the decades. Residents stay involved by volunteering for the Neighborhood Council and by watching others' houses when someone is traveling.

The neighborhood is established and has a variety of older Craftsman style homes. Residents enjoy gardening and taking care of their properties. Streets are lined with mature trees, adding a pleasant charm to the atmosphere of the neighborhood. Rochester Heights Park creates a destination for parents with children. A variety of people call Whitman home including families, professionals, and retirees.



Rochester Heights Park

## Whitman - Treasures

- Whitman Elementary
- Rochester Heights Park

## Whitman - Natural & Built Identity

- Rochester Heights Park
- Craftsman homes
- Mature trees
- Tree-lined streets



Faribault House



The Whitman Neighborhood Council meets the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Northwest Community Center at 4001 North Cook Street.

# Whitman Neighborhood

Nevada/Lidgerwood  
Neighborhood

Hillyard  
Neighborhood

Perry St

Francis Ave

Rowan Ave

Wellesley Ave

Crestline St

Whitman Elementary

Rochester  
Heights  
Park

Neighborhood  
Retail

Bemiss  
Neighborhood

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

