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UNITED STATES DEPO SENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Spokane

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DESCRIBE THE P	RESENT AND OR	IGINAL (II kn	own) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE			

Built in 1888, the Glover House was reportedly the first major effort by famed Spokane Architect, Kirkland Kelsey Cutter. The three-storey mansion remains much the same as when first erected; but kitchens have been modified, six bathrooms added and an elevator installed.

The lower exterior portion of the house is rubble-squared granite, whereas the upper storeys are half-timbered. The twenty-two room mansion also has four chimneys, and each is linked and pierced.

The home has numerous overhanging gables, and the main roof above the front entrance is of the bellcast gable type. All the roofs are shingled.

Described in a clockwise fashion and beginning with the northwest corner, the features of the house are as follows: First, there is an entrance to a carriage porch. Next, there is a double-door main entrance and a porch - above which is a large semi-circular arch made of stone. Directly above this arch are a set of bay windows. Most of the windows on the front, as well as throughout the building, are of the casement type; but there are exceptions. On the front are located two second-storey port hole windows. Many of the windows on the front and throughout the home are also leaded. Completing the front face of the building are a shed dormer on the roof and a lesser gable on the northeast end.

The east end of the house has a large ground-floor porch, a secondstorey sleeping balcony and a double-gabled roof.

The south side has both a smaller and a larger gable, plus two chimneys.

The west side has two gables; the first one is large, but the second is a small dormer-balcony with pediment. Beneath is the carriage porch.

The interior has an imposing hall which stands two storeys high and includes a mezzanine. Included on the second-storey portion of the hall is a wood-carved balcony which overlooks from a second-floor master suite. Originally, the walls were hung with blue tapestry. Elaborate stairways were also built throughout the house and lion heads were carved on the marble fireplace. The house was, and still is, opulent; and interestingly, even the windows in the kitchen pantry are leaded. Although electricity was available when the mansion was constructed, lights were added later.

The architect had the responsibility of furnishing the home and even traveled East to find selections. Although a number of purchases were made, the balance of the furniture was specially made to fit the size of the rooms and to match the golden oak woodwork. Newspapers

\_ Foim 10-3066 (July 1969)

UNITED STATE	EPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

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Spokane Unitarian Church
#7 - Description

of the time reported the cost of these furnishings to be somewhere between \$80,000 and \$100,000.

Since 1943, the mansion has been owned by the Spokane Unitarian Church. Although the building is in good condition, it does have two faults. First, the roof is unsubstantial. And second, the foundation on the west end has settled, probably caused by the additional weight of the second and third-storey extensions over the carriage porch.

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Abor iginal	Education ,	Political ,	Urban Planning
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James N. Glover, long noted as the "founding father" of Spokane, arrived in the area in 1873, and purchased 160 acres from a pair of horse thieves, who had come to this lonely region to escape the law. Located adjacent to the falls of the Spokane River, Glover built a store and began trading with the Indians for furs.

To help get a town going, Glover offered forty acres of free land to the owner of a sawmill located near present-day Rathdrum, Idaho. The owner accepted and moved his operation to Spokane Falls. Despite this generosity and similar acts — or perhaps because of them — Glover prospered; and so did Spokane. In time, Glover's interests included not only the development of the Couer d'Alene mines in Northern Idaho, but financing as well. By the late 1880's, Glover was a millionaire and president of a bank. It was at this time (1888) that Glover built his mansion which was commensurate with his new status.

The panic of 1893, however, drove Glover nearly to bankruptcy; and he eventually lost possession of the mansion. The owners since that time have been: Frank, H. Graves, a lawyer (1898-1904); Charles Sweeney, a mine owner (1904-1908); Patrick Welch, a contractor (1908-1943); and the Spokane Unitarian Church (1943- present).

At the time of construction, the house was located outside of town, at the end of a dirt road that wound through pine trees to the base of the basalt cliffs that ringed the community. Indians still occasionally roamed this area; and Mrs. Glover disliked being left alone in the house. Stone for the structure came from a quarry near the little Spokane River, ten miles to the north. Although the house had an unusually impressive baronial hall, the features most noted at the time of construction were the three bathrooms - placed inside:

Glover's mansion was designed by Kirkland Kelsey Cutter, Spokane's famous Architect. This fact is all the more significant when it is noted that this was probably Cutter's first major architectural effort. After the construction of Glover's home, Cutter-designed mansions quickly became popular among Spokane's well-to-do - particularly the mining magnates. Obviously, it was a big undertaking to build such pretentious homes in this small frontier city that had so few crafts

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

#### UNITED STATE PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Spokane Unitarian Church #8 - Significance

Page 2

and materials.

