

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 17 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1976

 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
1 NAME

HISTORIC

Kamiakin's Gardens

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

 W of Union Gap on Lower Ahtanum Rd
 Section 16, T12N, R16E

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Union Gap

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Washington

CODE

53

COUNTY

Yakima

CODE

077

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert Anderson

STREET & NUMBER

310 River Road

CITY, TOWN

Corona

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

California 91720

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Yakima County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Yakima

STATE

Washington

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Washington State Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1974

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

CITY, TOWN

Olympia

STATE

Washington

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Kamiakin's Gardens are found in the Ahtanum Valley in Section 16, Township 12 North, Range 16 East, approximately eighteen and one-half miles west of Union Gap on Tampico Road in Yakima County. The site of the former garden, on the north side of Ahtanum Creek, lies to the west of a natural spring that rises in the midst of a clump of golden willows supported by the spring. A crescent-shaped marshland to the south of the spring which retains the characteristics of a spongy wetland in the dry season attests to the abundant water source. Wild rose, sod grass, ground moss, ryegrass and volunteer wheat provide ground cover on the pasture lands surrounding the garden area. Kamiakin's gardens were originally an "L"-shaped parcel of land measuring some 1300 feet long and 325 feet wide at the base. One portion of the garden, a rectangular piece of land 250 feet wide and 1300 feet long, south of Tampico Road, is now used to cultivate asparagus. The foot of the "L"-shaped plot, north of the road is approximately 100 feet square. This constitutes the eastern end of the former garden.

The spring ditch attributed to Kamiakin, leads from the spring, slopes gently to the east around the base of a low hill, crosses Tampico Road, skirts a large mound of piled rock and continues in a northeasterly diagonal course across the pasture land. A spur of the main ditch parallels the northern border of the garden plot south of Tampico Road. Another ditch which traverses the middle of the rectangular garden plot was dug in later years by former landowners, A. D. Eglin and Wallace Wiley. The nomination includes the garden and the spring ditch.

The members of the Pioneer and Historical Societies of the Yakima area united efforts on June 30, 1918 when they met at the farm of Wallace Wiley near Tampico to commemorate Kamiakin's Gardens. Addresses given on the occasion included General Hazard Steven's personal recollections of Kamiakin and the treaty of 1855 at Walla Walla; Miss Martha Wiley of Ahtanum on Pioneer Missionaries and Mrs. A. J. Splawn of Yakima on Kamiakin and his garden. Culminating the ceremonies, an iron post was placed at the roadside at a point where Kamiakin's irrigation ditch had passed. This post has since been destroyed by road construction activities.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chief Kamiakin of the Yakima was the first to introduce irrigation for crop management to his people in the Yakima Valley. His initial efforts to reclaim arid soil and produce a subsistence crop that would enable his people to lead a more stable, sedentary life have been more than realized.

Kamiakin's mother was Kah-Mash-Ni, a Yakima and his father was Si-Yi, a Palouse who lived near the lands of the Nez Perce at Starbuck, Washington. Little has been recorded of Kamiakin's early life but as a young man he exhibited prowess as a buffalo hunter east of the Rocky Mountains among the Nez Perce and was a man of substance, owning a considerable number of horses among the Yakima. At Fort Vancouver in 1839, Kamiakin exchanged a band of his many horses for a few head of the two thousand beef cattle that had been trailed from California for the Hudson's Bay Company. His bunch of thin-bodied longhorns were the first beef cattle to graze in the Yakima Valley. Kamiakin built up and improved his herd with cows obtained from white settlers of the Grande Ronde Valley and from emigrants at the Dalles in Oregon.

By 1840 Kamiakin, then in his early forties, was recognized especially by the young men of the Yakima as their Chief with his authority extending from Naches to Prosser in the Yakima Valley.

Kamiakin preferred the upper Ahtanum Valley as his particular homeland and he and his followers returned each year from the summer-time camping and fishing, berrying and root-digging grounds to winter-time occupancy of a village on the Upper Ahtanum Creek. Kamiakin's people had had little intimate contact with whites prior to the coming of the Oblates to the Yakima Valley.

