

Historic Name: Riverside Memorial Park Caretaker's House

Property ID: 706409

## Location



Address: N Government Way, Spokane, Washington, USA

**GeographicAreas:** Spokane, Spokane County, T25R42E14, SPOKANE NW Quadrangle

## Information

### **Construction Dates:**

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1931	V

Number of stories: N/A

**Historic Use:** 

Category	Subcategory
Funerary	Funerary - Cemetery

**Historic Context:** Architecture



## **Photos**



SRS-26a.JPG



SRS-26e.JPG



SRS-26d.JPG



SRS-26c.JPG



SRS-26b.JPG



# Inventory Details - 7/16/2016

**Common name:** Riverside Memorial Park Caretaker's House

**Date recorded:** 7/16/2016

Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson

Field Site number: SRS-26

**SHPO Determination** 

### **Detail Information**

### **Characteristics:**

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Form Type	
Roof Type	Gable - Side
Roof Material	Asphalt/Composition - Shingle
Cladding	Wood - Shingle
Structural System	Wood - Braced Frame
Plan	Rectangle

## **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): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): No



#### Significance narrative:

The cemetery was established by the Riverside Park Cemetery Association on November 27, 1914. The Articles of Incorporation were signed by a number of Spokane's most prominent citizens, including John A. Finch, A.W. Witherspoon, and Thomas J. Meenach. The name of the cemetery was changed to Riverside Memorial Park in 1962. The Caretaker's House was designed by the architectural firm of Rigg and Vantyne. Before teaming up in the early 1900s, Archibald G. Rigg and Roland Vantyne both worked for Julius Zittle, one of Spokane's busiest architects. The partnership between Rigg and Vantyne produced some of the city's finest buildings, including the Shriner's Hospital, the Symons Building, St. Luke's Hospital, Edgecliff Sanatorium, and the Riverside Mausoleum. The Caretaker,s House was probably built soon after the 1931 construction of the nearby mausoleum. It later became the cemetery office headquarters and it currently serves as a utility building. It is an excellent example of the use of locally acquired materials (stone and wood) in a Craftsman design. It retains outstanding integrity of its historic appearance and original construction materials. As such, it is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. It is also eligible under Criterion A, as a contributing feature of Riverside Memorial Park, one of Spokane's oldest and most prominent cemeteries.

#### **Physical description:**

This building is a 1½-story wood frame building with a long rectangular plan. It is gabled at each end, double gabled at the front (south) elevation. On each of the east and west sides there is a central gabled wall dormer. Smaller gabled dormers are situated toward the back half of the roof. The roof is covered with composition shingles and has wide unenclosed eaves with exposed rafter ends, fascia boards, and knee braces in the gables. Most exterior wall surfaces are clad with wood shingles with half-timbering. There are numerous banks of wood sash casement, multi-paned windows. The most striking feature of the building is its stonework, consisting of mortared rough cut basalt interspersed with basalt rubble. The stone is used in half-walls along the building's exterior walls, which are topped with concrete coping. Basalt pilasters occupy the corners of the building. Near the rear of the building, on the west elevation, is a full-height exterior chimney that penetrates the eaves. The chimney is also constructed of mortared rough cut basalt and rubble. There are several entrances with wood panel doors. The entry on the east elevation is accessed by poured concrete steps with basalt half-walls with concrete coping.

#### Bibliography:

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