

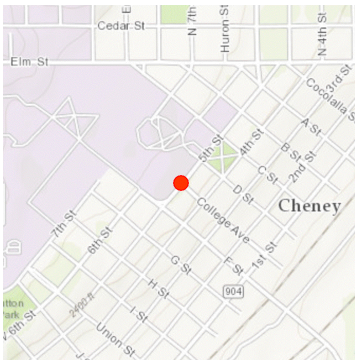


Historic Property Report

Historic Name: Herculean Pillars

Property ID: 706419

Location



Address: Eastern Washington University, 526 5th St, Cheney, Washington
Location Comments: Pillars are at the intersection of 5th Street and College Avenue.
GeographicAreas: Cheney,Spokane,Spokane County,T23R41E13,CHENEY Quadrangle

Information

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1915	<input type="checkbox"/>

Number of stories: N/A

Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Landscape	Landscape - Street Furniture/Object

Historic Context: Architecture

Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Builder	Alumni Association and Students

Photos



SRS-36a.JPG



SRS-36g.JPG



SRS-36f.JPG



SRS-36e.JPG



SRS-36d.JPG



SRS-36c.JPG

Historic Property Report



SRS-36b.JPG



Historic Property Report

Inventory Details - 7/18/2016

Common name: Herculean Pillars
Date recorded: 7/18/2016
Field Recorder: Stephen Emerson
Field Site number: SRS-36
SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Form Type	Landscape - Plaza
Cladding	Stone - Ashlar/Cut
Structural System	Masonry - Stone
Plan	Irregular

Surveyor Opinion

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): Yes

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): Yes

Significance narrative: These stone structures stand on 5th Street facing down College Avenue into the heart of the Cheney central business district. They form the old, now largely symbolic, entrance to the campus when most students and visitors arrived on foot from the railroad depot at the other end of College Avenue instead of by automobile as is the case today. A walkway leads north from the pillars to the main entrance of Showalter Hall. The pillars and attached benches are constructed of rough cut granite blocks salvaged from the rubble of the old Cheney Normal School building, which burned in 1912. This was not the only use of the rescued granite blocks. Several blocks away, at City Park, they serve as the base of the granite Veterans Memorial obelisk. Furthermore, they turn up in various walls and retaining walls throughout central Cheney. The Herculean Pillars are a contributing component of the Eastern Washington University Campus National Historic District due to their association with the original Cheney Normal School building, their further association with Showalter Hall, and their lengthy function as both a physical and symbolic gateway between the city of Cheney and the college campus.



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- Physical description:** These are two stone structures that flank the main pedestrian entrance to the University. They are constructed of massive granite blocks of rectangular and square shapes, mortared into place. The blocks are rough cut and randomly coursed. Two 12-foot high square pillars flank the walkway, each with a square stone capital. Metal plaques on both pillars read “Erected by the Alumni Association and Students - 1915.” Each pillar has an adjoining 20-foot long wall with a curvilinear section, concluding with a stone pier. The semi-circular portions of the wall contain curved granite benches.
- Bibliography:** Emerson, Stephen. A Historic Property Inventory of Rock Structures in Spokane County, Washington. Archisto Enterprises, 2016.