

1890

NATATORIUM PARK
ORIGINALLY NAMED TWINKENHAM PARK

ORIGINALLY NAMED TWINKENHAM PARK AND LOCATED ON WEST BOONE AVENUE, SPOKANE'S NAT PARK BEGAN AS A TROLLEY PARK.

1968

AS YOU READ THROUGH THESE PAGES, LEARN WHAT A TROLLEY PARK IS; DISCOVER HOW PEOPLE IN SPOKANE SPENT THEIR LEISURE TIME; INQUIRE ABOUT WHAT IT TOOK TO BE KNOWN AS THE "CONEY ISLAND OF THE WEST"; ANALYZE HISTORIC PHOTOS, OBJECTS, AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES; ADD TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WHERE ELSE YOU CAN RESEARCH THE TOPIC.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L86-284** 





# 26 JULY 1890

#### IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME

TROLLEY TRACKS WERE LAID TO NEW NEIGHBORHOODS THAT WERE POPPING UP AROUND DOWNTOWN CORRIDOR. PARKS WERE CONSTRUCTED AT THE END OF THE LINE TO ENTICE PEOPLE WHO DID NOT LIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS. TROLLEYS WERE A NEW AND EXCITING MODE OF TRANSPORTATION AND PEOPLE ENJOYED FEELING THE COOL BREEZE ON A HOT SUMMER DAY AS THEY TRAVELED AT SPEEDS MUCH FASTER THAN ANY HORSE AND BUGGY! THE NOVELTY WOULD NOT LAST. UNABLE TO COMPETE WITH THE EVEN NEWER TECHNOLOGY OF BUSES AND AUTOMOBILES, SPOKANE'S LAST TROLLEY WAS NAT DRIVEN **TO** PARK ON AUGUST 27TH, 1936 AND CEREMONIOUSLY SET ON FIRE.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L87-361.415** 





# 4 JULY 1890

#### A LOVELY DAY FOR A PICNIC

1890 WAS THE FIRST YEAR THE 4TH OF JULY WAS CELEBRATED AT NAT PARK. THAT YEAR A LARGE SCANDINAVIAN PICNIC AND A BALL GAME DREW 5000 OF SPOKANE'S 19,992 RESIDENTS TO THE NEW PARK. BY 1916, 35,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE PARK'S 4TH OF JULY FESTIVITIES. IT WAS THE PLACE TO BE IN THE SUMMER! EVEN HELEN CAMPBELL AND HER FRIENDS ENJOYED A DAY AT THE PARK. IN HER DIARY DATED JULY 26, 1913, HELEN NOTED, "PICNIC SUPPER AT THE "NAT". JO OUDIN'S PARTY."

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L87-1.778** 



## 10 10 10 1893

#### **NATATORIUM: LATIN FOR POOL**

THE PARK CHANGED ITS NAME FROM TWICKENHAM PARK TO NATATORIUM PARK IN 1893 WHEN THE PARK BUILT A NEW OUTDOOR POOL. ADVERTISEMENTS TOUTED THE POOL AS "THE ONLY ARTIFICIALLY HEATED SWIMMING BATH IN THE STATE". IN 1909, A NEW BIGGER, INDOOR POOL CALLED "THE PLUNGE" OPENED AT THE PARK. THE DRESS CODE FOR WOMEN WAS "NEW WOOLEN SINGLE PIECE SUITS". HELEN CAMPBELL WROTE IN HER DIARY, JULY 9, 1914, "JO, MRS. OUDIN, MRS. POWELL, GLAD & I WENT SWIMMING AT THE NAT THIS MORNING."

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L93-18.143** 



1909

#### NAT PARK LEGACY: THE LOOFF CARROUSEL

CHARLES LOOFF GAVE ONE OF HIS CARROUSELS, WORTH \$20,000 IN 1909, TO HIS DAUGHTER, EMMA VOGEL (PICTURED) AND HER HUSBAND, LOUIS. AS VENDORS, THE VOGEL'S RAN THE LOOFF CARROUSEL AT NAT PARK AND EVENTUALLY BOUGHT THE ENTIRE PARK IN 1929 FROM WASHINGTON WATER POWER FOR \$100,000. GENERATIONS OF FAMILIES ENJOY THE LOOFF CARROUSEL TO THIS DAY, WHICH HAS BEEN LOCATED IN SPOKANE'S RIVERFRONT PARK SINCE 1975.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L86-206** 



