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Whitman Mission National Historic Site
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1990's THE ENVIRONMENTAL DECADE



DID YOU KNOW THAT?

AMERICANS RECEIVE ALMOST 2 MILLION TONS OF JUNK MAIL EVERY YEAR? If only 100,000 people stopped their junk mail, we could save 150,000 trees per year. To stop junk mail, write to: Main Preference service, Direct Marketing Association, 11 w. 42nd. Street, P.O. Box 3861, New York, NY 10136-38 61.

SOME 240 - 260 MILLION TIRES ARE DISCARDED EACH YEAR IN THE U.S.? We are clogging landfills all over the country. Support local and regional efforts to recycle tires and use the most efficient tires possible on your car.

IF ALL CONSUMERS RAISED THE SETTINGS OF THEIR AIR CONDITIONERS BY 6 DEGREES WE COULD SAVE 190,000 BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY.

MORE THAN 25% OF THE AVERAGE CITY APARTMENT DWELLERS ELECTRICITY GOES FOR REFRIGERATION? Keep the condenser coils on your refrigerator clean and the door gasket in good repair.

WASHING MACHINES USE ABOUT 14% OF ALL WATER USED IN THE HOME? Always wash a full load and use warm wash and cold rinse.

MICROWAVE OVENS USE ONLY 1/3 - 1/2 THE ENERGY OF CONVENTIONAL OVENS?

A RUNNING FAUCET USES MORE WATER THAN YOU THINK. SOME EXAMPLES ARE:

- * You can easily use 5 gallons of water while brushing your teeth. Just wet and rinse your brush.

- * If you shave with the water running, you can use 10 -20 gallons of water. Fill the basin.

- * Washing the dishes by hand with the water running will average 30 gallons of water. Fill the sink or basin.

- * Washing your car with the hose will use 150 gallons of water. Use a self service car wash (only about 5 - 10 gallons) or a sponge and bucket.

IT TAKES ONE 15 - 20 YEAR OLD TREE TO MAKE ENOUGH PAPER FOR ONLY 700 GROCERY BAGS?

Think twice, paper or plastic? Plastic does not biodegrade. Even "Biodegradable" just breaks down into tiny pieces.

SOLUTION: Use no bag if your purchase is small or bring your own cloth bag from home.

"STYROFOAM", (polystyrene foam), IS COMPLETELY NON-BIODEGRADABLE? 500 years from not that foam cup could still be sitting on the earth's surface. Avoid foam egg cartons, disposable picnic goods, etc. In fast food restaurants, ask for paper plates and cups.

IT TAKES AN ENTIRE FOREST - OVER 500.00 TREES, TO SUPPLY AMERICANS WITH THEIR SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS EVERY WEEK? Save newspapers, and recycle them. In 1988 Americans recycles 24 of the million tons of paper used, or 29%. Good, but we can do better.



"Let's ask the man over there in the gray shirt." Many of the visitors to Whitman Mission National Historic Site ask staff members who wear gray shirts all kinds of questions, both in the visitor center and out on the park grounds. Some of those people are what the National Park Service call interpreters, some are members of the Whitman Mission maintenance staff. All staff people try their best to answer visitor questions or help in any way they can.

Staff members do all kinds of things. They mow lawns, edge the walks, weed and clean, vacuum and dust the visitor center and scrub the restrooms. They also are concerned with conservation of the resource here at Whitman Mission. They protect the vegetation, the mission sites and the shaft hill.



There is a project underway at Whitman Mission to return much of the park to plants similar to what was here when Whitman lived here. Staff members plan and carry out the work necessary to do this. Caring for the resource is a big job that never ends. The pond banks need continual attention. People stray off the paths on the hill and make trails which the park staff try to repair. The lawns need to be mowed each week, and generally maintained. The staff in proud of the cleanliness of the restrooms and the visitor center. All of these things are done with as little inconvenience to the visitor as possible.

People in gray shirts take fee money, answer any questions visitors have about the history here, about the Walla Walla Valley, about how to get from here to some place else. They talk to school children, give cultural demonstrations and sell books and postcards. They are qualified to give first aid and



THE MAN IN THE GRAY SHIRT

help in emergencies.

People who wear gray shirts take care of many of the administrative duties necessary for the park to run properly. They use the computer, work with the park neighbors on mutual concerns, and with city and county officials to build good relations between the National Park Service and members of the community.

