

Spokane Preservation Advocates (SPA) presents its first annual Spokane Matters List highlighting historical buildings, structures, sites, or objects that members of our community think play important roles in the heritage of Spokane and Spokane County. Through this initiative we aim to share the stories of historic places that matter to those in our community, motivate community members to think and talk about the places that matter, and share stories of our area's heritage and preservation efforts. In no particular order, the 2011 Spokane Matters List is as follows:

CAMPBELL HOUSE
CHENEY DEPOT (NORTHERN RAILWAY)
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OPPORTUNITY TOWNSHIP HALL
DODD HOUSE
JENSEN-BYRD BUILDING

HISTORIC STREET TREE CANOPY
WESTMINSTER APARTMENTS
RIVERSIDE AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT
NINTH AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT
LEWIS AND CLARK HIGH SCHOOL
OLD PARKER CABIN

CAMPBELL HOUSE



Campbell House, 2316 West First Avenue, was built in 1898 and is an excellent example of the architecture of Kirtland Kelsey Cutter, premier architect of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is a contributing property to the Browne's Addition National Register Historic District, and is also listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places. It was the second home of the Spokane Historical Society, having been donated to them by Helen Campbell Powell, the daughter of the only family to live in the house. From 1924 until the early 1960s it served as the museum for Spokane. After the Cheney

Cowles Museum was established by the Eastern Washington State Historical Society, a decision was made to open it as a historic house museum that would highlight the "Age of Elegance" in Spokane. It has been preserved to museum standards and is often cited as visitors' favorite part of the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (the MAC). There are threats to the house as state funding diminishes and private funding sources are questionable.

CHENEY DEPOT (NORTHERN RAILWAY)

The Cheney Depot was built in 1927, replacing an 1881 depot structure for the Northern Pacific Railway. The building is located at 505 Front Street, near the central downtown business district of Cheney, WA. The building contains a freight room, the agent's office, a passenger waiting room, and covered outdoor waiting area. It has approximately 1800 sq. ft. of interior space and retains much of its original interior, including light fixtures. The Mission Revival style depot is significant not only because of its unusual style in the northwest but also because of its



connection to one of Cheney's famous sons, Clarence C. Martin, who was born and educated in Cheney. Through his influence the railroad allowed him to choose a non-standard design for the replacement depot. Clarence D. Martin served as Governor of Washington between 1932 and 1940 and was instrumental in securing the Grand Coulee Dam project. The depot is one of the few remaining buildings that are significant to the community's heritage as a railroad town and in the larger picture of state events. The building must be moved off Burlington property to preserve it as it sits between active train tracks and has no safe public access. The building is currently unoccupied and the owner has declared it surplus property and offered it at no cost to the city or anyone who will move it off the property. Although there is no set deadline, two years have passed since the offer was made. While citizens have voiced support for saving the historic building, no leadership group has emerged.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and hall are located at 1703 North Washington in Spokane. The hall was built in 1932 and the church in 1948. It represents one of the region's only examples of Byzantine architecture. The church hall was used as a community center for Spokane's early Greek community during the Great Depression, making it historically significant in the local Greek community. Both buildings are in use, and maintenance is ongoing. Each year there is

a Greek dinner festival open to the public, which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary in 2010. There are no perceived threats for these buildings.

OPPORTUNITY TOWNSHIP HALL

The old Opportunity Township Hall, now housing the Spokane Valley Heritage Museum, is located at 12114 East Sprague Avenue in Spokane Valley. It is one of the few remaining historic buildings in Spokane Valley. The building was constructed in 1912 as the governmental building for Opportunity Township. It was designed by C. Harvey Smith, with construction being completed by C. E. Johnson and A. E. Knight, in the Spanish Colonial Revival/Mission Style, which is very unusual for this region. It served as a center of community activity for many years, holding meetings for a wide variety of local groups, as well as housing the first public library in the valley. The non-profit Spokane Valley Heritage Museum organization acquired the building in March 2004 and has made great strides in restoring and maintaining the building, which is adorned by a scrolled sign above the entry that reads, "Anno Opportunity 1912." Despite the hard work and continued efforts of the museum staff and volunteers, the building, especially its roof and stucco exterior, is in need of repair and is constantly threatened by weather and increasing age.



DODD HOUSE



The Dodd House, located at 603 South Arthur Street, was constructed in 1913 by Sonora Smart Dodd and her husband John Bruce Dodd adjacent to the original Liberty Park in Spokane's East Central neighborhood. The property, including the house, rock retaining walls, and the garage, is not only significant as a fine example of the Craftsman architectural style in Spokane, but for its association with Sonora Dodd, who founded Father's Day on June 19, 1910. She and her husband lived in the house with her father, Civil War Veteran William Jackson Smart, in whose honor she spent years relentlessly pursuing the

national recognition of Father's Day, now celebrated in over eighty-five countries. The house is listed on both the Spokane and National Registers of Historic Places, and also holds the prestigious title of a National Historic Landmark. The house is well loved and cared for by its current owners, with no known threats at present.

JENSEN-BYRD BUILDING

The Jensen-Byrd Building is an impressive six-story warehouse with a classical cornice and other detailing, located at the eastern termination of Main Avenue in downtown Spokane. An outstanding example of early-twentieth century warehouse architecture, the building attests to Spokane's prosperity as a regional business center at the time, and today constitutes a prominent landmark where the Central Business District meets the University District, along the Division Street gateway into Spokane. Designed by Spokane architect Albert Held and built in 1909 for the Marshall-Wells Hardware Company of Duluth, Portland and Winnipeg, the warehouse was purchased by the Jensen-Byrd Company in 1958. When Washington State University announced its intention to see the building demolished in 2005, SPA initiated an intensive advocacy campaign. The building is currently vacant and for sale, and the university has not ruled out demolition if a suitable buyer is not found.