1909

#### WHO IS MISSING FROM THESE PHOTOS?

THOUGH SEGREGATION WAS ILLEGAL IN WASHINGTON, SPOKANE'S MINORITY COMMUNITIES OFTEN EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION AND WERE REFUSED SERVICE AT THE PARK. AN EXAMPLE OF LEGAL CODES VS ACCEPTED SOCIAL PRACTICES OCCURRED IN 1909 WHEN THE PARK'S MANAGER ASKED NAT PARK'S ATTORNEY, H.M. STEPHENS, "CAN WE DENY ADMISSION TO THE PARK TO COLORED PEOPLE?" STEPHENS REPLIED, "ALL PERSONS ARE ENTITLED TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF THE PARK". LEGALLY THEY COULD NOT DISCRIMINATE, BUT OFTEN PEOPLE'S PREJUDICE CREATED BARRIERS TO MINORITIES.

joel e. ferris research archives L87-1.788





1907

#### **CONEY ISLAND OF THE WEST**

ON THE HEELS OF THE POPULARITY OF MIDWAY RIDES INTRODUCED DURING THE 1893 CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR, AUDLEY INGERSOLL, A WELL-KNOWN AMUSEMENT PARK DESIGNER, LEASED THE PARK FROM WASHINGTON WATER POWER (THE OWNER) IN 1907. INGERSOLL'S VISION WAS A PARK THAT RIVALED ANY AMUSEMENT PARK IN THE COUNTRY. HE ADDED A LARGE NEW DANCE HALL, THE "FOOLISH HOUSE", A RESTAURANT, AND THE SHOOT THE CHUTES WATER RIDE (PICTURED) TO NAME A FEW. DUE TO INGERSOLL'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, WWP TOOK BACK THE LEASE IN 1908.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L89-141** 



1910

#### **OFFERING JOY TO CHILDREN**

OFFERING JOY TO AREA CHILDREN, THE PARK HELD AN ANNUAL PICNIC INVITING 200 UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN. THEY WERE TREATED TO A DAY AT THE PARK, FREE ICE CREAM, AND OTHER TREATS. MANY BUSINESSES AND CULTURAL GROUPS ALSO LEASED THE PARK GROUNDS FOR THEIR OWN PICNICS AND FUNDRAISERS.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L87.1.1068** 





1900

1920

#### **PICK YOUR ENTERTAINMENT**

YOU WOULD FIND MORE THAN AMUSEMENT RIDES AT THE PARK. POPULAR SPORTING EVENTS SUCH AS BOXING, SWIMMING, COMPETITIONS, BASEBALL, AND FOOTBALL WERE HELD AT THE PARK. THERE WERE MOVING PICTURES, A RESTAURANT, A ZOO, A LOVER'S LANE ALONG THE SPOKANE RIVER, DANCING, BANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT, FLOWER GARDENS, WEEKLY BALLOON LAUNCHES, AND "POLITE" VAUDEVILLE. BUFFALO BILL AND HIS WILD WEST SHOW EVEN MADE AN APPEARANCE AT NAT PARK IN 1902.

joel e. ferris research archives L90-78.1



17 0CT 1924

#### THE BIG GAME

INITIALLY, THE MAIN ATTRACTION OF NAT PARK WAS SPORTS. THE FIRST BASEBALL GAME WAS PLAYED AT THE PARK ON JULY 19, 1899, BETWEEN THE SPOKANE FALLS NINE (WINNER) AND FORT SPOKANE. IN 1890, NAT PARK WAS HOME TO SPOKANE'S FIRST PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM. BY 1900, A NEW STADIUM SUITABLE FOR BOTH BASEBALL AND FOOTBALL WAS CONSTRUCTED. THE HIGHLIGHT OF NAT'S SPORTS COMPLEX OCCURRED OCT. 17, 1924, WHEN BABE RUTH THRILLED THE CROWD BY HITTING A HOME RUN SO FAR, THE BALL LANDED ON THE BANKS OF THE SPOKANE RIVER.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L94-9.36** 

#### Babe Ruth Socks Two At Spokane

Bambino Brings Total Up to Five and Meusel Hits Out Four

SPOKANE, Oct. 17.—After hitting two long home runs for the American Legion today Babe Ruth

lor inat of file Boar mean to he past wild duck rice.

coarded a train for his final descination—the Pacific Coast Boarding a train means returning to his diet of the past four days, wild buffalo, wild duck and wild rice.

"I'm going to get me a flock buffalo when I get back to my New England farm," said the Bambino when

asked how he likes that brand of entree. "I ought to hit a hundred home runs next year on a buffalo diet."





