

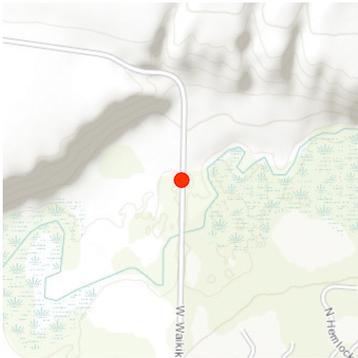


Historic Property Report

Historic Name: Glen Tana Farms Stone Walls

Property ID: 706401

Location



Address: W Rutter Pkwy, Spokane, Washington, USA

GeographicAreas: Spokane, Spokane County, T26R42E12, DARTFORD Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1900	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Landscape	

Historic Context: Architecture

Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Builder	Thomas Stuart Griffith

Photos



SRS-18a.JPG



SRS-18c.JPG



SRS-18b.JPG



Historic Property Report

Inventory Details - 7/16/2016

Common name: Glen Tana Farm Stone Walls
Date recorded: 7/16/2016
Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson
Field Site number: SRSj-18
SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

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

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: These humble walls have an illustrious past. They were built around 1900 by Thomas Stuart Griffith. Mr. Griffith was a Canadian who arrived in Spokane in 1888, where he and L.T. Benham established the firm of Benham and Griffith, one of the first wholesale grocery businesses in the inland northwest. He was most famous, however, for Glen Tana farm, with which the stone walls are associated. This farm was renowned across the entire country for its modern dairy practices and sanitary features. He was also widely known for the kennels he operated on the farm, where he raised dogs that won medals throughout the United States, especially his collies. He was the first president of the Spokane Kennel Club, which still exists, commemorating Griffith on its web site. Mr. Griffith died in 1934, and the farm passed to his daughter, who later became Tannis Semple. Eventually, the Witherspoon family of Spokane married into the Semple family and the descendants still live on the property. Large portions of the walls are gone and what is left is in poor condition, probably precluding National Register of Historic Places eligibility under Criterion C, architecture. However, the walls are probably eligible, under Criterion A, for their association with Thomas Griffith's Glen Tana Farm, one of the largest and most prominent dairy and kennel operations in the northwest.



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Physical description: These cobblestone walls flank both sides of the lower end of Rutter Parkway, just before the road crosses the Little Spokane River, and then segues into Waikiki Road. The walls are built of cobblestones of non-uniform shape and size, and the mortar is often sloppily applied, distinguishing it from more artful cobblestone structures where the selected rocks are uniform in shape and composition, and the mortar is applied in such a fashion as to leave it almost invisible to the eye. In addition to the walls, there are several portals that flank openings or gates. These are rectangular in cross-section and consist of a wide pier atop a narrower pedestal. Damaged areas indicate that these were built around a concrete core. In many places the walls are crumbling, the stones falling loose, due to the less than diligent nature of the original construction. There are also several instances of bad repair, with the mortar carelessly applied.

Bibliography: Emerson, Stephen. A Historic Property Inventory of Rock Structures in Spokane County, Washington. Archisto Enterprises, 2016.