Cutter also received considerable recognition for his commercial architecture - particularly after 1889, when a number of new business buildings were erected to replace those lost in Spokane's great fire. Eventually, Cutter moved to Southern California where he continued his practice.

In conclusion, a series of Kirkland Cutter mansions still exist in Spokane and are, in fact, something of a trademark for the city. The first to be erected, the Glover House, remains well preserved and still stands as one of the grandest of all.

GPO 921.724

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	Eastern Washington State Historical Society files, Cheney Cowles Memorial Museum, Spokane, Washington.													
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- Form 10-300a (July 1969)

#### UNITED STAT PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NA HONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)
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Spokane Unitarian Church
#9 - Major Bibliographical References

Kalez, Jay J. Saga of a Western Town . . . Spokane: Lawton Printing, Inc., 1972.

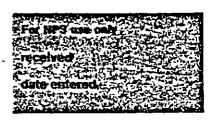
Spokane County, records, Spokane, Washington.

GPO 921-724

NPS Form 10-900-e (7-81)

#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number - F11

Page 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

National Register Property:

James N. Glover House West 321 Eighth Avenue Spokane, WA 99204

Current Owner:

Unitarian Church of Spokane

W. 321 Sth Avenue Spokane, WA 99204

Proposed Change:

That the statement of significance be expanded to include

the entire grounds of the Glover House property.

Justification:

The James N. Glover House was one of the first buildings in Spokane to be nominated to the National Register in 1970. And rightfully so, for it was the home which bore testimony to the phenomenal success of the "Father of Spokane", James N. Glover. At the time, however, the text of the nomination omitted treatment of the entire property parcel on which the house sits, including once beautifully landscaped and terraced grounds, drives curbed with stones, curving concrete steps, and an impressive cut granite garden wall which still runs the length of the original property. The remnants of this landscaping bear considerable historical significance as an integral part of James Clover's architectural legacy to the City of Spokane.

Contemporary accounts state that in 1888 James Glover bought from the Northern Pacific Railroad, a large tract of land which extended from Washington Street to McClellan Street and back to the rinrock (the cliff of Spokane's South Hill).

A 1977 interview with a descendant of the Patrick Welch who owned the property from 1908 to 1943, revealed that during the Welch's tenure, the grounds were elaborate enough to require the services of two full time gardeners. There were tennis courts, a green house, an orchard, and vast lawns. At least four wells were located on the property.

Photographic evidence indicates that the formal landscaping and the construction of the beautiful granite garden wall which runs along Eighth Avenue, were accomplished soon after Kirtland K. Cutter completed the residence. A very early photograph shows the cut edge NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81)

### **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet James N. Glover House

Item number - All

Page 2

of the newly graded 8th Avenue with a wooden picket fence just above it; but a photograph which was included in a Souvenir Booklet from the Spokane Falls Exposition of 1890 (a year after the building was completed) shows the lawns, steps and drive already completed and groomed. While this latter photograph does not include the area where the stone wall is located, the finished appearance of the portion of the grounds which does appear would indicate that the wall had already been built.

In any case, the stone wall, the elaborate beds, and the manicured lawns were certainly well established by 1908 when Patrick Welch took possession of the mansion. A series of photographs taken by Spokane's famous Charles A. Libby in 1908 (three of which are enclosed) reveal the grandeur of the estate at that time.

The Glover House grounds have diminished to the one acre now owned by the Unitarian Church of Spokane and they have changed considerably. The Church added a new chapel building down the slope to the northeast of the house, and the lush and shapely flower beds on the east portion of the grounds have been lost to necessary walks and stairways and to another property owner. But the stone wall which has always articulated the property and defined its manor-like setting remains, an important part of Spokane's patrimony.

#### Sources:

Eastern Lashington State Historical Society. Photograph Collection. Spokane.