Joel E. Ferris Research Archives L87-1.16711-

1919



Lewis and Clark
Baseball Team 1924

Joel E. Ferris Research Archives L87-1.26030-24



1938

#### **DANCE WITH ME**

A CROWD OF 3000 PEOPLE FILLED NAT PARK'S DANCE PAVILION TO ENJOY PHIL HARRIS' BIG BAND IN 1938. PHIL HARRIS WAS THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR FOR JACK BENNY'S RADIO PROGRAMS. CROWDS OF SEVERAL THOUSAND WERE COMMON WHEN NAT PARK ATTRACTED POPULAR BIG BAND NAMES, SUCH AS BING CROSBY, GLEN MILLER, TOM DORSEY, AND FATS DOMINO. THE MUSIC WAS OFTEN BROADCAST ON LIVE RADIO. DURING WWII, NAT'S DANCE HALL WAS A POPULAR DESTINATION FOR SOLDIERS COMING TO SPOKANE FROM FT. GEORGE WRIGHT AND FARRAGUT NAVAL TRAINING STATION.

joel e. ferris research archives 1938, L87-1.14711-38



1929

1968

#### THE END OF AN ERA

LOOFF CARROUSEL OWNERS, LOUIS AND EMMA VOGEL BOUGHT NAT PARK IN 1929 FROM WASHINGTON WATER POWER AND RAN IT UNTIL LOUIS' DEATH IN 1952. THEIR SON LLOYD TOOK OVER OPERATIONS. AFTER WWII, WITH THE POPULARITY OF OTHER FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT COMPETING FOR PEOPLE'S ATTENTION, THE PARK STARTED A SLOW DECLINE. THE EL KATIF SHRINE BOUGHT THE PARK IN 1967. THE RIDES WERE DISMANTLED, AND THE JACK RABBIT ROLLER COASTER WAS BURNED. THE EL KATIF SHRINE CONVERTED THE LAND INTO A MOBILE HOME RETIREMENT PARK, AND IT REMAINS ONE TO THIS DAY.

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L93-65.1** 



1890

1968

#### ROLLING THROUGH THE WEEKEND LIKE...

NAT PARK WAS ENJOYED BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OVER ITS 80 YEARS IN OPERATION. VISITORS HAD THEIR FAVORITE RIDE OR ATTRACTION. SUMMER PICNICS, SPORTING EVENTS, AND SWIMMING WITH FRIENDS WERE FONDLY REMEMBERED IN DIARIES AND ORAL HISTORIES. WOULD YOU HAVE ENJOYED NAT PARK WHEN IT WAS IN BUSINESS? WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE AMUSEMENT PARK MEMORIES?

**JOEL E. FERRIS RESEARCH ARCHIVES L93-65.94** 





USO Christmas Eve Dance 1942 Joel E. Ferris Archives L87-1.26357

1944 Sailors from Farragut Naval Training Station

Joel E. Ferris Archives L1.42542-44

### RESEARCH SPOKANE HISTORY

#### WHERE TO LOOK FOR PRIMARY SOURCES

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SPOKANE HISTORY? HERE ARE IDEAS TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

- USE THE MAC'S WEBSITE TO RESEARCH ONLINE PHOTOS AND OBJECTS: HTTPS://WWW.NORTHWESTMUSEUM.ORG
- VISIT HISTORIC CAMPBELL HOUSE AT THE MAC
- CHECK OUT THE EXHIBITS AT THE MAC
- MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT THE MAC TO SEARCH OUR ARCHIVES
- SEARCH THROUGH SPOKESMAN REVIEW AND SPOKANE CHRONICLE HISTORIC NEWSPAPERS
- VISIT WASHINGTON STATE ARCHIVES: HTTPS://WWW.SOS.WA.GOV/ARCHIVES/ARCHIVES\_EASTERN.ASPX
- VISIT THE NORTHWEST ROOM AT THE SPOKANE PUBLIC LIBRARY: HTTPS://SPOKANELIBRARY.ORG/NORTHWEST-ROOM

#### DIGITAL MAC PACK: ANALYZING NEWSPAPERS AND DOCUMENTS

ANALYZE THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE TITLED: "WELL KNOWN COLORED MAN IS MAKING A STRONG FIGHT"

Every piece of paper that people leave behind is full of clues. From diaries and letters to newspapers and census reports, documents tell us about the circumstances of everyday life and about significant events.

Tips for reading and analyzing documents and newspapers
To be most useful, documents must be studied carefully and
critically. (From Smithsonian resources: Engaging Students with
Primary Sources)

What are your first impressions? What kind of document is it (letter, newspaper, etc.) How do you know?

**Look more closely**: Read through the document carefully. Make a list of any unusual words or phrases.

Is there a date on it? If so, what is it? If not, are there any other clues that might indicate when it was written?