People who wear gray shirts are both men and women. They are young and middle age, tall and short, thin and chubby. All work for a common goal, for the visitor to have an informative and pleasant visit to Whitman Mission.

But...A few members of our park family do not wear gray shirts. If you call on the phone, the person who usually answers does not wear a gray shirt, nor does the one who keeps track of the budget, or the curator who catalogs the artifacts. These folks render a vital service to the smooth operation of Whitman Mission.

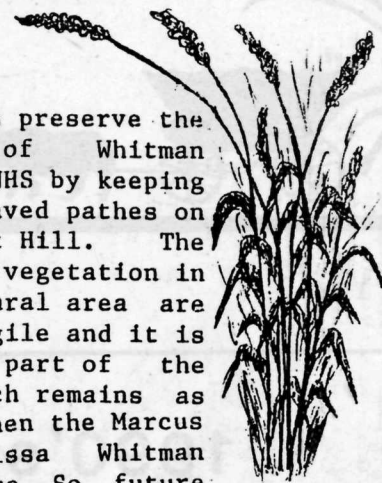
All the staff, wearing gray shirts or regular clothes make Whitman Mission National Historic Site a pleasant place to visit, to learn about the past and enjoy a lovely day.



CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS

June 16 - 17	Churn butter and bake bread in dutch oven.	<u>July 21, 1990</u>	<u>Tenth annual Indian Pow Wow</u>
June 23 - 24	Indian foods and utensils.	July 28 - 29	Jerky stew.
June 30 - July 1	Repairing an Oregon Trail wagon.	August 4 - 5	Indian fry bread.
July 7 - 8	Biscuit root cookies.	August 10 - 11	Toys and games of pioneer children.
July 14 - 15	Buffalo gravy and cornbread in reflector oven.	August 18-19	Toys and games of Indian children.
	Indian horses and travel.	August 25 - 26	Wool Spinning.
	Buffalo jerky and gingerbread in dutch oven.		Moccasin making
	Smoking deer hides.		Knitting with handspun yarn.
	Light your fire with flint and steel.		Teepees and tule mats.
	Indian beadwork and clothing.		Guns of the Whitman period.
			Finger weaving.

HELP...us preserve the beauty of Whitman Mission NHS by keeping on the paved paths on the Shaft Hill. The soil and vegetation in this natural area are very fragile and it is the only part of the park which remains as it was when the Marcus and Narcissa Whitman lived here. So future generations may also enjoy this natural beauty, please help us by not picking flowers or any other plant material.



YOUR PET IN THE PARK



Pets have traditionally been an important part of American families. It's hard to argue against a "dog being man's best friend;" unless of course you're a cat lover.

Today, pets are allowed in almost all National Park Service areas, but they still must stay on a leash, or be kept in the car. They are not permitted to run loose at any time. Pets are not allowed where they

will come in contact with geese, ducks or other wildlife, nor are they permitted in public buildings or at interpretive talks. The parks are not prepared to care for pets, nor are they ready to handle problems or conflicts between pets, visitors and wildlife.

Before your next visit to Whitman Mission, consider your pet's feelings, and possibly those of other visitors. Decide if your pet will enjoy a visit to the park as much as he might enjoy being left at home with friends. If your pet is not historically minded, she might prefer the shade of her dog house, and feel more important being the watchman while you are away from home.

The WAILLATPU PRESS is published by the staff of Whitman Mission National Historic Site, Rt. 2, Walla Walla, Washington 99362. It is distributed free of charge in the Visitor Center. Duplication of any or all of this material for educational purposes is encouraged.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY

Whitman Mission is striving to promote full access to park programs by people with physical and mental disabilities. Our goal at Whitman Mission is

...To provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park experience for everyone.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Mobility

Wheelchair for loan.

Hearing

Script to 10 minute park orientation program.

Script to outdoor wayside exhibit recorded messages.

Sight

Large type version of park information brochure.



