

OPR 88-661

# Spokane Register of Historic Places

## Nomination Form

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

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

### 1. Name

historic Turner House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number E. 527 Rockwood Blvd.

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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Therese Olson

street & number E. 527 Rockwood Blvd.

city, town Spokane vicinity of state WA

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Spokane County Courthouse

street & number West 1116 Broadway Ave.

city, town Spokane state WA

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Landmarks Survey

date 1988 federal state county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Office, Spokane City Hall

city, town Spokane state WA 14B-2

## 7. Descriptio

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" 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

Located at E. 527 Rockwood Blvd., an irregular and hilly Street following the contour of numerous basalt outcroppings, this two and one half story basalt, masonry and half-timbered structure sits on the north side of the street with the rear of the structure facing the Spokane River valley. This craftsman bungalow structure is a good example of turn of the century craftsmanship with tudor revival influence with its basalt foundation, brick wall cladding, and ornamental half-timbered steep gable ends. This Structure is faced with a basalt and concrete porch with hexagonal columns and bracketed punch roof. There appears to have been a ballustrade surrounding the punch roof, and subsequently removed, as a centrally placed door from the second floor enters onto the porch roof.

The first level is masonry with a flemish bond pattern, headers are dark and stretchers are red giving it a near checkerboard pattern. The main entry is offset to the left of center with an oak door, and palladian influenced side windows.

Fenestration is typically single pane, single long windows with a non-operable transom piece divided symmetrically by muntins. This window pattern is repeated on both the first and second floor, though windows vary in size. The picture windows on the primary facade on the first floor are non-operable.

The second floor and gable ends are stucco with false timber half-framing. There are bayed windows symmetrically balanced off a central doorway on the primary facade. The front gabled dormers bisect a gabled roof with vergeboard and sweeping gabled ends. Roofing material is a new green composition shingle.

The interior entry is a double door foyer entering onto a central hall with the living room on the right followed by a formal dining room. On the left of the entry is a smaller library/music room followed by a stairway to the second floor and a small hallway to the kitchen and dining area. There are three bedrooms and a bath and a half on the second floor and two attic bedrooms on the third half-floor with a small dormer opening onto the gabled roof and central windows on the gabled ends facing the bedrooms. There is a full basement with the one notable feature of masonry arches on a basalt pillar, under the primary facade plane of this structure, opening onto the space below the porch.

Detail on the main floor includes maple floor with oak inlay in a symmetrical decorative pattern with an oak molding and entry arch from the entry hall to the living room. The ceiling is bracketed by oak cross framing, and a large oak mantel over the fireplace with tile inlay. There are pocket doors between the living and the dining room and two window seats opening to storage on either side of a built in hutch.

The kitchen has been recently remodeled. The stairway has oak newell post trads, risers and bannister with a moorish architectural detail. There is steep and narrow back stairway from the kitchen to the second floor. The second and third floor are carpeted with molding and plaster on laths.

There is a garage to the N.W. of the primary structure built at a later date. It stylistically replicated the tudor influence. Its date unknown.

# 8. Significance

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

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Situated on Rockwood Boulevard, this house retains the look and flavor of the early 1900s. Designed and built by John E. Anerson, the house was built for J.W. Truner, a pioneer in refrigeration. This house is important not only because of its classic architectural style, a Craftsman Bungalow with a Tudor influence, but also because of its association with the livestock trade in this city. Mr. P.W. Murphy, a subsequent owner of the home, played a critical role in Spokane, a city considered the center of livestock industry. Livestock was staple activity and Spokane was the hub of the Pacific Northwest, vital to the development and growth of the Inland Empire.

Designed and built by John E. Anderson, his craftsmanship was abundant. Mr. Anderson was known throughout Spokane as an experienced artisan in the designing and building of outstanding homes. Reminders of his tremendous talents are homes located on Overbluff, Upper Terrace and Rockwood Boulevard, streets Spokane treasures.

The house was built in 1911 for J. W. Turner who was a pioneer in the debut of refrigeration, owner of the Artic Storage Company on Pacific Avenue. In 1922 Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Van Brundt purchased the home. Mr. Van Brundt was treasurer for the Washington Brick Lime and Sewer Pipe Company who furnished most or all materials used in various historic structures in Spokane such as the County Court House, the Corbin House and the Palace. Van Brundt sold the home in 1930 to a Mr. Peter W. Murphy, a leader in the livestock arena. Mr. Murphy was a livestock broker and owner of the P.W. Murphy Commission Company, located at the current site of Spokane's only surviving Old Union Stockyard. Spokane was considered the North Western Gateway for East and Westbound shipping a critical hub for the livestock industry.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Spokesman Chronicle: Tues-5 Jun 1928 (Spokane is Center of Stock Industry)  
29 Jan 1925 (Livestock is Staple Activity); Spokesman Review: 5 Nov 1911  
Building Era for Rockwood..) 7 Apr 1912 (Beautiful Homes Adorn Rockwood),  
(Homes in Rockwood Harmonize..) 2 Jul 1911 (picture of Home during construct  
Ticor Title Company Tract Books: R.Ls Polks City Directory 1912, 1920, 1930  
Anderson Homes by John E. Anderson

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Manito Park Add E30FT of L11 & W35FT of L12 B25  
Parcel # 20533-35-5

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state

county

state

county

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bruce & Therese Olson, assisted by Scott Brooks-Miller, Historic P  
-ervation Office

organization

date July 20, 1988

street & number E. 527 Rockwood Blvd.

telephone (509) 838-3422

city or town Spokane

state WA

## 12. Signature of Owner(s)

*Bruce A. Olson*  
*Therese M. Olson*

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: AUGUST 11, 1988

Date Heard: SEPTEMBER 14, 1988

Commission Decision: APPROVED

Council/Board Action: Approved

Date: September 26, 1988

Attest *Paulyn J. Montgomery*  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
*Barley A. Shaw*  
Ass't. Corporation Counsel

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

*Vicki S. McNeill*  
Mayor, City of Spokane

~~or~~ Chair, Spokane County Commissioners

*Joan...*  
Chair, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

*...*  
City/County Historic Preservation Officer

14B-5





