

# Downtown Spokane, Washington

FAMOUS DOWNTOWN CITY LANDMARKS AND SETTINGS



The Crescent at Christmastime



Dallying at The Davenport



Flying South Over Spokane Falls



Sunday Brunch at the Spokane Club

## 1. The Crescent at Christmastime ~ 2009

The Crescent Department Store was THE place to shop growing up in Spokane. It opened in 1899, the year of the big Spokane fire that virtually destroyed the downtown area. The store served faithfully until 1988 when it was sold to the F&N Acquisition Corporation. Christmas was *everything* to our family, and each year we went to the Crescent for pictures with Santa. I was six, and we sisters were dressed in our rmatching red plaid taffetas sewn by my mother, Sally. After photos, we always stopped by the signature animated store window. This was filled with lights, baubles and figures (mostly elves) that moved in time to holiday music.

## 2. Dallying at the Davenport ~ 2008

Set during the late 1940s, this is a portrait of the Louis B. Davenport's legendary hotel in the heart of downtown Spokane. To the right is the Pennington Hotel and at the forefront, Davenport's luxurious restaurant. Designed by famed architect, Kirtland K. Cutter, the hotel opened in 1914 to become the shining jewel on Spokane's skyline for decades. With Davenport's death in 1951, the hotel gradually declined, closing in in 1985. After years of neglect and possible demolition, Walt and Karen Worthy purchased the hotel in 2000. After countless hours of renovation, restoration and careful attention to detail, they reopened the grand "lady" in 2002, giving Spokane and all of its visitors back this truly remarkable treasure.

## 3. Flying South Over Spokane Falls ~ 2004

Not only did famed architect, Kirtland K. Cutter, create dozens of beautiful homes and handsome landmark buildings in Spokane, he also leant his design flair to other projects. This is a portrait of the majestic Monroe Street Bridge, which spans the river at the west end of downtown Spokane. (The photo above was taken in the midst of the bridge's recent ambitious restoration.) In 1910, John Ralston, Spokane's city engineer and designer of the grand span, invited Cutter to design its decorative handrails and lookout stations, which ultimately featured lifesize reliefs of bison skulls. In the background is pictured another famous landmark, the Washington Water Power Post Street Substation. Cutter designed the massive brick and basaltic rock industrial building in 1909. An interesting note - Washington Water Power's first president, F. Rockwood Moore, gave Cutter his first commission for a mansion.

## 4. Sunday Brunch at the Spokane Club ~ 2004

The Spokane Club is a jewel in Kirtland Cutter's architectural crown. Facing north and perched on the cliff overlooking Spokane Falls, Cutter designed this handsome building in 1909 in the Georgian style, using red brick with terra cotta embellishments. Although the entrance has a Baroque feel with its ornate facade and columns, a large medallion of a Native American warrior reminds members and guests that they are "out West." The Spokane Club has an elegant interior, featuring a classic formal dining room, ballroom, luxurious street-front bar and newly remodelled rooms above - making the club a wonderful destination for its guests. The newer addition of its sports facility is a magnet for members who want to stay "in shape" or gear up for Spokane's winter ski season.

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