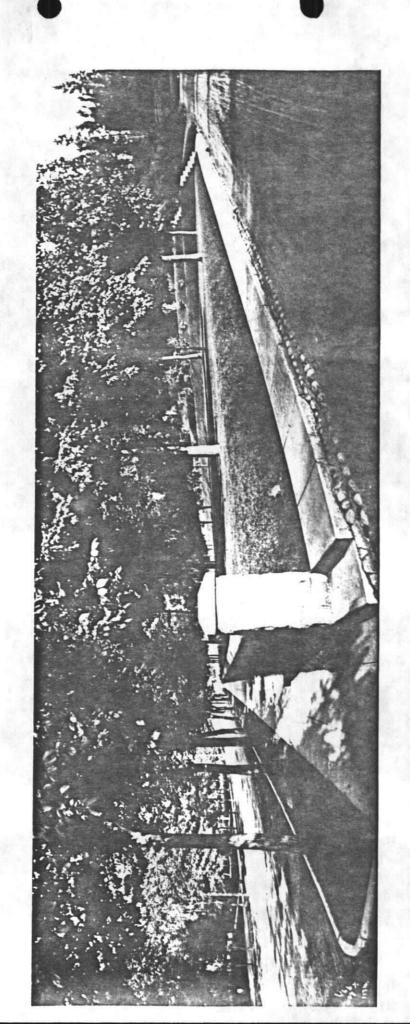
Harrison, Polly Wilson. Interviews with Patty Houff. Spokane. Fall, 1976 and Spring, 1977

O'Neill, Marjory Wilson. Interviews with Patty Houff. Spokane. Fall, 1976 and Spring, 1977.

Spokesman Review. December 2, 1956.

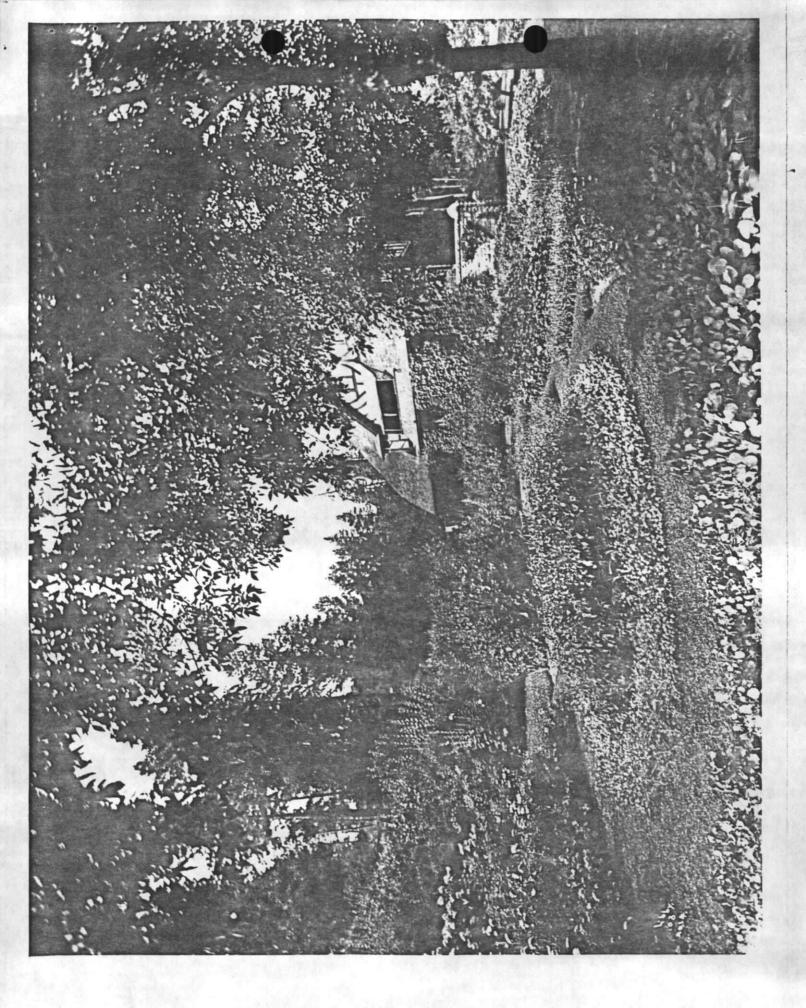
Souvenir of the Northwestern Industrial Exposition, Spokane Falls, Washington. October 1st to November 1st, 1890.
Buffalo, N.Y.: Mathews, Northrup and Company Art Printing Works, 1890.

