

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

RECEIVED

APR 1 9 1988

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Coolidge-Rising House  
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number West 1405 Ninth Avenue  not for publication  
city, town Spokane  vicinity  
state Washington code WA county Spokane code 063 zip code 99202

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>2</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

*John E. Tho* 3-30-88  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. *Alvora Byers* Entered in the National Register 5-19-88  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

---

**6. Function or Use**

---

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

---

---

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

---

---

---

**7. Description**

---

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Late 19th and Early 20th CenturyAmerican Movements: Craftsman

---

---

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation granitewalls pressed brickstuccoroof compositionother 

---

---

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Coolidge-Rising House is a well preserved Craftsman style residence located on a double lot on Spokane's lower South Hill. The house sits on a large lawn with deciduous trees; a garage (complementary in style to the main house) is located in the rear west corner of the property. The surrounding residential neighborhood is characterized by wide, tree-lined streets and large houses dating mostly from the first decade of the 20th century. Many of the houses were converted from single-family to multiple housing units during World War II to accommodate the influx of military personnel at area bases. More recently, intrusive apartment buildings have been constructed, often out of scale and context with the domestic character of the neighborhood. Against this backdrop, the Coolidge-Rising House is a good example of the historic domestic architecture of the area.

Rectangular in shape, the two and one half story house has a side-gabled roof, projecting gabled bays on the front (north) and rear facades and a gabled dormer on the front facade. The upper stories of the house are faced in stucco, the lower floor is veneered with tan pressed brick laid in a strecher bond, and the roof is covered with composition shingles. The house rests on a foundation of rough cut granite. A wooden belt course runs around the house at the second floor sill. On the east and west sides, the upper story gable ends project slightly over the lower story; the overhangs are supported by scrolled wooden brackets.

The house is characterized by the restrained, structural ornament associated with the Craftsman style. The overhanging eaves of the roof are open with exposed decorative rafter tails. The eaves of the gable ends are faced with vergeboards supported by kneebraces and the gable peaks are ornamented with heavy king post trusses. The walls of the upper gable ends are lighted with paired windows with balconets. The balconets rest on wood consoles and are composed of panelled wood posts and decorative balustrades with wood rails and ornamental ironwork. A porch spans the front (north) facade and is sheltered by a side gabled roof with barge boards and exposed rafter tails. A front-facing gablet projects above the central entry. The porch is supported by four pairs of square brick columns and similarly styled pilasters at each end of the porch. The porch balustrade, like that of the balconies, is composed of a wooden railing with decorative iron work. On the east gable end is a pergola of four matching brick columns covered with a trellis composed of wooden beams with carved ends. (Missing elements of the trellis were recently restored using the existing beams as a pattern.)

Windows on the upper floors are mostly wood frame, one-over-one double hung sash unit. The upper lights often feature geometric patterned or leaded glass. The lower floor has several large windows, some with leaded designs of tulips in the panes. A sun porch projects on the second story east rear of the house and features a small balcony and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

---

multi-paned casement windows (recently restored). A circular iron staircase was added on the outside rear of the building several years ago to provide a fire exit for the third floor apartment.

The interior of the house remains in excellent condition on the first and second stories, characterized by spacious rooms and a relatively open floor plan. The interior of the house features a broad entry hall that originally ran from the front to the rear of the house. The hall is treated in a restrained classical manner with oak pilasters and oak wainscoting up to the moulded plate rail. To one side of the entry are large front and rear parlors; on the opposite wall is the stairs to the second story and a dining hall. The parlors have a beamed ceiling and a fireplace with a classical entablature and columns. Window moldings in the entry and parlors are treated in a classical manner with projecting hoods. The dining room has oak wainscoting and an oak plate rail. Upstairs, four bedrooms are organized around the central hall. The master bedroom features a fireplace with a tile face and a classical mantle supported by columns. The attic story has been converted to an apartment.

An alley runs east to west at the rear of the property and the matching two-car, two-story garage sits on the west corner of the lot along the alley. The garage is faced with tan pressed brick on the lower story and stucco on the upper story. The eaves of the gable roof of the garage has decorated vergeboards and exposed rafters, reflecting those on the main house, as well as a wood belt course and paired windows on the first and second floors.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce  
Communications  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1906-1938  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1906, 1924  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

n/a  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

Alfred Coolidge, Henry Rising

Architect/Builder

John K. Dow

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Built in 1906 on Spokane's South Hill, the Coolidge-Rising house is historically significant for its associations with two leaders in the commercial development of the region during the early 20th century. Financier Alfred Coolidge, who built the house, was a founder, president, and director of banks in both Spokane and Whitman counties, as well as an officer in an investment firm and a mining company. Henry Rising, who purchased the home in 1924, was the long-time editor of the Spokane Chronicle and the president of the parent publishing company. As a prominent banker and journalist-publisher, the men played influential roles in the Inland Empire, and the well preserved Craftsman style house, designed by Spokane architect John K. Dow, reflects the status of the men and their achievements.