WHITMAN MISSION BOOKS

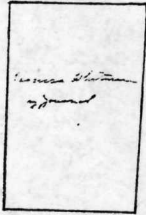
TAKE HOME A MEMORY OF WAILLATPU



Marcus and Narcissa Whitman and the opening of Old Oregon By Drury.
Two volume set, includes personal data on Marcus and Narcissa from their early years to the journey west & the Whitman Mission. 990 pgs. \$19.50



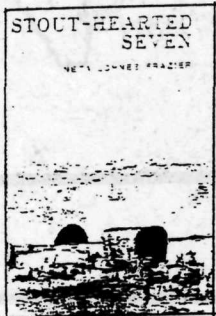
Shallow Grave By Thompson
The true story of the Sager children as written by a National Park Service Historian. 178 pgs. \$7.95



My Journal. By Whitman
Narcissa Whitman's journal written on the overland journey West in 1836. 73 pgs. \$4.95



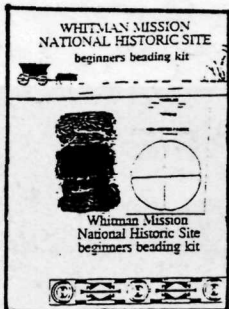
Whitman Mission. By Thompson
A history of the Whitman's and their mission, plus the present day park. A GPO Book. 92 pgs. \$3.00



Stout Hearted Seven By Frazier
True story of the Sagers, orphaned on the Oregon Trail, adopted by the Whitmans. Written for Junior and Senior High School age. 174pgs \$3.40

Travels in the Great Plains. By Farham.
A firsthand 1839 account of traveling along the Oregon trail. 108pgs \$3.00

Chief Joseph Country. By Gulick.
Well illustrated history of the Nez Perce Indians. Hardbound. 316pgs. \$34.95



Whitman Mission National Historic Site beginners beading kit.
Includes instructions and all materials needed to construct a simple medallion of traditional Cayuse design. Kit has three different color beads (our choice). \$1.85



The Cayuse Indians: Imperial Tribesmen of Old Oregon. By Ruby and Brown.
History of the small Cayuse band which Marcus and Narcissa Whitman first white Missionaries settled among. 345 pgs. Hardback-\$17.95 Softback-\$11.95



Drummers and Dreamers. By Releander
Documents of the teachings of the Indian prophet who founded the Dreamer religion. \$9.95

Life in Old Oregon—Two Paths By Cain.
Compares Indian And Pioneer lifestyle of the 1840's. For grades 1 thru 4. 16pgs .47



Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association
3001 SIXTH AVENUE, ROOM 1840 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98121 (206) 442-7958

Money from the sale of these items goes back to the National Park Service and National Forest Service to make possible the publication of educational materials.

