

# SPOKANE COUNTY

1879

COUNTY SEAT: SPOKANE

**Named for the Spokane Indian people**

**Traditional home of Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, Kalispel and associated  
American Indian people**

The first non-Indian settlement in what is now Washington – a British fur-trading post – was established on the Spokane River in 1810. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, transcontinental railroads and electrical power generated at Spokane Falls had secured Spokane County's role as the commercial and social center of the Inland Northwest. Spokane County is home to Eastern Washington University, founded in 1882 as a private academy and reorganized in 1890 as Washington's first state-supported Normal School for training classroom teachers.

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*NAMED FOR THE SPOKANE INDIAN PEOPLE*

*TRADITIONAL HOME OF SPOKANE, COEUR D'ALENE, KALISPEL AND ASSOCIATED AMERICAN INDIAN PEOPLE*

THE FIRST NON-INDIAN SETTLEMENT IN WHAT IS NOW WASHINGTON - A BRITISH FUR-TRADING POST - WAS ESTABLISHED ON THE SPOKANE RIVER IN 1810. BY THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROADS AND ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATED AT SPOKANE FALLS HAD SECURED SPOKANE COUNTY'S ROLE AS THE COMMERCIAL AND SOCIAL CENTER OF THE INLAND NORTHWEST. SPOKANE COUNTY IS HOME TO EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, FOUNDED AS A PRIVATE ACADEMY IN 1882 AND REORGANIZED IN 1890 AS WASHINGTON'S FIRST STATE-SUPPORTED SCHOOL FOR TRAINING TEACHERS.

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