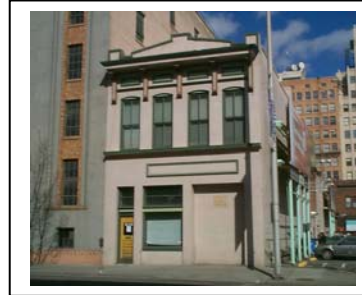


Spokane History Walk

Starting Point: First Avenue between Washington and Stevens Streets

Stop #1 Fire Station #1 - 418 W. First Avenue

Fire Station No. 1 was built on First Avenue between Washington and Stevens. You can notice the words on the building still. They are covered in white paint and barely visible. Inside there is a long garage where the horses and hose carts were parked. The driver would have to park the long hose cart in reverse. The hose trolley was a long horse drawn carriage with no roof. The horses made it harder to park than your suburban. They stored extra yokes and other extra supplies in the back of the garage. There was a dormitory for firemen upstairs and a metal pole to slide down when the alarm sounded.



Stop #2 Duffy and Butler Saloon (Soulful Soups) N. 117 Howard St.

The building where Duffy and Butler's Saloon was located was built in 1891. The saloon, however, opened in 1897. In the late 1890's Spokane was a tough town. It was almost like "Wild West" outside the saloon.



A famous writer by the name of Hamlin Garland from New York City was visiting Spokane. He asked the Marshal, Joel Warren, where to look for some "Wild West" action. The Marshal told him to just hang around and watch the front of Duffy and Butler's Saloon.

Stop #3 Bennett Block 530 W. Main Street (Main and Howard)

Building with 1890 date prominently displayed.
Early use was as a hotel.



Stop #4 Four Corners Howard and Spokane Falls Blvd.

The corner of Howard + Spokane Falls was the center of the first settlement. There is a plaque on the SW corner of this intersection. The street has had several names: first it was Front Street, then Trent Avenue and now Spokane Falls Blvd. Spokane really started in 1873, when James Glover arrived and saw the falls. He knew that this would be a very good town site. Two men lived here, Seth Scranton and JJ Downing. Some say Scranton and Downing had their families here, but others say that they were running away from the U.S. Marshal for cattle rustling. Anyway, when James Glover arrived he bought it for \$1600, and then went back to Portland to secure supplies.

The California House, also called the Windsor Hotel before the Great Fire of 1889 burned it down, was located where the Carousel now stands. William C. Gray and his wife Clara built it. They were living in the unfinished hotel and Clara had made a closet by hanging a curtain over the wall and hanging dresses on pegs behind it. When Mr. Gray went to get her dress for a dance to raise money for the schoolhouse, she found her dress frozen stiff and stuck to the wall. She had to literally iron it off the wall. She made it to the dance and danced the first waltz in town.

James Glover's store, SW corner, opened in November, 1873. His first customers were Spokan Indians. Glover was the first permanent settler and that is why he is recognized as the "Father of Spokane."

Stop #5 Havermale Island Large Island in Spokane River

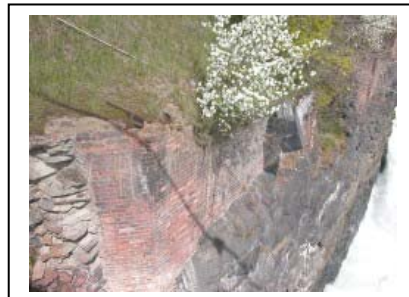
This island was named for Samuel Havermale, a Methodist pastor who came to town in 1875. His first log house was at Front and Bernard, and his land included an island in the river. Havermale helped begin the Echo Flour Mill on the north side of the river. This island today is larger than when early settlers arrived. After the Great Fire of 1889, the rubble was used to fill in and create one large island.



Stop #6 Flour Mill Visible across the North Channel (621 W. Mallon)

Stop #7 Pumping Station remains/ Great Fire 1889 Plaque Near suspension Bridge by YMCA

During the Great Fire of 1889 there were problems at the Pumping Station. The island near the Falls has the remnants of the water pumping station on the bank of the Spokane



River. The pump station is why some people think the fire got out of control. There are three theories about why the pump station didn't work in the hours when the city needed it.

The first theory is that workmen were doing work on a water main on Post Street. After they finished, they forgot to turn the water back on. When the fire broke out, there was plenty of pressure at the pump station, but the water couldn't get past where it was turned off on Post Street.

The second theory was that the man who knew how to work the pump was in Coeur d'Alene on a fishing trip. All the firemen could get out of the pump was a few drops of water.

A third theory is that the volunteer fire department's hoses kept springing leaks, and that is why there was no water to put out the fire.

Stop #8 Washington Water Power Building Post Street and Spokane River

The WWP power company substation was designed by Kirtland Cutter.



Stop #9 The Review Tower Monroe and Riverside

The curved building was built after the fire, in 1891. The newspaper offices, The Spokesman Review, are located in this building. It was the tallest building in town when it was built.



Stop #10 The Davenport Hotel 807 W. Sprague Avenue

Louis Davenport established the famous Waffle Foundry in a tent after the Great Fire. His restaurant business grew and moved to Pennington/Wilson block in 1903. The famous hotel, designed by Kirtland Cutter, was built in 1914. The ornate lobby, and elegant ballrooms were key locations for Spokane's "Age of Elegance."



Stop #11 The Great Fire Start on former Railroad Avenue, now a parking lot next to elevated RR tracks between Lincoln and Post streets

The summer of 1889 was a costly one for three cities in Washington: Seattle, Ellensburg and Spokane. All had major fires that hot dry summer.

On August 4, 1889, a Sunday evening, the Great Spokane Fire started. It may have started in Bill Wolfe's Lunch Counter. Or it may have started when Irish Kate, a saloon girl, went upstairs to fix her hair. A drunken man followed her and they got into a fight, knocking over a kerosene lamp that had her curling iron in it.

The firemen arrived, hooked up their hoses, but there was no water pressure. Within four hours the raging flames were pushed all the way to the river, burning down 32 buildings on 27 blocks of Spokane.