ORDER BLANK

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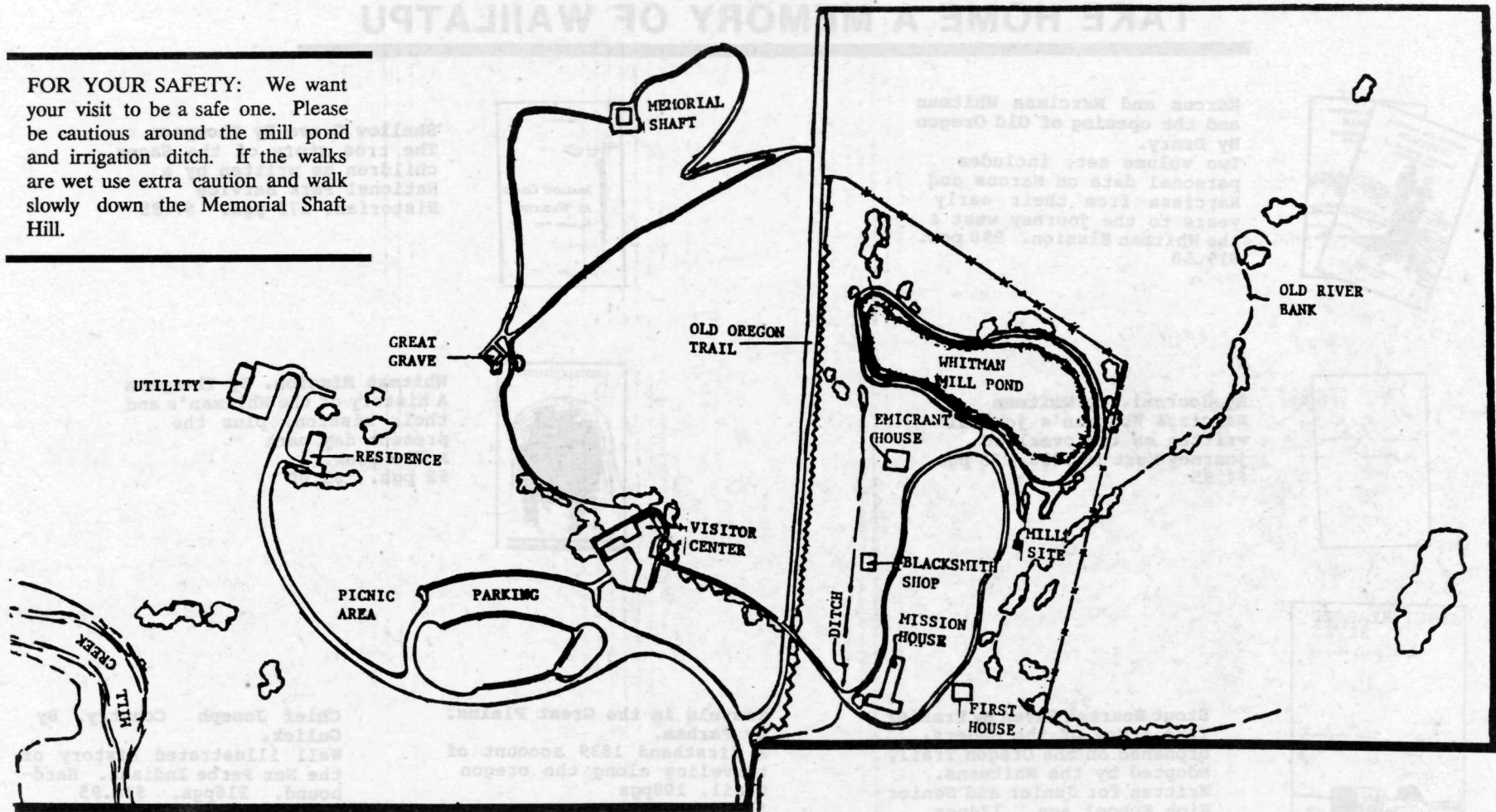
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Enclose money order or check — no stamps or C.O.D. orders. Prices subject to change without notice
* Maps mailed folded unless you add \$.25 for mailing tube
+ \$3.75 minimum on Canadian orders.

Whitman Mission National Historic Site
Attn: PNNPFA
Route 2
Walla Walla, WA 99362

THE MISSION AT WAILLATPU

FOR YOUR SAFETY: We want your visit to be a safe one. Please be cautious around the mill pond and irrigation ditch. If the walks are wet use extra caution and walk slowly down the Memorial Shaft Hill.



Wailatpu, meaning "place of the people of the rye grass" is the site of a mission founded in 1836 among the Cayuse Indians by Marcus and Narcissa Whitman. As emigrants began moving across the continent into the Pacific Northwest during the 1840's the mission also became an important station on the Oregon Trail.

Interest in the Old Oregon country was stirred in the 1820's by an article in a New York Methodist publication which described the visit to St. Louis by some western Indians seeking teachers and the white man's "Book of heaven" - the Bible. This mostly fictional story stimulated interest in work among the Native Americans in Oregon.

Dr. Marcus and Mrs. Narcissa Whitman along with Rev. Henry Spalding and his wife Eliza and William Gray were selected by the American Board of Foreign Missions to go to the Oregon Country and choose mission sites. They headed westward soon after the Whitmans were married on Feb. 18, 1836.

The journey was a notable one as Narcissa Whitman and Eliza Spalding were the first white women to cross the continent overland. The missionaries light wagon, reduced to a cart, was the first wheeled vehicle to travel as far west as Fort Boise. The party reached the Columbia River on September 1, 1836. After a brief visit at Fort Vancouver, the Hudson's Bay Company headquarters, the men returned up the Columbia to select their mission stations. The women remained temporarily behind as guests of Chief-

Factor John McLoughlin.

The Whitmans opened their mission among the Cayuse at Wailatpu, the Spaldings among the Nez Perce at Lapwai, 110 miles to the east. The missionaries learned the Indian Languages and assigned the words English spellings. Spalding printed books in Nez Perce and Spokane on a press brought to Lapwai in 1839, the first books published in the Pacific Northwest.

