



WATER-RIGHT DOCKET

Whitman Mission National Historic Site

Docket No: 5

GREAT GRAVE WELL

Land History

06-27-1980: memorandum to associate regional director, administrative, pacific northwest region from acting superintendent, whm



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Whitman Mission National Historic Site
Route 2

Walla Walla, Washington 99362
June 27, 1980

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L1429(PNR-AC)

Memorandum

To: Associate Regional Director, Administration
Pacific Northwest Region

From: Acting Superintendent, Whitman Mission National Historic Site

Subject: Reconciliation of Whitman Mission NHS Land Account

JUL 2 '80

NPS-PNRO	Init.	D
☒	D	
☐	DD	
☐	M	
☒	P	
☐	A	
☐	S	
☐	DPA	
☐	DEO	
☒	AC	
Central Files		
Action Taken		

[Signature]

(1) A search of our records and the records on file at the Walla Walla County Courthouse with the following results:
In reference to item #1, Water Right Application no. 5904, Permit no. 565 dated 7/10/63.

Master Deed Listing, not listed; the records at Whitman Mission contain a copy of the application, as well as the Permit to appropriate Public Ground Waters of the State of Washington. Copies of these are enclosed.

(2) We tried to reconcile the other items with only moderate success. A search was made of the County records with the results listed as follows:
NPS/PNRO Property Records Deed 3, Decreed Water Right, Doan Creek, Priority of 1875-\$100.00 cost.
Master Deed Listing Deed 3, Tract 3, Donated Water Right, Centennial Corp. 1923 - N/C.
No record of cost was found.

(3) NPS/PNRO Property Records - Deed 4, Water Right - Well appurtenant to land described in Deed No. 2 - \$50.00 cost.
Master Deed Listing - Deed 4 - Landowner's name unknown - 02-31-00 - N/C.
No record was found.

(4) Deed 1, Tract 01-101: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR (Property Records) show donated at cost of \$10,000.00.

The deed as recorded at Walla Walla County Court House says in part:
"Grants - Whitman Centennial, Incorporated, a Corporation, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Washington, for and in consideration of the sum of ten dollars, does hereby convey and warrant to the United States of American, the following described real estate in the County of Walla Walla, State of Washington."

No mention of \$10,000.00 is made. After checking with the County Treasurer, it seems that since government property is exempt from taxes, there is no record in the County records of actual cost of the land. Those spoken to at

the Auditor's Office, were of the opinion that the \$10.00 mentioned was the cost and in effect the land was donated.

(5) Deed 2, Tract 01-102: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR shows donated at \$217.75 cost.

Deed #2 says that the "Walla Walla Trust Foundation, which decree is by reference made a part hereof, do hereby Grant, Bargain, Sell, and Convey unto the United States of America the following described real estate"....It gives the land description and then ends, "Together with all water and water rights appurtenant thereto."

This last statement could also resolve item #3.

Here again the opinion of those at the Auditor's office is that the land was donated at no charge.

(6) Deed 6, Tract 01-104: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR shows donated at \$3,260 cost.

The deed as recorded says the county gave the land for the road into the park for the sum of \$1.00. After reading the deed, talking to a gentleman in the County Treasurers Office, who checked the County Commissioners proceedings for August, 1961, being introduced to the County Engineer, who opened his files, there is no doubt that the County purchased 8 parcels of land, and donated them for the sum of one dollar to the U.S.A..

Although we have not been able to reconcile all the discrepancies in the property listings, we hope we have been of some help.



David E. McGinnis

[illegible]

Year of the Visitor

2

(4) Deed 1, Tract 01-101: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR (Property Records) show donated at cost of \$10,000.00.

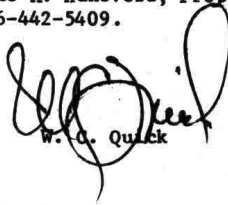
(5) Deed 2, Tract 01-102: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR shows donated at \$217.75 cost.

(If (3) above stems from this transaction, it should so reflect.)

