

# **Cliff Cannon**





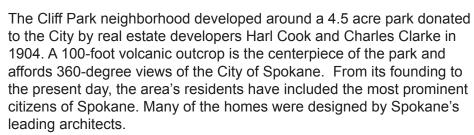
## **Cliff Cannon - Days of Yore**

In 1874, Reverend Henry Thomas Cowley and his family were one of the first four families to settle in Spokane Falls. The Spokane Tribe helped build a log cabin and a schoolhouse on the land that is now Cowley Park at Sixth Avenue and Division Street. Some 250-300 Native Americans assembled in the vicinity of Pine Street to be close to the school.

Cannon's Addition and Cliff Park form most of what is known as the Cliff Cannon Neighborhood. Cannon's Addition was named for and originally platted by Anthony McCue Cannon in 1883. By the late 1800s, the northern portion of Cannon's Addition had evolved into an elite neighborhood. Bankers, senators, businessmen, mining and lumber entrepreneurs, doctors, architects and lawyers built their mansions along the base of the basalt bluff. Famous names include Kirtland Kelsey Cutter, D.C. Corbin and James Glover. Even apartment dwellings were designed by prominent architects for wealthy tenants. The primary development of Cannon's Addition occurred between 1900 and 1925.



Also in 1883, a four-room school opened at Fourth Avenue and Stevens Street. In 1891, the school moved to Fifth Avenue and Washington Street and was later named South Central when North Central was built. The school was destroyed by fire in 1910 and on April 8, 1911 Theodore Roosevelt set the cornerstone for the new Collegiate Gothic Style building, Lewis and Clark High School, at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Howard Street.





In 1907 the cornerstone for a new Sacred Heart hospital was dedicated at Eighth Avenue and Browne Street. The same year, as Spokane's population spread up the South Hill, a two-story brick building was constructed for Roosevelt Elementary School at Fourteenth Avenue and Bernard Street (replaced in 1981). The stylish brick building at Eighth Avenue and Monroe Street was once Spokane Fire Station No. 9 built in 1930 to replace the original 1908 structure.









Streetcars served the South Hill from 1888 until 1936. "Cook's Line" ran from Trent Avenue and Washington Street, up Bernard Street, then south on Grand Boulevard. The "North Monroe-Cannon Hill Line" zigzagged south along Howard, Adams, Jefferson and Madison Streets, and another line ran diagonally across the neighborhood from Ninth Avenue to Bernard Street, then south.

Pioneer Park was formed in 1945 when the Spokane Park Board purchased the D.C. Corbin, the former Frank Rockwood Moore and the United States Senator George Turner properties. The property includes the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens built between 1889 and 1932. The park originally included thirteen acres, from Seventh Avenue to Cliff Drive between Howard and Stevens Streets. In the 1960s, the Stevens Street extension was constructed and took three acres from the park. The park is included in the Marycliff-Cliff Park National Register Historic District. Pioneer Park was renamed Edwidge Woldson Park in 2010 in honor of her contributions to the community.

During construction of Interstate 90, from 1965 to 1971, part of the Historic Cannon's Addition was demolished. Years later, residents began to revive the neighborhood and to build awareness about the history of the area. Accomplishments listed by The Spokesman-Review (Feb. 13, 1997) included "a Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) station, a neighborhood park (Polly Judd Park) and historic homes being listed on local, state and national registers."



Rocket Bakery

## Life in Cliff Cannon - Today

Cliff Cannon is one of the great historic neighborhoods in central Spokane. Rising uphill to the south, it has a dramatic, elevated location. Residents have a strong connection to living here and enjoy the proximity to downtown Spokane for work or pleasure. They also enjoy close neighborhood shopping, parks and trail access, or a simple walk along the tree-lined guiet streets. People who live here strive for a neighborhood that is safe, friendly, clean and beautiful. Neighbors get to know one another with block parties, barbeques, yard sales and an occasional neighborhood clean-up. Younger and older families, professionals, students, retirees, singles, health conscious-individuals and skilled craftsmen call this home. Housing choices include historic mansions, modest older homes, condominiums, apartments and historic restoration projects. Roosevelt Elementary School and Lewis and Clark High School are located in the neighborhood. Major health care centers for the region located at the north end of Cliff Cannon include Deaconess, Shriners and Sacred Heart hospitals, along with other supporting medical facilities.



"It's a neighborhood with history and friendly neighbors that is near downtown and easy to commute to and from."