Unitarian Church of Spokane. Photograph Collection. Spokane.



JAMES N. GLOVER HOUSE SPOKANE, WASHINGTON CHARLES LIBBY PHOTOGRAPH 1908

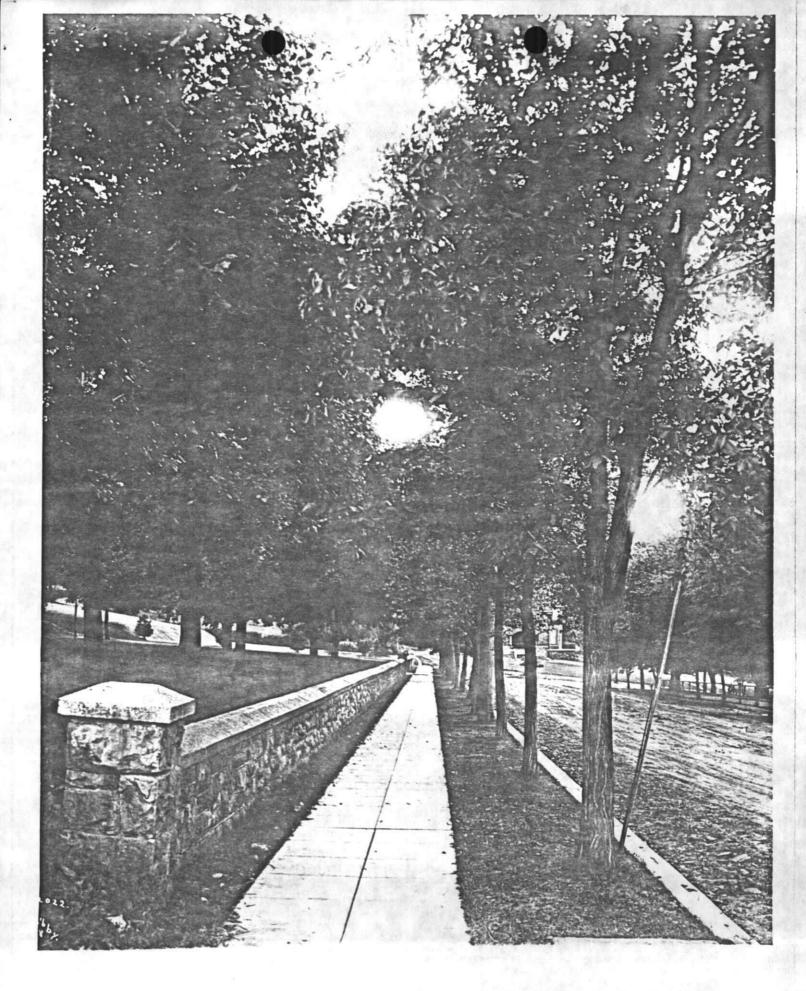
COPY NEGATIVE: CITY/COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, SPOK. FRONT GROUNDS VIEWED FROM THE WEST LOOKING EAST



JAMES N. GLOVER HOUSE SPOKANE, WASHINGTON CHARLES LIBBY PHOTOGRAPH 1908

COPY NEGATIVE: CITY/COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, SPOKANE

GROUNDS TO THE EAST OF THE HOUSE VIEWED FROM THE EAST



JAMES N. GLOVER HOUSE SPOKANE, WASHINGTON CHARLES LIBBY PHOTOGRAPH 1908

COPY NEGATIVE: CITY/COUNTY HISTORIC

PRESERVATION OFFICE

STONE WALL BOUNDING NORTH OF FRONT LAWN, SIDEWALK TO THE NORTH, AND EIGHT AVENUE;

October 26, 1983

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Chief National Register Branch Interagency Resources Division National Park Service 1100 L Street, Room 6209 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull.

