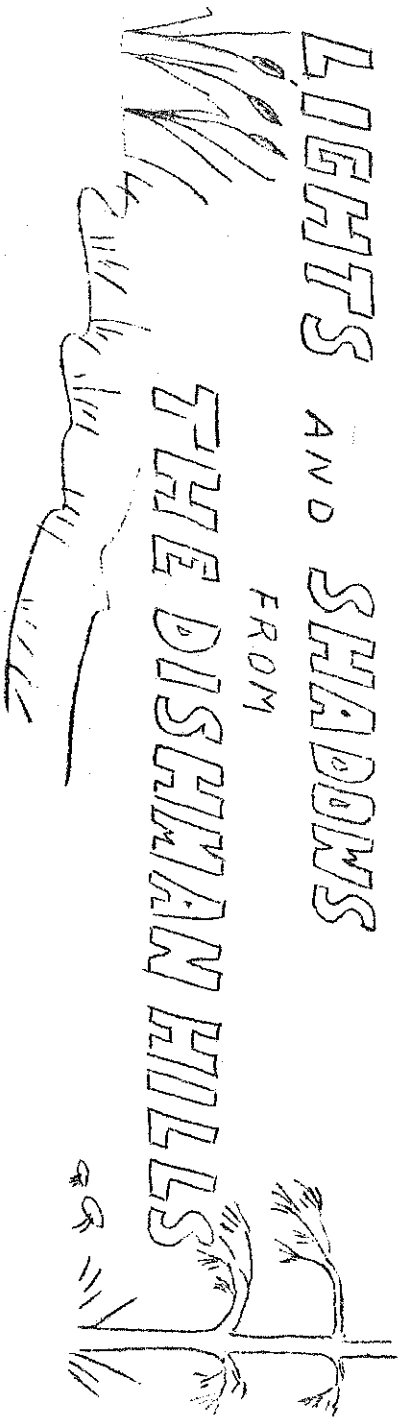


LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM

THE DISHMAN HILLS



August 1978

ASSOCIATION AND CITIZENS CONTINUE OPPOSITION NEXT TO DISHMAN HILLS

DISHMAN HILLS RANK HIGH WITH COUNTY

HEARING BEFORE COMMISSIONERS AUGUST 31

The Dishman Hills-Tower Mountain area is being listed in the county comprehensive plan as an unusual area worthy of preservation in its entirety. The territorial Missoula Flood of the last ice age stripped the lower Hills of most of their soil, leaving the spectacular cliffs and ravines we now have, while the higher ground to the south was left unscathed. However, along the summit are the highly unique Rocks of Sharon, towering granite monoliths exposed by millennia of wind and water erosion.

Two life zones are represented in the area. The Transition Zone occupies the lower parts and is clothed by stands of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and grass-land plants and the Canadian Zone is present as a narrow forest with western larch, grand fir and western hemlock along the little creek on the east side of Tower Mountain. One area supports a dense stand of brush which serves as deer habitat and the lower creek shows a delightful variety of bird life. Mammals from coyotes down to white-footed mice make their homes there and even an occasional elk, bobcat and cougar visit the area. Over ninety kinds of birds have been sighted in the entire area.

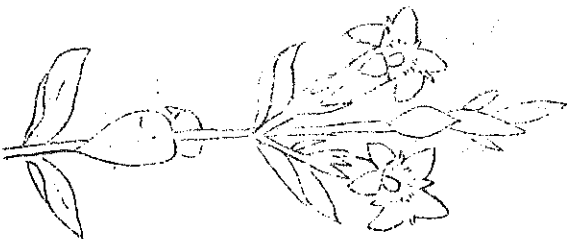
In crevices of the Rocks of Sharon grows a fern known elsewhere in eastern Washington only in Pend Oreille County. Pacific Yew, flourishing along the creek, has been reported nowhere else in eastern Washington. At a pond in the lower hills the wood sage, a flower of the mint family, is not known elsewhere in eastern Washington or northern Idaho and the attractive squasberry has been found east of the Cascades only in

"The Meadows", a housing development proposed for a natural area next to the Dishman Hills south of 18th Avenue and Park Road, will be considered once more, this time by the Board of County Commissioners. Earlier this year it was turned down decisively by the County Planning Commission. The development's sponsor, Peter Rayner, appealed the decision. The hearing is scheduled for Thursday, August 31 at 1:30 p.m. at the county commissioners' office in the court house. Any interested persons may appear and present testimony pro or con.