-Jeff Galpin



Cliff Cannon is a member fo the South Hill Coalition which created a plan to connect all of the South Hill neighborhoods and make them more livable.









#### **Cliff Cannon - Treasures**

- Cliff Park, Edwidge Woldson Park, Cowley Park and Polly Judd Park
- · Glover Mansion
- Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens
- Westminster Congregational Church of Spokane
- Plymouth Congregational Church
- Marycliff-Cliff Park Historic District, Ninth Avenue Historic District, and Booge's Addition Historic District with numerous historic homes
- · Woman's Club of Spokane
- Lewis and Clark High School
- Marycliff High School
- Remaining trolley track and brick streets

#### **Cliff Cannon - Natural & Built Identity**

The natural setting for much of Cliff Cannon is special. The elevation gain from the Spokane River Valley below allows sites to have spectacular hilltop vistas of Spokane and the mountains beyond. The variety of shapes and sizes of natural basalt outcropping remaining today dictated the development patterns of streets and building sites years ago. Intermixed within the rocky side-slopes and ridges are mature stands of conifer and deciduous trees. Most streets have short block grid patterns, except for curvilinear roadways traversing the steeper sections of the neighborhood. The built structures have a rich diversity of styles, materials, size and details reflecting their purpose and desires of the original owners. Housing styles include Craftsman, Brick Tudor, Victorian and other more modern designs. Many older homes have been preserved and well maintained, while others have been removed over time and replaced with newer single family houses, apartments and condominiums. Numerous old landscape walls and steps built from native rock still remain throughout the parks and building sites. Many outstanding residential landscapes and gardens also exist in Cliff Cannon. Today, small commercial centers in the neighborhood offer the convenience of nearby grocery and hardware stores, restaurants and coffee shops.





Moore-Turner Heritage Garden Pond

# **Cliff Cannon - Neighborhood Tales**

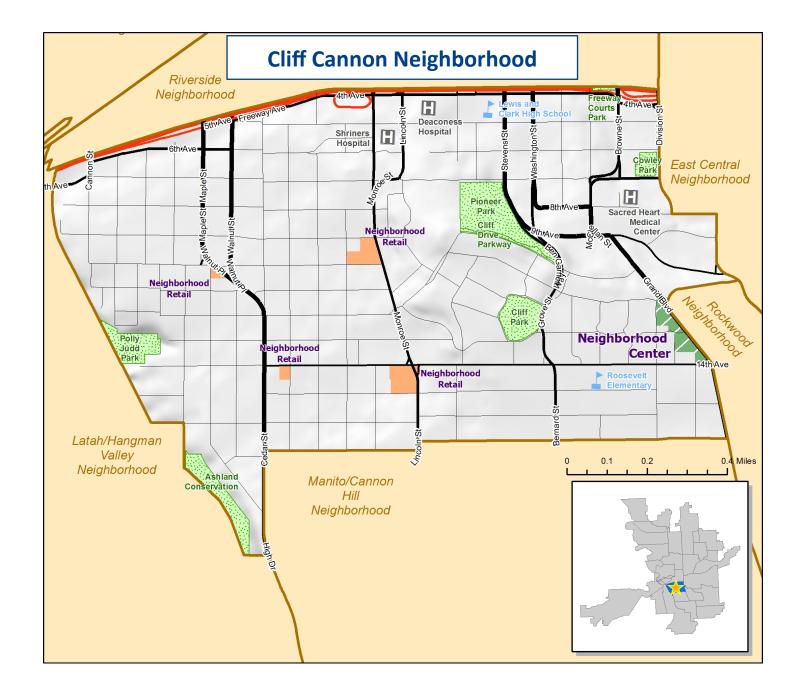
"People traveling north to Spokane from the Palouse could stop at Polly Judd's house (facing south over what is now Polly Judd Park) and freshen up before traveling into the City of Spokane proper. The ravine is filled now (Polly Judd Park and railroad fill), but used to connect down to a very old road that ran near Latah Creek. Occasionally people will tell you the Polly Judd house had a speakeasy in the 1920s, but I can't confirm that. Polly Judd was a lilac hybridizer who also had a Japanese garden on her property."

-Rosemary Small

#### **Cliff Cannon - Annual Events or Activities**

- Lower South Hill Neighborhood Block Party and Potluck: every September
- The Winter Vintage Fashion Tea: every December at the Woman's Club of Spokane





#### SOURCES

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