

# CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP WALLA WALLA LOCATED HERE

**Camp Walla Walla, a Civilian Conservation Corps soil conservation camp, was located here from 1935 to 1939.**

The camp covered 12 acres, and housed over 200 civilian workers from several regions of the country. The CCC camps were run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service to help safeguard against the destruction of one of our greatest national assets—the soil. Participants were recruited from relief rolls around the country during the Great Depression, and assisted with a variety of community projects, including construction of public facilities, erosion control, and other needs.

More than 20 buildings were erected here, including eight barracks, a large mess hall, an administration building, an officers' quarters, a library and class room building, an infirmary, shower rooms, and numerous shops and garages, as well as a baseball diamond.

Erosion control work was done on over 32,000 acres in 73 farms centering on the Mill Creek watershed. Approximately

60,000 trees and shrubs were planted as windbreaks, wildlife food and cover, farm woodlots, and for gully bank protection. Over 2000 temporary check dams and over 200 permanent gully dams were built. Other land improvement methods promoted included contour farming, strip cropping, retention of stubble fallow, and rotation grass and legume planting.

After the camp's closure, local farmers received continuing assistance from the Dayton CCC camp. The buildings here were owned by the army, and were then transferred to the National Youth Administration. Most of them were taken to the Stubblefield Home, a former orphanage which had become an agricultural project of the NYA, while the officers' quarters were given to the Boy Scouts for an overnight hike rendezvous.

At the entrance to the camp were two stone pillars over which an arch was added bearing the camp's name. The pillars also had brass plaques which included the name and number of the camp, and the year it was constructed. The pillars are the only part of the camp now standing.



**Sign placed by Walla Walla 2020 Historic Sites & Markers Project**

More information on Camp Walla Walla and other historic sites in the Walla Walla area is available online at [www.ww2020.net/historic-sites](http://www.ww2020.net/historic-sites).