

Historic Name: Cannon Hill Park Stone Bridge

Property ID: 706411

Location



Address: Cannon Hill Park, W 19th Ave, Spokane, Washington

GeographicAreas: Spokane, Spokane County, T25R43E30, SPOKANE NW Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1920	✓

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category Subcategory

Recreation and Culture

Historic Context: Architecture

Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Builder	Domenico Peirone



Photos





Inventory Details - 7/17/2016

Common name: Cannon Hill Park Stone Bridge

Date recorded: 7/17/2016

Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson

Field Site number: SRS-28

SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Stone
Form Type	Bridge - Arch
Cladding	Stone - Rubble
Structural System	Masonry - Stone
Plan	Irregular

Surveyor Opinion

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): Yes

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): Yes



Significance narrative:

In 1886, J.T. Davie moved his brick yard from Hangman Creek to the present location of Cannon Hill Park. He and his partner, Henry Brook, purchased 80 acres of land from Calvin Robertson. The next year, Davie and Brook began operating the first mechanical molds to be used in the Inland Empire. Before this, all bricks had been molded by hand in wooden forms. The new technology allowed the partners to increase their production to an astounding three million bricks in a year. By the time of the disastrous 1889 fire, most of the brick structures in downtown Spokane were made of Davie's brick. By that time, Davie himself had temporarily retired, having sold his interest in the Cannon Hill yard to Henry Brook.

Henry Brook continued to operate the Cannon Hill brick yard, partnering with J.H. Spear. Brook and Spear would later go on to form the Washington Brick and Lime Company, based in Clayton, Washington. By about 1905, the easily extracted clay at the Cannon Hill yard was exhausted. The scarred land lay vacant for several years, owned by the estate of Boston capitalist Charles Francis Adams. In 1908, Mr. Adams donated 13 acres for use as a park, and the site was to be called Adams Park. At about this time, the Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects, out of Brookline, Massachusetts, were retained to undertake an evaluation of the Spokane park system. They made many general recommendations for expanding the parks network. Contrary to public perception, Manito Park is not an Olmsted Brothers concept, although it was built in the rustic, organic style for which the Olmsteds were known. Other parks, such as Hayes Park and Corbin Park, did reflect the ideas and plans of the Olmsted firm, but most of their recommendations never reached fruition, although John Duncan continued to be influenced by the company that selected him to guide the Spokane park system. The Olmsted Brothers' plan for Cannon Hill Park (by then it had been named for banker A.M. Cannon) was the one most adhered to. They called for an asymmetrical and curvilinear park with ponds, walkways, and natural plantings. Rustic stone structures would include a comfort station with pergola-like wings and two stone bridges that would cross a stream between ponds. The plan map was published in the Spokesman-Review and later built mostly as depicted in the sketch. Although a falling water table has resulted in one pond, not two, and left the bridges spanning dry land, the park nonetheless reflects the Olmsted Brothers' park design ethos to a remarkable degree. The two bridges and other stone structures in Cannon Hill Park were reportedly built by master stonemason Domenico Peirone. Due to the excellent integrity of its historic appearance and original building materials, this bridge is eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, as well as Criterion A, for its association with the early years of Spokane Parks development, especially that which was influenced by the Olmsted Brothers firm.

Physical description:

The bridge is a Luten bridge, a filled spandrel arch type named after bridge engineer Daniel B. Luten. It can be described as a concrete or masonry arch, filled spandrel, single span bridge. The semi-circular arch barrel and the deck are made of poured concrete. The spandrel walls and abutment walls are clad with cobblestones. The interior spaces of the bridge are filled with earth and rock. This bridge is one of two identical structures at Cannon Hill Park.

Bibliography:

Emerson, Stephen. A Historic Property Inventory of Rock Structures in Spokane County, Washington. Archisto Enterprises, 2016.