Historical Background: The Coolidge-Rising House is located on a spacious lot in Spokane's prestigious lower South Hill neighborhood, an area platted by Spokane pioneer A.M. Cannon and developed as a fashionable home for the city's bankers, attorneys, doctors, and merchants during the expansive years of the early 20th century. Alfred Coolidge purchased the nominated parcel in 1904, but did not build on it until 1906. Coolidge, the son of a pioneer Oregon family, was a financier who had formed an investment firm in his home state with A.F. McLaine. In 1904, Coolidge moved to Spokane to assume the presidency of the Trader's National Bank, an institution founded in 1885. Within two years, Coolidge had been named chairman of the board of the bank and completed his house on the South Hill. Simultaneously, Coolidge served as president of the Pacific Investment Association and vice-president of Rambler-Cariboo Mines, Ltd, and an office of the Western Union Life Insurance Company. Shortly after the house was finished, the Coolidge and McClaine firm expanded into the rich, fertile farmland of the Palouse where Coolidge organized (and later served as president of) the Colfax National Bank and became a partner in the First Savings and Trust Bank of Colfax. Socially as well as financially prominent, Coolidge belonged to the prestigious Spokane Club, the Spokane Country Club, several fraternal orders, and used his home on the South Hill as a center for many social gatherings. In 1924, Coolidge moved to Colfax to assume direct stewardship of his bank; he died six years later at the age of 71, still active in the financial affairs of the region.

In 1924, Coolidge sold the home to Henry Rising, editor of the Spokane Daily Chronicle for 45 years. Rising came to Spokane in 1893 and began work as a subscription solicitor and reporter for the city's evening newspaper. He became managing editor of the Chronicle in 1894 and for the next half century was a leading journalist in the region. Under his

See continuation sheet

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- Durham, Nelson W. Spokane and the Inland Empire. Spokane: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1912.
- Fuller, George W. Spokane and the Inland Empire, Who's Who. Spokane: H.E. Linderman, 1928.
- Kent News Journal. Kent, Washington. June 7, 1961.
- Polk, R.L. City Directories, Spokane.
- Seattle Times. September 20, 1957.
- Spokane County Courthouse Records.
- Spokesman-Review. Spokane, Washington. June 10, 1906, p. 6, January 13, 1911, p. 6:4, August 5, 1914, p. 1, July 28, 1930, March 6, 1939, p. 1, and March 8, 1939, p. 1.
- Ticor Title Company Tract Books.
- Spokane Chronicle, December 29, 1906.

See continuation sheet

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

Quadrangle Name: Spokane NW Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	1	4	6	7	5	8	0	5	2	7	6	9	6	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

Cannon's Addition, Block 44, Lots 1 and 2, City of Spokane, Washington.

See continuation sheet

### Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel includes the entire property historically associated with Alfred Coolidge and Henry Rising.

See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Gale Compau (Edited by Leonard T. Garfield)

organization \_\_\_\_\_

date September 3, 1987

street & number 424 West Jefferson Court

telephone 509/624-4921

city or town Spokane

state Washington zip code 99203

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

---

leadership, several nationally recognized journalists, including Hallet Abend of The New York Times, received their training at the Chronicle. In 1923, just prior to buying the house, Rising became president of the Chronicle company and publisher of the newspaper. At his death in 1939, the Spokesman-Review called him one of Spokane's "great citizens". Active in both social and philanthropic organizations, Rising and his wife entertained frequently at the house and their guests included many of the city's most prominent citizens. The home remained in the Rising family until 1943, after which it became a rental property.

The architect of the house, John K. Dow, was a Minnesota native who began his architectural career in Spokane in 1889. He practiced there for nearly fifty years before moving to the Seattle area. Among his Spokane designs are the Hutton Building (National Register, 1983), Westminster Congregational Church (National Register, 1978), the Empire State Building (National Register, 1976), the Mohawk Building, and the M.M. Sellar-Jensen Byrd Buildings. The Castle-Gordon House, the Coolidge-Rising House, and the August Paulsen House are among the finest of his residential designs. During his career in Spokane, Dow worked with two partners, L.L. Rand and C.Z. Hubbell. With Hubbell, he designed the 1908 Paulsen Building. Dow was also responsible for courthouses in Lincoln and Adams counties and for some early buildings at Washington State University. The Coolidge-Rising House is a fine example of the large post-Victorian houses of the period, reflecting the influence of the Craftsman movement.