(6) Deed 6, Tract 01-104: MDL shows donated at N/C; PR shows donated at \$3,260 cost.

By copies of this letter, we are asking for assistance from the Regional Land Acquisition Office and from the Washington Office in the event you are not able to furnish the required information.

Please refer any questions to A. Hansvold, Property Management Branch, FTS 399-5409, commercial 206-442-5409.


W. A. Quick

Other Supporting Information

April 3, 1961

L 54

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Assistant Regional Director, Region Four

Subject: Surface and Ground Water Rights, Dockets 1 and 2,
Whitman National Monument

In answer to Mr. Dunn's memorandum of March 26 the following information is provided:

One well record in Docket 2, describing a dug well about 20 feet deep, apparently is the Great Grave well. The Regional office copy of the other well record describes a 15 feet deep dug well in the SE 1/4 of Section 32, not the Museum well, and carries a notation, "This well destroyed July, 1953." The Museum well was drilled in May, 1953 to a depth of 100 feet and was equipped with a 3/4 hp pump delivering 10 gpm (A 2823, June 1, 1953.) The Frazier residence well has been described as "a 1-1/4 inch pipe closed off on the end, sharpened, and holes drilled in it,...(driven) in the ground from 10 to 12 feet..." (Kennedy memorandum of January 21, 1960, L 1425). The Fletcher appraisal dated April 25, 1960 (L 1425) noted that the Frazier residence well was just outside the house and had an electric pump located in the basement. Mr. Fletcher's valuation of the well and pump was \$350.

Our understanding of water right criteria under which the proposed water systems using ditch water and well water are being designed is as follows:

1. Improvements are to be constructed to make use of the water of Doan Creek Ditch in an amount equal to the full amount of decreed water rights, the water works having capacity and flexibility of operation suitable to the local practice of rotation of use. According to Superintendent Kennedy's memorandum of January 31, Whitman National Monument is entitled to the full flow of the ditch (0.9666 cfs) 4.31 days every two weeks.
2. Water works are to be constructed to use water from the new well for domestic needs and for irrigation on those areas, if any, where the use of ditch water is not practical. Further, the system is to be designed and constructed so that the new well can supply water to lands ordinarily irrigated by ditch water for those times when ditch water may not be available. We expect that upon construction of the new well use of the three old wells will discontinue.

Spaulding *LS*
Whitworth
Manbey *BF*
Wosky
Maier
(quiet)

3. Provisions of the State Water code are such that irrigated areas of the proposed development using ditch water need not be limited to the particular fields which previous owners may have irrigated. Water from the ditch, to the full extent of decreed rights, may be used on Monument lands north or south of the county road as Park Service needs require provided the requirements of the State water code concerning temporary and permanent changes of places of use are met.

Assistant Regional Director

Copy to: Supt., Whitman
Chief, WODC (2)

LSSpaulding:lq



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

RECEIVED	
NPS REGION FOUR OFFICE	
MAR 30 '61	
SURNAME/DATE	
REG. DIR.	
ASST. R.D.	
OPERATIONS	
ADMIN.	
RECREATION	
INTERP.	
RANGER ACT.	

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L54-OBL

March 28, 1961

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Chief, Water Resources Section

Subject: Application to Appropriate Groundwater, Docket 2, Whitman *SS 3/31*

The application and map with Mr. Whitworth's memorandum of March 24 to the Superintendent, clarifies some of the points raised in my memorandum of March 27. The rest of the points can be clarified at the time of proof, or in connection with any protest which might be filed by Mr. Bowers if he considers well spacing inadequate.

Accordingly, the application can follow its normal course if Mr. Kennedy has filed it. It might be reconsidered if not yet sent to the State. *see memo 3/3/6*

Names are just as satisfactory as numbers for the wells. I assume that the Great Grave Well is the one formerly disputed, just south of the north line of Tract 38, and covered by one of the two records of well in Docket 2. The other record of well may be for the Museum well. This matter should be clarified. We seem to have no logs for the Frasier House well, which was not federally owned in 1948, or the new well. We naturally have no records on the Bowers well.