Pursuant to your request, I would like to submit a more appropriate boundary description for the James Glover House in Spokane, Washington. Please use the enclosed information to supplement the original 1973 nomination.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Brack Architectural Historian

dw Enclosure

JAMES GLOVER HOUSE Spokane, Washington

#### Verbal Boundary Description

The north 200 feet of the east half of Block "N," the north 200 feet of Block "O," and the North 200 feet of the west 50 feet of Block "P" of the Second Addition to the Railroad Addition, as per plat thereof recorded in Volume "A" of Plats, page 8.

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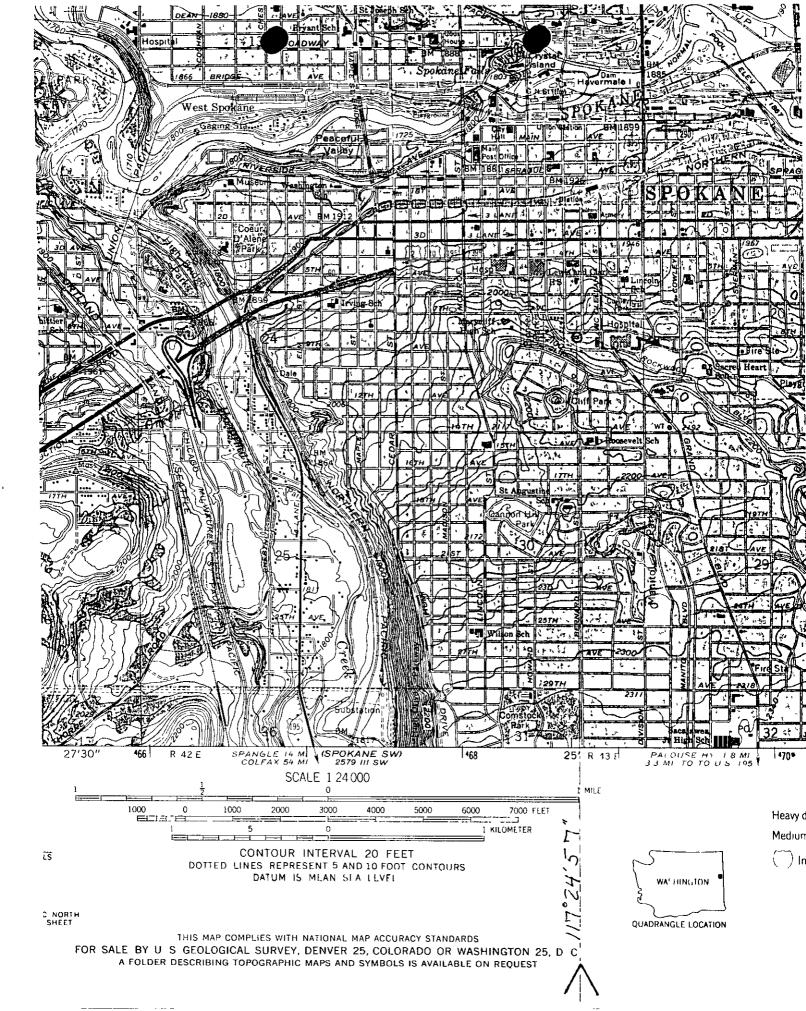
Form 10-301 (July 1968)