On January 8, 1847, Father Pascal Ricard, superior of the Oblate Juniorate of Notre Dame de Lumieres in France was selected by his superior to go to Oregon. Three seminarians, not yet subdeacons, Brothers Eugene Casimir Chirouse, Charles John Felix Pandosy, George Blanchet and one lay brother, Celestin Verney were named to accompany Ricard. The Oblates reached Fort Walla Walla September 5 of that year and set about establishing a mission in the environs of Walla Walla among the Yakima Indians. Peo-Peo-Mox-Mox, a sub-chief of the Yakima offered Father Ricard land where the Yakima River meets the Columbia and this first mission of the Oblates was known as Saint Rose on the Yakima or Saint Rose of Simcoe.

Even after Marcus Whitman, his wife and twelve other were slain at the Protestant Waiilatpu Mission on November 29, 1847, the Oblates continued their work among the Yakima who had refused to involve themselves in the Cayuse War with the whites. A second Oblates Mission was established among the Yakima when Ow-Hi another sub-chief of the Yakima visited the Rose Mission on December 27 of the same year to request a missionary for his people on the banks of Mnassatas Creek.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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 Guie, H. D.. 1937. Tribal Days of the Yakima - Yakima, Washington.

Continued on attached sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 7 3/4
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,0	6,6,7,0,2,0	5,1,5,5,1,0,0	B	1,0	6,6,6,9,2,0	5,1,5,4,8,4,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,0	6,6,6,5,2,0	5,1,5,4,8,0,0	D	1,0	6,6,6,6,0,0	5,1,5,5,0,6,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jeanne M. Welch - Historic Preservation Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

DATE

July 5, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 1128

TELEPHONE

753-1707

CITY OR TOWN

Olympia

STATE

Washington

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

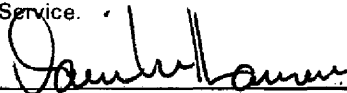
NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE September 13, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Attesting

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 12/22/96

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/20/76

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When it became evident that mission work was impossible as long as the Indians and whites were at war, the Oblate missions were abandoned and the "Blackrobes" retired to the Dalles until the summer of 1848 when the fighting had died down to sporadic outbursts. Shortly after their return, the Oblates were induced by Chief Kamiakin to found a new chapel, St. Joseph, on July 6, 1848 on the Upper Ahtanum. In his memoirs, Father Ricard recalls that here as among the others the missionaries had to face obstacles. Language was always a big barrier to establishing sympathetic communication with their Indian flock. This was overcome and the missionaries became regarded as among the most proficient speakers of the Indian dialects of all the whites in the Yakima region. Other difficulties were not so easy to surmount. The medicine men, fearing the loss of their control over the Indians, instilled an animosity toward the messengers of the Gospel. Baptism was purported to be bad medicine which led to the death of children so administered. However, the zeal of the Oblates at the St. Joseph mission was rewarded when Kamiakin was won to the faith. He proffered his own four young children for baptism, destroying the influence of the medicine men over a number of the others who consequently also asked for baptism. Little by little, the mission progressed in a material way as well. To win the Native Americans over from their nomadic life and make them a settled community with a more sedentary lifestyle, the fathers taught them to cultivate the soil.

The soil in the Ahtanum Valley consisted of somewhat poorly drained, saline-alkaline soils that are moderately deep over a lime-silica cemented hardpan. Although the mean annual precipitation was only six to nine inches, the very strongly alkaline soil, if drained and freed of excessive salts by irrigation, was suitable for the production of fine crops. With timely and uniform application of irrigation water from ditches dug for the purpose by the Indians, fields of wheat, corn and apple orchards made their appearance at the mission; Kamiakin's own garden produced corn, peas, potatoes, squash, melon and wheat.

The less nomadic life envisioned by Kamiakin was short lived. It was inevitable with the expanding progress of civilization that the potential of the fertile valley of the Yakima River, its tributaries and surrounding forests, would attract the early white settlers. A. J. Bolen, appointed special agent for Indian Affairs for Washington Territory on March 17, 1854 wrote a letter in February of that year to Isaac I. Stevens, Governor of Washington Territory that, "near the first camp of McAllister after leaving the Yakima River is a suitable place for timber for building". Pursuing the opportunity, Bolen went to the Ahtanum mission to talk to Kamiakin to gain his consent to enter into treaties for the purchase of the Yakima lands. In his annual report to Stevens, Bolen wrote: "They will consent to dispose of the great part of their land. They raise a little corn and some melons and pumpkin, but chiefly potatoes and peas. Of the former I think they must have about 15,000 bushels".