Is there a location indicated? What is it?

Who wrote or created the document? How can you tell?

For whom was the document written or created? How do you know?

What is the purpose of the document? What made you think this?

**Thinking Further:** What do you think the writer thought was the most important information to convey? Why?

Does the document convey a certain tone?

What does it imply without stating directly?

Can you tell the point of view of the writer? Is it objective?

What is the relationship between the writer and the audience? How can you tell?



WELL KNOWN COLORED MAN IS MAKING STRONG FIGHT.

#### RESTAURANT MAN ON TRIAL.

He Is Accused of Refusing to Serve Meals to a Party of Colored People.

For three hours yesterday Justice Kennan listened to testimony in the case where Emmett H. Holmes, colored, is fighting for recognition of his civil rights. No such case has ever been called in Spokane before. Holmes is the man who, with his family, claims he was refused entertainment at the Natatorium park restaurant, and ordered to leave the place to be served in the grounds of the park. During all the time the case was up only three of the six witnesses summoned by the state were examined.

J. G. Hodge, manager of the restaurant, who was arrested on complaint of the man who claims humiliation in the case, was on trial. He sat with his attorney, H. M. Stephens, a short distance from the seat of the justice, paying strict attention to the proceedings. At times he would lean forward to speak to his attorney, the action invariably being followed by pungent questions in cross-examination.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Barnhart represented the state. He gave the examination into the hands of Attorney J. A. Pierce, the representative of the complainant. Mr. Holmes was the first witness called. He gave his version of the trouble in a firm tone, commanding at all times the respect of the crowd in the room.

#### Story Told by Holmes.

"I took my family to Natatorium park. I went because there had been a balloon ascension announced and there were other features for the entertainment of the public. During our stay there we became hungry and I took the party of which I was the leader into the dining room of the public restaurant at the park.

"We took seats at a table and waited for some one to take our orders. No one came. At the end of 30 minutes I called the manager to complain that there had been no attention paid us. A number of other people had come into the room and had been served after myself and party had taken seats.

"The manager, Mr. Hodge, came to me and said he would not serve us with food in the dining room. He told us to go out into the yard and that there we would be served with anything desired. I left the room without making any trouble, and our party took seats on the benches in the yard in front of the restaurant. That ended the incident."

At the end of the testimony Attorney Stephens asked Holmes if he did not know at the time that he would not be served in the restaurant. Witness answered that he did not, but admitted that three days prior to the day in question he had been refused service in the same place. He insisted that he went into the place knowing that it was a public eating house.

#### Attorneys Tilted Sharply.

A sharp tilt followed between the attorneys at this point. The prosecution contending that the dining room is a public one. "We are not running a public place there," said Attorney Stephens in ending the dispute, "and if you think we are you will get fooled."

The sharpest cross-examination failed to weaken the testimony of the witness in any particular. On excusal of the witness, his wife, Lulu Holmes, ascended the stand. She corroborated the story of her husband, adding the detail that the manager of the place seemed to speak sharply and in an abusive manner.

Moray J. Craig, manager of the art department at Tull & Gibbs', was the next witness called. He said that he had been served at the restaurant in question a dozen times. He had never known of anyone being refused entertainment there until the night of June 20. At that time he was seated in the dining room and had been served by the one waiter in attendance. He was a witness of the affair in which the Holmeses were refused food. He said the party had acted in an orderly manner, and that he had always considered the restaurant a public place.

His reference to the restaurant as public was made the object of violent objection on the part of the defense. At all times the motion was interposed to strike out such testimony. In each instance the court overruled the objections, saying that in his judgment it was competent to show that the place was a public one, and if it had always been so considered by the witnesses.

Mr. Craig could not tell whether the manager had spoken harshly or not, as he was not acquainted with the natural tones of the speaker. The manner of speech was objected to on behalf of the defense, and objection was sustained on the ground that the act itself was sufficient.

At the conclusion of the testimony of Craig the prosecution asked to introduce the testimony of Helen Stafford, a niece of Holmes, and one of the party at the park. Before the young woman was called the defense moved adjournment of the case. On agreement of both sides, further testimony will be taken this afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock.

#### What Both Sides Will Attempt.

Beside the testimony of Miss Stafford, the state has ready for introduction that of I. W. Evans, a barber, and A. E. Ford, a printer, both of whom were witnesses of the affair. The defense will probably introduce waiters and attaches of the restaurant. As shown by the questions put in cross-examination, it will be attempted by the defense to prove that a waiter was sent from the restaurant after the party, and that he asked Mr. Holmes after the party had taken seats on the bench in the open air what was desired.

