

Historic Name: Mullan Road Marker - Palouse Highway

Property ID: 706407

Location



Address: S Palouse Hwy, Spokane, Washington, USA

GeographicAreas: Spokane, Spokane County, T24R43E03, SPOKANE SE Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1922	

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category Subcategory

Recreation and Culture Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker

Historic Context: Architecture

Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company	
Builder	Washington State Historical Society	



Photos







SRS-24d.JPG



SRS-24c.JPG



SRS-24b.JPG



Inventory Details - 7/16/2016

Common name: Palouse Highway Mullan Road Marker

Date recorded: 7/16/2016

Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson

Field Site number: SRS-24

SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Stone
Form Type	
Cladding	Stone - Cobble Stone
Structural System	Masonry - Stone
Plan	Square

Surveyor Opinion

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): No

Significance narrative:

Similar pyramidal monuments, as well as monolithic stone ones, are located throughout Spokane County. A number of them are strung out along the route of the road, which went from Fort Walla Walla to Fort Benton in Montana, utilizing several alternative routes at various times. The road was not heavily used, soon being replaced by civilian wagon roads. Most remnants of the road have now vanished, leaving only these monuments to mark the general path of the trail. This particular monument is special, due to the writing on the granite stone: "Captain John Mullan . . . crossed the highway here." Mullan and his men must have been shocked and discouraged to have built a road by hand all this way, only to discover a paved highway at this point. Humor aside, this monument retains excellent integrity of its historic appearance and original construction materials and is eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Places, under Criterion C, architecture.



Physical description: This monument is a pyramid formed of uniform, fist-sized cobbles, mostly granite. It has

a slightly truncated peak. The stones are carefully mortared so that they appear to be dry stacked. Centered on the west side of the monument is a trapezoidal granite stone with these words incised into it: "M-R, Military Wagon Road, located by Captain John Mullan, A.D. 1858-A.D. 1862, Crossed the Highway Here, This Location Monument

Erected By Washington State Historical Society, 1922."

Bibliography: Emerson, Stephen. A Historic Property Inventory of Rock Structures in Spokane County,

Washington. Archisto Enterprises, 2016.