If there is any protest of the new well within 1000 feet of three of the existing wells, the significant point will be whether the new well, which is deep, intercepts the same aquifer as the Bowers, Frasier House, Great Grave, and Museum wells, two of which are very shallow. The Museum well is also far enough from the new well, and that of Mr. Bowers, to offer no probable problem.

Drawing 6975, in Part I-C, Docket 2, was prepared from the decree of which a part is just above the map at the bottom of Part III of that docket. This appears to be an incomplete copy of a 1923 supplement to the judgment of June 1, 1922, and undated and signed. The original decree, possibly with another map, might or might not give more details. The important point, at the time of proof for certificate to use the new well is to be sure that those parts of the 22.5 acres which are to be irrigated entirely from the well are differentiated from those to which supplemental water is to be supplied.

A. van V. Dunn
A. van V. Dunn
Chief, Water Resources Section

Copy to: Superintendent, Whitman National Monument - AIR MAIL
Chief, WODC (2)



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

March 27, 1961

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L54-OBL

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Chief, Water Resources Section

Subject: Application to Appropriate Ground Water, Docket 2,
Whitman National Monument

29 Docket - file Docket #2

RECEIVED	
NPS REGION FOUR OFFICE	
MAR 29 '61	
SURNAME	DATE
REG. DIR.	
ASST. R.D.	
OPERATIONS	
ADMIN.	
RECREATION	
INTERP.	
RANGER ACT	

WSS 3/29

The draft of 2/27 of the application for the new well, which was received with copy of Mr. Wosky's memorandum of March 1 to the Superintendent, designates the well as Whitman No. 1 in answer to question 1. This leads to the question of what happened to the well just a few feet south of the north line of Tract 38, S 84° 48' E 3.37 ch from NW corner of that tract. This well was claimed by owner of Tract 11 in the early 30's and was tied in, and shown to be on Tract 38, on the GLO plat which is in Docket 2, at my request. I am also confused by the lack of data for identity of the two well records in the docket.

The well in Lot 38 should be No. 1 or 2 whether still in existence or not, and the new well should be No. 2 or 3. However, it is more important to inventory all wells than to be too particular about which is No. 1 and which are No. 2 and No. 3.

The new well should also be recognized as either a supplemental or replacement well, depending on the facts. Due to the marked difference in depth they may not intercept the same ground water source, but we should try to claim as much early priority of right as possible if there is danger of conflict with other wells.

I also believe that it may be desirable to indicate whether the well is to supply supplemental water to the areas irrigated by the Doan Creek Ditch, to provide water to land not irrigated by that ditch, or both. The specific areas of Tracts 11, 37 and 38 which have been irrigated by ditch are not clearly defined in the decree in Docket 1, but the number of acres is definite. I strongly recommend that proper recognition be given to the extent to which the well water will be used as a supplemental supply in order to preserve all possible Doan Creek Ditch rights to the surface supply. Incidentally, we do not have a copy of the water right decree of March 16, 1907, for Docket 1.

A. van V. Dunn

A. van V. Dunn
Chief, Water Resources Section

Copy to: Superintendent, Whitman



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

154 WHIT-L

August 5, 1953

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Superintendent, Mount Rainier

Subject: Water Right Docket No. 2, Whitman National Monument

Attached are two copies each of "Records of Well" for two wells at Whitman National Monument and four copies of "Record of Well" for the well drilled in June, 1953.

The 16-inch well is the well which is shown on the topography of Tract 38. This well still serves its purpose of supplying water for the irrigation of small grass plots near the Great Grave and the Memorial Shaft.

The 2-inch well which was located in Tract 37 was destroyed in July, 1953.

A new 6-inch well has been drilled in Tract 37 and is located 5 feet East and 5 feet South of the N.E. corner of the Museum. This well has been housed by extending the Museum Building.

Preston P. Macy
Preston P. Macy
Superintendent

Attachments



Monte B.M.
Crowley *8/13*
McClallan
Hot 8/14

C O P Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK
LONGMIRE, WASHINGTON

April 12, 1945.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Four.

