

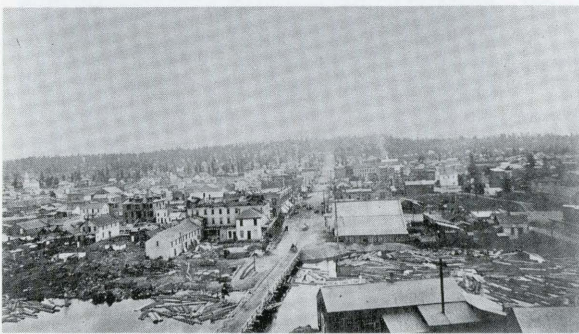


*Barber shop on Howard*

John B. Parker This early entrepreneur opened the first black-owned shop in Spokane Falls, a barber shop that began doing business in 1887 as Comer & Parker, Barbers, on Howard between First and Second Avenues. The following year Parker, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, and arrived in Spokane Falls in 1881, opened a barber shop and baths at S. 208 Howard known as the OK Barber Shop. Funeral services for Parker, who died Feb. 14, 1912, after a long illness, were held at Our Lady of Lourdes. He and his wife had five children, including Charles S. Parker.

Rudolph B. Scott In 1883, after three years in the Coeur d'Alene mining country, this black pioneer, born in New Haven, Conn., Nov. 16, 1846, made his way to Spokane Falls. Scott claimed African, Indian and Scotch blood as the grandson of both a West Indian African and a Pequot Indian chief who married a Scotch woman.

Scott involved himself with farming, real estate and mining, and established a fire and life insurance company that paid out claims arising from the 1889 fire that leveled Spokane's core.



*Historic four corners of Spokane Falls, looking south from the river, 1887.*

Scott was a Spokane County delegate to the convention to organize the state of Washington, held in Walla Walla in September 1889, and was a delegate to the state convention in Seattle to elect a delegate to attend the national convention in Minneapolis.

A friend of the legendary Chief Joseph, Scott accompanied him and several other Nez Perce chiefs on a trip to Washington, D.C., in 1897 and again in 1900 to plead their cause to federal officials.

He enlisted in the Spanish-American War in 1898, serving in Company B, 1st Washington Veteran Artillery, and ended the war as a first lieutenant. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him U.S. Chinese Inspector in 1902, the first