The Missionaries expanded gradually. Other missionaries, including the Rev. and Mrs. Cushing Eells, the Rev. and Mrs. Elkanah Walker, arrived and new stations were established. At Wailatpu, the large adobe house, gristmill, sawmill and blacksmith shop were constructed. William Gray built a house for himself that later served as an "emigrant house" for travelers.

Progress was slow. The Indians were indifferent to religious worship, books, and school. In 1842 reports of disension and lack of funds caused the Board to order the Wailatpu stations closed. Convinced that the mission should remain open, Whitman undertook a mid-winter overland journey to Boston to plead his case in person with the Board. He left Wailatpu on October 3, 1842 and after many hazzardous miles reached St. Louis on March 9, 1843. The Board, moved by his arguments, recinded its orders.

Whitman returned to Oregon with a wagon train in the Great Migration of 1843, serving as physician and guide. The year before, the first large group of emigrants passes almost the

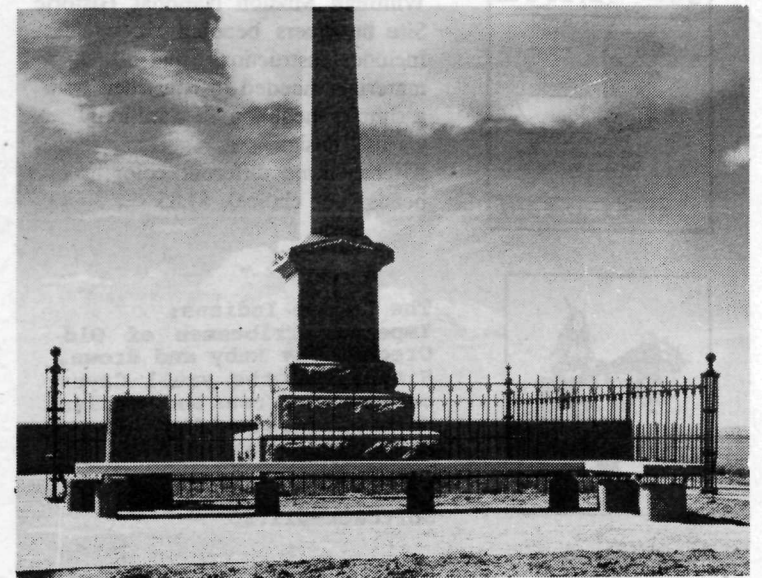
same way on what became known as the Oregon Trail, and they stopped for rest and supplies at the mission. They had taken wagons as far as Fort Hall, where they repacked their belongings and traveled the rest of the way by horse and foot. Whitman led the first wagon train all the way to the Columbia River on his return journey.

Although the main trail bypassed the mission after 1844, those who were sick and destitute turned to the mission for shelter and comfort. One such wagon brought the seven Sager children, who had been orphaned on the trail. With kindness and compassion, the Whitmans took the children into their family.

After 11 years of working with the Indians, the mission effort ended in violence. There were several causes behind the Indian unrest. Deep cultural differences between the white and Indian ways of life had caused tension and misunderstanding. Increasing numbers of emigrants, and stories of settlers taking Indian land elsewhere, convinced the Cayuse that their way of life was in danger. A measles epidemic, brought in 1847 by the emigrants, spread rapidly among the Cayuse, who had no resistance to the disease, and within a short time half the tribe died.

When Whitman's medicine helped white children but not theirs, many Cayuse believed they were being poisoned to make way for the emigrants.

Then, on November 29, 1847, a band of Cayuse attacked the



Memorial Shaft

mission and killed Marcus Whitman, his wife, the Sager boys, and nine others. A few survivors escaped, but 50, mostly women and children, were taken captive. Two young girls - Louise Sager and Helen Mar Meek - and a small boy died from the measles. The others were ransomed a month later by Peter Skene Ogden of the Hudson's Bay Company. The killings ended Protestant missions in the Oregon Country and led to war against the Cayuse by settlers from the Willamette and lower Columbia Valleys.

In 1848 Joseph Meek, carrying news of the tragedy and petitions from the settlers to Congress, reached Washington, D.C.. Congress created the Oregon Territory, in August of that year, the first formal Territorial government west of the Rockies.