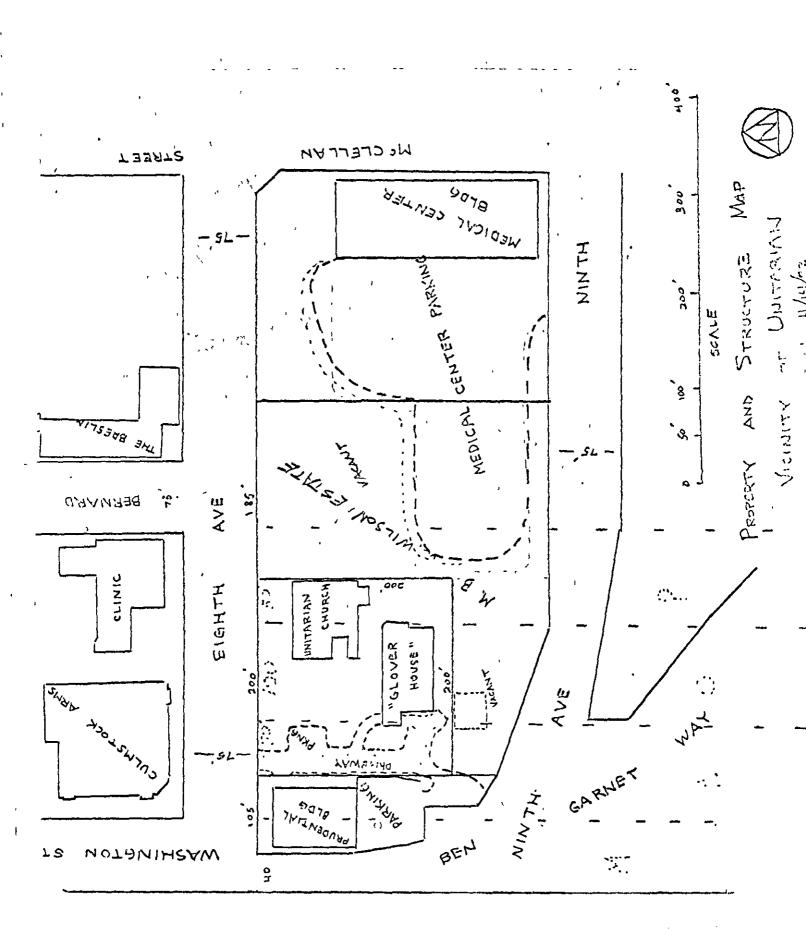
# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE IN OR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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Spokane Unitarıan Church	Glover House	
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STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Washington	Spokane	Spokane
West 321 - 8th Avenue		
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GPO 932-010





FORM 10-301 A (6/72)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

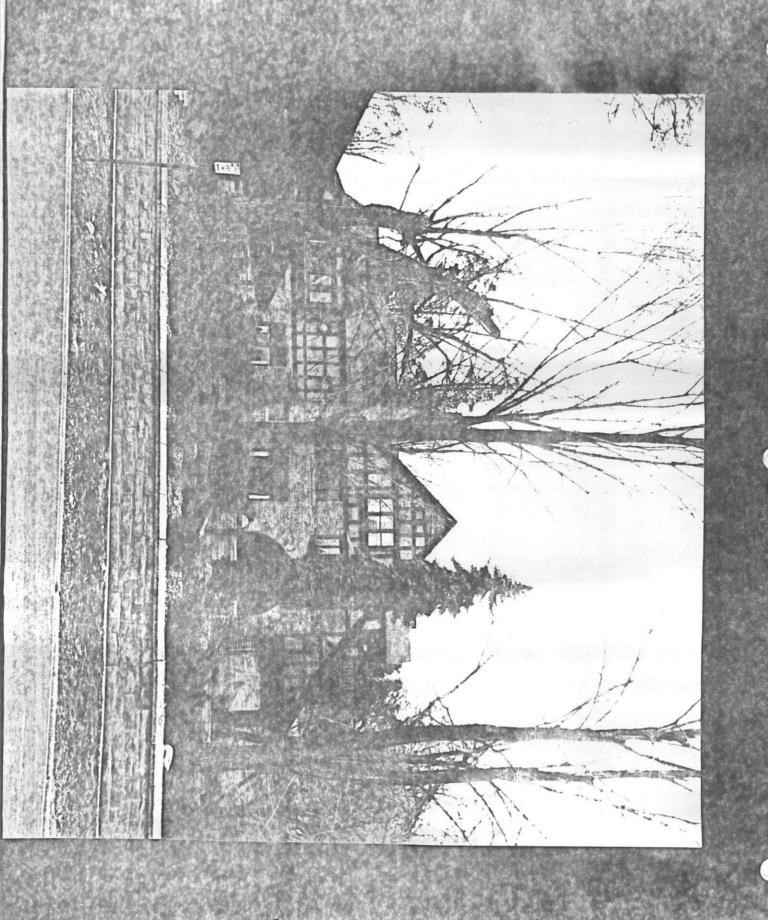
#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1 NAME		
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Spokane Unitarian Church	Glover House	
2 LOCATION	·	
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Washington	Spokane	Spokane
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William H. Trogdon	April 12, 1970	Eastern Wash. State Hist. So
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Looking south toward principle elevation from 8th Avenue.

GPO 932-009







This picture was taken in the summer of 1892 from the right-of-way of Eighth Avenue looking southeast. Notice the carriage house - servants quarters on the right and to the rear of the house.

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

