

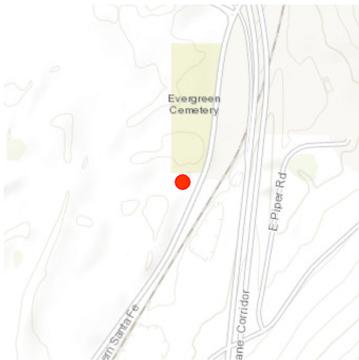


Historic Property Report

Historic Name: Resthaven Stone Monument

Property ID: 706403

Location



Address: Spokane Evergreen Cemetery, Spokane

GeographicAreas: Spokane, Spokane County, T26R43E15, SPOKANE NE Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1939	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Funerary	Funerary - Cemetery

Historic Context: Architecture

Photos



SRS-20a.JPG



SRS-20f.JPG



SRS-20e.JPG



SRS-20d.JPG



SRS-20c.JPG



SRS-20b.JPG



Historic Property Report

Inventory Details - 7/16/2016

Common name: Resthave Stone Monument
Date recorded: 7/16/2016
Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson
Field Site number: SRS-20
SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Form Type	
Cladding	Stone
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): No
Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): No



Historic Property Report

Significance narrative: Resthaven shows up on a 1910 plat map of what was then known as Hillyard Masonic Cemetery. It is labeled as “The Odd Fellows Plat.” But there is no evidence that the Odd Fellows ever buried anyone there. It apparently remained inactive until 1939, when it was rededicated as Resthaven, for use by the Old Age Pension League. About 200 persons attended the ceremony, during which a seven-foot-tall granite stone was unveiled. Representing the Ball and Dodd Funeral Home at the ceremony were Mrs. John Bruce Dodd and Howard Ball, who presented the plot to Mel Butler, president of the Old Age Pension League. This organization was active in Spokane from at least as early as 1934 to at least 1959, during which they conducted numerous fund raising drives and social gatherings, such as picnics in local parks. Burials were interred at Resthaven between September 12, 1939 (Nels Nelson) and July 16, 1950 (unknown) but not after that final 1950 burial. The reason is unknown.

Ordinarily cemeteries are not considered eligible for the National Register. The Resthaven Stone Monument, however, derives its significance as an excellent example of stone masonry craftsmanship executed on a single monolith, with rough natural surfaces juxtaposed with the smooth face and expertly incised wording. It is, therefore, eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture.

Physical description: This stone monument is unusual in that it is a single granite monolith that is roughly shaped, polished on one side, and partially buried in the sandy soil. Its source is unknown; it may be a glacial erratic, or rafted in during the Ice Age floods. The surrounding earth is mostly sand, making it ideal for digging graves, especially when such efforts were accomplished by hand. Incised into the granite are the words “RESTHAVEN – A TRIBUTE TO THE OLD AGE PENSION LEAGUE.” Close by is a flagpole with a concrete base. Scattered over a rather limited area are several graves marked with small granite headstones. Among the names: “Laura B. Hostetler, June 16, 1865-Jan. 6, 1942,” “Franklin Derr, 1866-1941,” and “Provence, David. M., 1863-1940, Ella J., 1866--.” Most of the grave markers at Resthaven are missing. They usually consisted of nothing more than individual bricks, often unmarked, or small metal markers, usually with the labels missing. Of the six remaining individual grave markers, three are formal headstones (as noted above), two are bricks with illegible names, and the sixth is a metal marker, replacing a stolen headstone, with information labels. For years Resthaven was practically forgotten, hidden in thick vegetation and immature ponderosa pines. Recent logging has made the site visible from the nearby highway, stripping the secrecy away from this little known burial ground. Note that, of the deceased persons mentioned above, Ella appears to not be there; sometimes people just move on with their lives. It’s actually quite common. Another possibility: there was just not enough funding to pay for a stone mason to engrave the final date. That is because Resthaven was primarily a cemetery for indigent, mostly elderly persons, who often died penniless at institutions. Resthaven is the little known neighbor of Evergreen Cemetery, directly to the north. There are many markers of indigent persons there as well, often represented by small metal markers, single bricks, or simply lost. But Evergreen was also used by residents of the Mead vicinity, and there are many elaborate grave markers. At the northwest corner is a fenced area which contains the graves of military personnel, including some veterans of the Civil War.

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