

SPOKANE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Nomination Form

City/County Historic Landmarks Commission
Sixth Floor - City Hall
Spokane, Washington 99201-3333

Type all entries--complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Loewenberg-Roberts House
and/or common Moltke House

2. Location

street & number W. 1923 First Ave.
city/town Spokane vicinity of _____
state Wa. county Spokane

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site			<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes:restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	

4. Owner of Property

name Russell & Mary Moltke
street & number W. 1923 First
city,town Spokane vicinity of _____ state Wa.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse,registry of deeds,etc Spokane County Assessor's Office
street & number W. 1116 Broadway
city,town Spokane state Wa.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Spokane Historic Sites Survey
date 1978 federal state county local
depository for survey records _____
city,town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -excellent <input type="checkbox"/> -deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> -original site
<input type="checkbox"/> -good <input type="checkbox"/> -ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> -altered	<input type="checkbox"/> -moved date -----
<input type="checkbox"/> -fair <input type="checkbox"/> -unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Loewenberg-Roberts house is a classic Queen Anne design, featuring several design elements and features indicative of the style. Coursed, square-cut granite is used in the foundation, while the first floor granite is placed in broken courses. Red brick is used in the window and door surrounds in the form of quoins and voussoirs.

Moving up the facade to the second floor, the relationship of the two building materials is reversed. Red brick is the primary wall material, while rough-cut granite is used as trim around windows. The second floor gallery extends out to create a porch.

The upper level consisting of the roof gables and gablets is of frame construction and clad with wood shingles. Decorative spindle work and decorative plaster tracery adorn the gables.

A prominent round turret dominates the west facade and employs the same granite/red-brick treatment as seen on the rest of the house. Like the gable ends, the upper third of the turret is clad with wood shingles. A large bell-cast roof tops the turret.

Also on the grounds is a carriage house, built of red-brick and granite, but of much simpler design than the main house. It stands east of the Loewenberg-Roberts House.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify)

Specific dates 1889

Builder/Architect

W.J. Carpenter

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Designed in 1889 by architect W.J. Carpenter, the Loewenberg-Roberts house stands as one of Spokane's premiere examples of Queen Anne architecture. Mammoth in scale, the house boasts several quintessential elements associated with this ornate architectural style. The house was first owned by pioneer Spokane businessman, Bernard Loewenberg. Loewenberg owned the Loewenberg Mercantile up until the early 1890s. In 1898 Bernard Loewenberg traded houses with Edward Roberts. Roberts gained a reputation as a great engineer during the railroad construction boom of the 1880s. He also founded the Union Iron Works with Austin Corbin. Edward Roberts was known as a great civic leader in Spokane.

The house was designed by architect W.J. Carpenter in 1889 for pioneer businessman Bernard (Bernhart) Loewenberg. Loewenberg, a Prussian immigrant, owned the Loewenberg Mercantile located at the corner of Trent Avenue and Howard Street. Also designed by Carpenter, this building later became the Coeur d' Alene Hotel. Although somewhat altered from its original appearance, the building remains on its original site.

The stock market crash of 1893 bankrupted Loewenberg. After years of legal problems, he traded houses with E.J. Roberts in 1898.

Edward Roberts, a native of Randolph, Wisconsin, came to Spokane Falls around 1889. During the railway construction era of 1880 to 1890, he gained a reputation as an outstanding location and construction engineer in the North and Midwest. Edward Roberts worked as a locating engineer for James Hill on the Great Northern Railroad, and on the Northern Pacific Railroad. It was Roberts' railroad interests that brought him west.

After coming to Spokane Falls, Roberts became chief engineer of the D.C. Corbin Railway Systems: The Spokane Falls and Northern, the Spokane International, the Red Mountain, and the Nelson and Fort Shepherd. Roberts also founded the Union Iron Works, in 1898, with Austin Corbin. The Iron Works remained one of his interests well after his retirement from the railroads.

Edward Roberts was always a great booster of Spokane and was considered the last of the "Empire Builders." He passed away in 1949, at the age of 92.

9. Major Bibliographical References

PIONEER TITLE CO.
SPOKESMAN REVIEW 9-7-47
SPOKESMAN REVIEW 10-12-47

SPOKANE PRESS REVIEW 3-1-17
1978 HISTORIC SITES SURVEY
SPOKANE COUNTY ASSESSOR

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nomlnated property -----

Verbal boundary description and Justification

Browne's Addition Lots 3,4,&5 Block 9 Parcel #25241.0809

list all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state

county

state

county

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sam Gregg Research Assistant

organization Historic Preservation Office

date 4-10-92

street & number W. 808 Spokane Falls Blvd.

telephone 625-6370

city/town Spokane

state Wa.