By the end of May, 1855, negotiations at Walla Walla for a treaty with the Nez Perce and Yakima were begun. On June 8, after the council had been adjourned and reconvened on successive days with much debate on issues from both sides, Kamiakin spoke briefly. "I have something different to say than the others. It is young men who have spoken; I have been afraid of the white men, their doings are different from ours. Perhaps you

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have spoken straight, that your children will do what is right. Let them do as they have promised. That is all I have to say". Kamiakin added that he was tired of talking and waited and wished to get back to his garden. Governor Stevens replied, "You will be allowed to pasture your animals on land not claimed or occupied by the settlers, to go to the usual fishing places, to get roots and berries and to kill game on the land not occupied by the whites - - all this outside the reservation".

In the early fall of 1855 a state of war broke out in both the Oregon and Washington territories. A long series of grievances had led up to the outbreak. The Indians became alarmed at the ever increasing influx of whites into their land and were disappointed at the failure of the government to fulfill the promises of payment for lands secured from them. Instead of being protected, the Yakima's lands were overrun with whites in quest of gold or bunchgrass for their cattle. The murder of the Indian Agent A. J. Bolen on September 20, 1855 precipitated a formal declaration of hostilities between the Indians and the United States. Kamiakin became a war chief.

A party of fifty soldiers under the command of Major George Haller sent into the Yakima country to quiet the Indians and arrest those suspected of murdering Americans were repulsed by Kamiakin and driven from the Yakima country. Following Haller's defeat Major Gabriel Raines assumed command of the troops. Reinforced by detachments of volunteers from Puget Sound and Oregon he reached the Oblates mission of St. Joseph on the Ahtanum on November 13 but the Indians had gone back into the hills. The volunteers discovering a half-keg of gunpowder buried in the mission garden termed the powder evidence that the Oblates had been supplying the Yakima with ammunition and burned the mission to the ground. Hostilities were terminated with Wright's campaign, September 17, 1858, and the Yakima people were settled onto the reservation. Kamiakin shunned the reservation fearing revenge for his past activities. W. B. Gosnell, sub-Indian agent, who was in charge of the Yakima Agency in February 1861 wrote, "The character of Kamiakin is, I am afraid not generally understood. Though he went to war, yet his whole course was marked by a nobleness of mind that would have graced the general of a civilized nation. He never harmed the women and children of the settler of waylaid the long traveler, but has been in many instances their protector." Kamiakin died in 1877 at his retreat, a log cabin at Tahk Lite (Rock Lake), southwest of Spokane.

A soil survey completed in January 1976 by the United States Department of Agriculture in Yakima Country in the south central part of the state of Washington included some 222,930 acres or about 348 square miles. Approximately 190,000 acres are irrigated and support a highly diversified irrigated agriculture. Among the commonly grown crops are asparagus, sweet corn, field corn, grapes, hopes, mint, potatoes, sugar beets, grass hays, fruit trees and truck crops. Area of undrained soils and saline-alkali soils that have not been reclaimed furnish grazing for livestock and many areas too steep or gravelly to be cropped or too small to be used for grazing furnish food and cover for species of wildlife.

Farming enterprises support the business and industry of the area. Business in turn furnishes machinery, fuel and oil, fertilizer, insecticides, herbicides and other items

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needed by the agricultural community. A large cannery and sugar factory are at Toppenish and many packing sheds and cold storage plants for fruits and vegetables are found within the area.

Water for irrigation is supplied through facilities operated by several irrigation districts and administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Water is applied to the crops by corrugations, furrows, ditches, flooding, and sprinklers.

This multi-million dollar enterprise on the Yakima Reservation had its beginning in a quarter-mile-long ditch dug by Kamiakin to bring water to his garden in the Upper Ahtanum Valley. The site of Kamiakins Garden represents primordial efforts of irrigation instituted by a Native American in the Yakima Valley. This primary effort in an area dominated by sagebrush, greasewood, rabbitbrush and saltgrass, through irrigation developed into one of the most highly productive agricultural districts in the State of Washington.

Additional literature research of Oblate records, Reverend Father George M. Waggett's Etudes Oblates, Revue Trimestrielle, Scolasticat makes it doubtful that St. Joseph on the Ahtanum (Holy Cross) was established in the same year as St. Joseph in the valley of the Simcoe between Saint Rose and the Immaculate Conception Mission. It is certain however from the documents of Pontifica Americana edited by Donald Shearer that St. Joseph on the Ahtanum was dedicated between 1851 and 1853.

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