During the trial yesterday the court room was well filled, men of color being prominently in evidence. Mrs. Holmes was attended by a number of friends of her race, and several children were present during the testimony.

The law under which the prosecution is made is one of the state providing for the recognition of the civil rights of all citizens of the state and of the country. It provides a penalty of from \$50 to \$300 fine, or from 30 days to six months' imprisonment for proprietors of hotels, bath houses, restaurants, barber shops and other public places of business who refuse to cater to the demands of any citizen because of color or creed.

Emmett H. Holmes, the complaining witness, is one of the best known colored men in Spokane. He has lived here about 10 years, being employed for a long time as messenger at the Union depot, the position being still held by him. There is a civil case pending in the same cause.

Spokesman Review November 22, 1900



#### DIGITAL MAC PACK: ANALYZING PHOTOGRAPHS

#### TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO LOOK CLOSELY AT THIS PHOTOGRAPH

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THIS PHOTOGRAPH?
WHAT DO YOU SEE THAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?
WHAT MORE CAN YOU FIND?

## SEE THE QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE TO HELP YOU ANALYZE THIS PHOTO AND THE OTHER PHOTOS IN THIS DIGITAL MAC PACK



Joel E. Ferris Research Archives L89-



#### DIGITAL MAC PACK: ANALYZING PHOTOS

Photographs provide us with images of past events. Today, historians study the content and the meaning of these visual images to locate information about a particular topic, time, or event. Photographs can convey countless details about life. For historians and for us, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Photographers have the ability to manipulate, intentionally or unintentionally, the record of the event. It is the photographer—and the camera's frame—that defines the picture's content. Thus, the photographer chooses what will be in the picture, what will be left out, and what the emphasis will be.

(From Smithsonian resources: Engaging Students with Primary Sources)

Take a few minutes to look at the photos in this Digital MAC Pack. Use these questions to help you analyze what's going on in this photo:

First Impressions: What are your first impressions?

**Take a closer look:** Make sure to examine the whole photograph. Make a list of any people in the photograph. What is happening in the photograph? Make a list of any activities you see going on in the photograph. Make a list of any objects in the photograph.

**Looking more closely:** Are there any captions? A date? Location? Names of people? What kind of clothing is being worn? Is there any lettering on signs or buildings? What time of year is pictured? Time of day? Cite your evidence. Where was the photograph taken? Cite your evidence.

**Thinking Further:** If people are in the photograph, what do you think is their relationship to one another? Can you speculate on a relationship of the people pictured and someone who is not in the picture?

Here are a few more tips for reading photographs: What do you think happened before and after the photo was taken? Who do you think took the photo and why?

What does this photograph suggest to you? What questions do you have about the photo? How could you try to answer them?

What is the one thing that you would remember most about this photograph and why?

What questions do you have about the photograph that you cannot answer through analyzing it? Where could you go next to answer these questions?



#### **DIGITAL MAC PACK: ANALYZING OBJECTS**

### All Objects are from the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture's (MAC) Collections



MAC 3343.2



**MAC 4471.1** 



MAC



MAC 4039.1



MAC 3833.1

#### **DIGITAL MAC PACK: ANALYZING OBJECTS**

Historians study objects, the material culture that people from the past left behind, in order to understand history. Because objects are the products of human workmanship - of human thought and effort - objects tell something about the people who designed, made, and used them. (From Smithsonian resources: Engaging Students with Primary Sources)

**First Impressions:** What are your first impressions of this object? Do you have any ideas what the object might have been used for?

Look more closely: Physical Features: What is it made of? Why was this material chosen? What is the texture and color? What does it smell like? Can it be held? Is it heavy or light? Is it intact, or does it look like parts are missing? Is it clean or dirty? Does it make a noise? Does it look old or new?

**Construction:** Is it handmade or made by machine? Where was it made? Who made it?

**Function:** How is this object used? Does it have a practical use or is (was) it used for pleasure? Has it been used? Is it still in use? Has the use changed? Where can it be found? Where could it have been found? What value does it hold to you and to others?

**Design:** Is it designed well? Is it decorated? How is it decorated? Is it aesthetically pleasing? Would it make a good gift? Does it remind you of anything else?

Who may be connected with the object? What type of person might have used this object? What type of person might have made this object? What does this object tell us about the maker and user?

**Thinking Further:** Is this type of object still being made today? Is it still in use? If not, why do you think it isn't used today?

Should this object be in a museum collection? Why or why not?

What questions do you have about the object that you can't answer from just looking at it?