12. Signature of Owner(s)

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Attest: _____
City Clerk

Date Heard: _____

Commission Decision: _____

Approved as to Form:

Council/Board Action: _____

Date: _____

Ass't City Attorney

We hereby certify that this property has been listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places:

MAYOR, City of Spokane or CHAIR, Spokane County Commissioners

CHAIR, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

City/County Historic Preservation Officer

Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

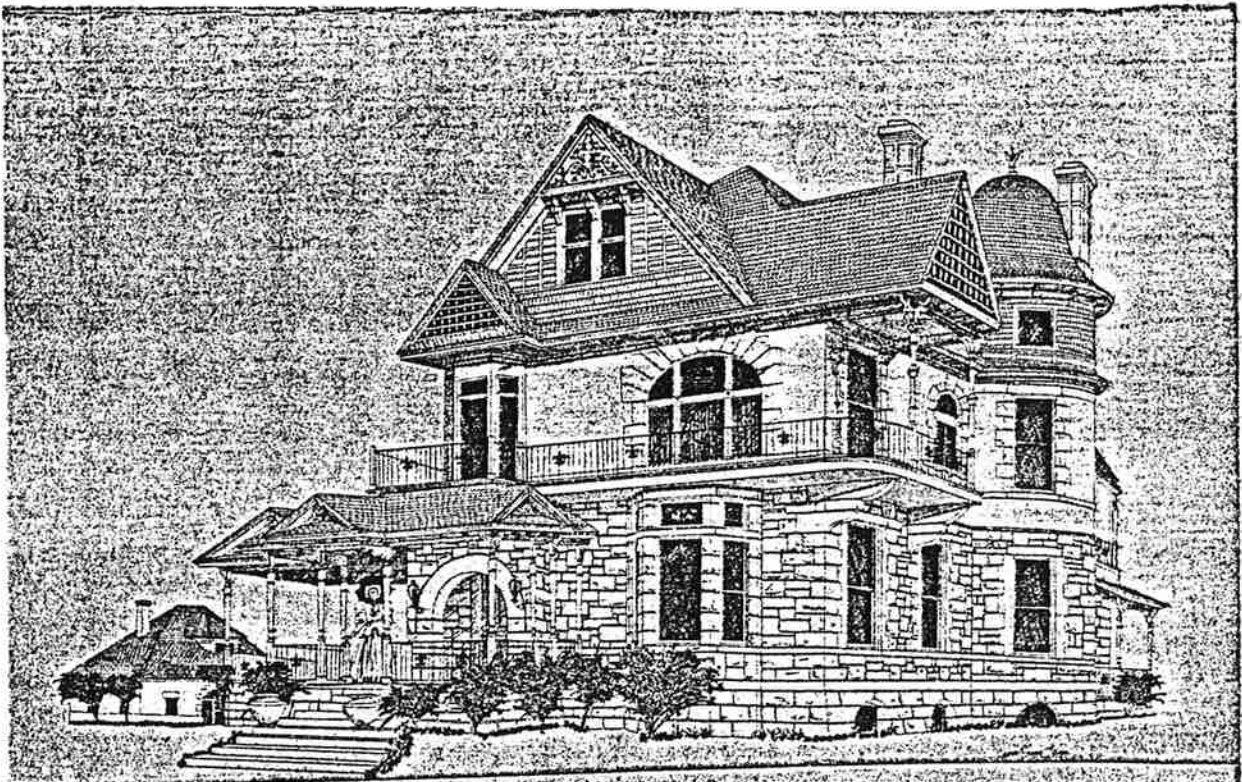
Continuation sheet

Item number 8

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The house remained in the Roberts family until 1959. John Mickelson owned it between 1960 and 1962. In 1964 Teresa Meinhart purchased the house, and four years later, in 1968, had it divided into five apartments.

In 1981 Russell and Mary Moltke bought the house and began a massive restoration. The Moltkes restored the house back into a single family residence.



This elegant Victorian mansion, listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings is being offered for sale. Features include 5 bedrooms, 3½ baths, 3 fireplaces, billiard room, carriage house, and 3 lots.

*Will be shown by appointment only
to qualified buyers*

*Jack & Lana Lenertz
1923 West First Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99201
1-509-747-6500*

Manfred & Ward Realtors

534-6141