

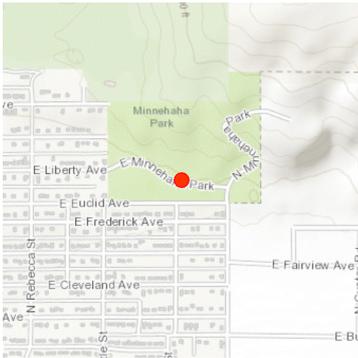


Historic Property Report

Historic Name: Minnehaha Park Stone Building

Property ID: 706344

Location



Address: Minnehaha Park, 4055 E Euclid Ave, Spokane, Washington

GeographicAreas: Spokane, Spokane County, T25R43E03, SPOKANE NE Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1890	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Recreation and Culture	

Historic Context: Architecture

Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Builder	Edgar J. Webster

Photos



SRS-5a.JPG



SRS-5g.JPG



SRS-5f.JPG



SRS-5e.JPG



SRS-5d.JPG



SRS-5c.JPG



SRS-5b.JPG



Historic Property Report

Inventory Details - 7/12/2016

Common name: Minnehaha Park Stone Building
Date recorded: 7/12/2016
Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson
Field Site number: SRS-5
SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Stone
Form Type	Utilitarian
Roof Type	Gable - Front
Roof Material	Metal - Standing Seam
Cladding	Stone - Ashlar/Cut
Structural System	Masonry - Stone
Plan	T-Shape

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



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- Significance narrative:** In her memoir *With History Around Me*, Lois Valliant Ryker writes that the stone house at Minnehaha was built by Edgar J. Webster, who arrived in Spokane in 1882 with hopes of practicing law. He invested his money in real estate and mining and evidently became wealthy. He acquired seventeen hundred acres just northeast of the city, in the Minnehaha and Ross Park Additions. He attempted to create a sort of resort, building a dance hall and a tennis court. He sold most of his land, but continued to maintain forty acres as a park. According to Ryker, he lived in the stone building for a while, but later moved into town. In 1913, he sold the remaining Minnehaha land. The stone building may have been built using granite quarried from the nearby outcroppings, although there is no evidence of a large scale quarrying operation in the vicinity. Perhaps the rock came from the large quarry near Dishman, east of Spokane. Photographs indicate that the stonework is the work of a master stonemason who knew how to cut and place large granite blocks. It seems clear that the wings once used for park restrooms are later additions, although they were built in a harmonious fashion to match the earlier work. More recently the building is locked up and probably only used for storage. It is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, as an outstanding example of early granite stonemasonry and stone building construction in Spokane.
- Physical description:** The primary central portion of this building is a 2-story structure with a front-gabled, rectangular plan. The front façade faces south. To either side are shed-roof extensions, the one on the west being 2-stories, while the east extension is 1-story. The building has a standing seam metal roof that has rather short, enclosed eaves. A corbelled brick chimney emerges from the west slope of the roof. Both gable faces are clad with wood shingles. The rest of the structure is built of rough cut mortared basalt. Window openings are framed by stone voussoir lintels that form segmental arches, and stone sills below. The windows are currently covered by wood shutters and louvers. Wide wood panel doors are situated at the front and back of the main building. The extensions to either side once housed men's and women's restroom facilities. The building is partially built into the sloping hillside. To accommodate the slope, the building is flanked by stone retaining walls, and the back of the building is only 1-story high.
- Bibliography:** Emerson, Stephen. *A Historic Property Inventory of Rock Structures in Spokane County, Washington*. Archisto Enterprises, 2016.