Officers and board members of our association will be there as will people living adjacent to the proposed development. We hope to have the hearing room packed with opponents of the proposition, with the aim of killing the idea one and for all. We have worked for over twelve years to acquire and protect the Dishman Hills and are not about to let them be destroyed. The quite high density of the proposal, 134 units on 212 acres and to be priced from \$80,000 up, would, we believe, seriously endanger the natural area with intrusion by dogs, cats, motorcycles, snowmobiles and possibly other motorized vehicles as well as concentrated human foot use. In addition the development would occupy a natural corridor and feeding area for larger animals passing to and from the lower hills from the mountain to the south.

Residents adjacent to the area point out that the density proposed would be much greater than now exists in the area. It would add much traffic congestion upon a dead-end road which open into two-lane Park Road. They believe serious air pollution would result from so many cars in

BLUE GUNTIAN



This handsome flower is one of a very few that appear in the fall in the Dishman Hills-Tower Mountain area. Not common in the area, it may be found under the aspens in Cottonwood Hollow, up the ravine south of Camp Caro and in open spots along Miller Creek at the end of Holman Road east of Tower Mountain. It appears from August into October.

The picture is about half natural size. Note the tube-like flower and the smooth-edged leaves arranged in pairs.

DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSN., INC.
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Phone (509) 926-7949

ASSOCIATION AND CITIZENS OPPOSE
(continued from page 1)

A non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy and learn from.

The added traffic would, they fear, bring objectionably high noise levels. Even more serious would be the danger of contaminating residents' wells and the aquifer from seepage from the proposed large common drainfield under part of the meadow.

Helen E. Lininger, president
Thomas H. Rogers, vice-pres. & editor
Bernice Ammons, secretary
David E. Lentes, treasurer

Citizens of the area and our association have collected many hundreds of signatures of citizens requesting the county commissioners to reject the development proposal. Our thanks to the many of you who have worked gathering signatures.

Directors (in addition to officers)
Doris Allgood Margaret Haggin
Omar E. Carroll LeRoy Hook
Bernice Hahn Ambrose Priestley
William F. Marchand
Warren A. Hall

We urge that you come to the hearing August 31 to help stop this destructive project and protect the Dishman Hills-Tower Mountain area, a beautiful part of Spokane's natural heritage.

Monthly meetings are at Kiwanis Camp Caro, S. 625 Sargent Road, Dishman. Board meeting is at 7 p.m. and general meeting is at 8 p.m. the fourth Wednesday. You are cordially invited to attend both the board meeting and the general, which usually includes a slide or film program on the out-of-doors.

Also opposing the project are The Nature Conservancy, Spokane Chapter of National Audubon Society and the Washington Environmental Council's Spokane chapter. We thank them for their support and concern.

DISHMAN HILLS RANK HIGH
(continued from page 1)

RECYCLING CONTINUES PROFITABLE

Newspaper continues to bring \$20 a ton in amounts of 500 pounds or more at Spokane Recycling Products on E. Main just west of Freya. They also take in aluminum there at 17¢ a pound. Climate Control Insulation (CCI) on Railroad Street west of Fancher, south of the tracks, pays \$30 but do not accept paper at all times. Phone them at 535-9788 to see if they are buying.

from Pend Oreille and Whitman counties. An unusual little water plant, known only as Howella aquatilis, and a species of goldenrod, both found nowhere else in eastern Washington, also occur in the lower hills at one of the ponds.

APPRAISAL COMPLETED ON LAND IN HILLS

Appraisal of 140 additional acres of