Reference is made to Mr. Dunn's memorandum of March 22 to the Regional Director, concerning the well that is located on the Monument Tract, and other water rights, Whitman National Monument. None of the data requested by Mr. Dunn was available in this office. This information was requested from Mr. Ray Shelden of Walla Walla, the farmer who lives on the place adjoining the Monument and who, in the absence of a Custodian, keeps watch of the area, and incidentally, pastures some of his stock on the Mission Tract.

Mr. Shelden reports that the well was not in use June 15, 1917; that the Chapter of D.A.R. of Walla Walla had the well dug and pump installed in 1930 or 1931.

As I mentioned in my letter to Mr. Shelden--and he has verified this--the water from the well is used to irrigate only the small grass plot near the Great Grave, roughly about $1/8$ of an acre. The 4 acres, approximately, that lie west of the road leading to the Great Grave and north of the County Road, have been irrigated from the ditch that leads from Doan Creek. Mr. Shelden mentions that this land has no right in said ditch. It should be pointed out that this 4-acre tract could be irrigated from the well; that is, the land is so situated that this might be done. However, I am not certain that there is sufficient water available. There remain, therefore, about 4 acres of the 8.71-acre tract that are not irrigated. This is the 4-acre piece of ground that composes the hill on which the shaft is located.

The well is $18\frac{1}{2}$ ft. deep; the first $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet is a 5'x6' concrete vault. A 12 inch concrete pipe is used for a casing the remaining 12 feet. The pump placed at the bottom of the vault is a double-bladed high-speed rotary type, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch intake, 1 inch outlet. The motor is a Century repulsion start induction single phase 110-220 volt, 3 horsepower, 60 cycle, 3500 r.p.m.

In the attached copy of Mr. Shelden's letter to this office, you will note his comments concerning the Government's right of 0.033 sec. ft. in the ditch from Doan Creek. Mr. Shelden holds a right in the ditch and recognizes the Government right. As he mentions, he has been irrigating the Mission Tract since 1937, and I am certain we can depend upon him not to let our right lapse.

(SGD.) JOHN C. PRESTON

In duplicate.

John C. Preston,
Superintendent.

C O P Y

Walla Walla, Wash.
Apr. 6, 1945

Dear Mr. Preston:

In answer to your inquiry in regard to the pump and irrigating ditch on the Monument property, can say definitely the well was not in use June 15, 1917. The Chapter of the D.A.R. in Walla Walla put the well and pump in. The lady in charge, Mrs. Starr Sherman, tells me it was in 1930 or '31. She was going to look up the exact date, but has did nothing about it as yet.

This well is used to irrigate the small grass plot near the Great Grave.

The approximately 3 or 4 acres lying west of the road leading to the Great Grave has in the past been irrigated from the ditch that leads from Doan Creek. However, this land has no right in said ditch. The 37.22 acre tract that lies south of the County road can be watered from the Doan Creek ditch to the extent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ a. or .033 sec. ft.

I have used this water on the Monument property every summer since I have been in charge of it in 1937, and usually some of my own water, as I have an 18 a right in that ditch.

I have known all along that I should try to prevent a lapse--I believe the Mission tract irrigation right allows the full flow of the ditch (.96 sec. ft) 6 hrs. per wk.

The well is concreted down $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. 5'x6' sq. and near the center a 12 inch concrete pipe is used for casing--12 ft. farther down through quicksand making a total depth of $18\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

The pump is a double-bladed high speed rotary type, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch intake, 1 inch outlet--no name--The motor is a "Century" repulsion start induction single phase 110 or 220 volt 3 horsepower, 60 cycles, 3500 R.P.M. The pump is hooked directly on to the motor shaft.

If I can be of any assistance to you in the future, I will do my best.

Sincerely,

Ray C. Shelden

Docket Information

Number of Documents in Docket 11
Documents Dated from 4/6/1945 to 6/27/1980
Docket Compiled: 7/28/2011