HISTORIC STREET TREE CANOPY

In 1908, following the recommendations of the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, MA, Spokane undertook a major street beautification effort. Eighty thousand trees were purchased and planted in strips and medians throughout the city's neighborhoods – now our historic neighborhoods. These plantings were part of a deliberate, comprehensive, streetscape plan for Spokane. Now nearly 100 years old, these trees are nearing the ends of their natural life spans. It is time for Spokane to undertake major initiatives to address the long-term health and maintenance of street trees throughout the city. If we don't begin to seriously address the problems facing our street trees, future generations will find Spokane's historic neighborhoods barren places with diminished value and little natural beauty. These large old trees are worthy of special attention through: increased emphasis on preservation of Spokane's large-canopied street trees; and like-tree replacement, regardless of planting strip size, to maintain Spokane's existing historic neighborhood streetscapes. There is a lack of funding for the proper preservation and maintenance of these trees on private and public property. SPA has been very involved in this large street tree preservation advocacy, and currently the Spokane Park Board is initiating groundbreaking budget funding discussions.



WESTMINSTER APARTMENTS



The prominent four-story Westminster Apartment Building is located at 2301 West Pacific Avenue in Browne's Addition. Constructed as a luxury apartment building in 1905, this imposing Tudor Revival style building attests to the economic diversity of Spokane's citizens during the boom years of the early twentieth century, and is one of the major landmarks in the historic Browne's Addition neighborhood. The original residences were large, single-level units, some of which remain fully intact while others have been reduced in size. Nevertheless, much of the original character remains, both inside and out, with

many units exhibiting historical features such as original woodwork, beamed ceilings, hardwood floors, and transom windows. A small elevator with original entry gate also remains in the building in working condition. The Westminster Apartment Building also originally housed the Westminster Bakery, which later relocated to Hillyard around 1938. The building is in original and well-maintained condition. There are currently no known threats to this building.

RIVERSIDE AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Riverside Avenue, between Monroe and Cedar Streets, is one of Spokane's most beautiful thoroughfares, lined with some of the city's most stately and important buildings. Even with the encroachment of modern times the street has maintained its unique sense of place, with buildings dating as early as 1901. Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral, the Spokane Club, the original Chamber of Commerce Building, and the Masonic Temple have maintained their integrity. To quote from the 1975 National Register of Historic Places District Nomination, "their individual contributions were of such high quality that the texture of the whole is more than the sum of the individual structures. The district has been unified... by pomp and circumstance of long usage and general intent." Their existence is always threatened by the perceived expense of maintaining historic buildings versus replacing them with new facilities.



NINTH AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT



The Ninth Avenue Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994, extends along Ninth Avenue between Monroe and Chestnut Streets on Spokane's South Hill, also including portions of Seventh, Eighth, Tenth, and Eleventh Avenues. The neighborhood, significant for its cohesive architectural character, including many impressive homes of Spokane's early elite, also exhibits the tree-canopied streets so representative of Spokane's early neighborhoods. Much of the district is situated with Cannon's Addition, a residential area platted in 1883 by one of the city's early founders, Anthony

McCue Cannon. Between 1900 and 1910, when Spokane's population boomed at a rate never matched by any other northwestern city, full-scale development of the neighborhood commenced, facilitated by the trolley car system that had a stop on the southeast corner of Ninth Avenue and Elm Street. The neighborhood was, and still is, a showcase for the work of some of the city's most prominent architects including Loren L. Rand, Willis A. Ritchie, Cutter and Malmgren, Albert Held, John K. Dow, and Julius Zittel, and exhibits a wide and varied collection of architectural styles. It is also notable because both upper- and middle-class families settled in the neighborhood, representing a complete portrait of an early-twentieth-century neighborhood. Today, the most identifiable threat to the district includes the potential loss of historic fabric and interruption of the cohesive character of the district resulting from the filing of demolition permits for three dwellings at the eastern boundary of the district, in the 1000 Block of Ninth Avenue. Though the demolition permits filed for these three houses have expired, the fates of the houses remain unknown.

LEWIS AND CLARK HIGH SCHOOL



Lewis and Clark High School remains one of the finest examples of the Collegiate Gothic architectural style in Spokane and is an outstanding example of the work of prominent Spokane architect Loren L. Rand. The building is located at 521 West Fourth Avenue, and is owned and operated by Spokane School District #81. Lewis and Clark High School is significant for its architecture and for its long association with educational efforts in Spokane. Built between 1910 and 1912 on the former site of a school that burned, the high school is the oldest extant high school building in the city and is on property that has a long

history with the Spokane educational system. In the 1990s voters chose to renovate the beloved school in its urban location in lieu of replacing it with a new building in the suburbs. Despite alterations of the original building including an addition constructed in the renovations between 1998 and 2001, the historical significance of the exterior remains little diminished. Lewis and Clark has been ranked at the top of performing high schools in the nation for the past several years. The interior retains much of the original artwork and a renovated auditorium. SPA's Doing It committee held a project to clean and package the artwork for storage during the school's renovation. Lewis and Clark High School is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

OLD PARKER CABIN

The Old Parker Cabin is located at 512 East Rhea Road in Colbert, WA. The cabin was built in 1893 and belonged to the Parker family who settled in the Colbert area. The cabin is log with mud chink construction and now rests on a concrete pad floor. The building is currently situated behind a newer residence, and is being used as a chicken coop. The Old Parker Cabin provides a historical perspective and look into the living structures of the early settlers in the area. There is currently no known threat to the property, no plans to redevelop it, though new suburban development immediately behind it provides a poignant reminder of the recent changes to the rural character of the area.





