

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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V.R. Coss Home

The V.R. Coss Home is a three-story dwelling constructed of red brick laid in a running bond course. It is approximately 50' x 75' with red tile hipped roof.

There are two large one-story square-shaped porches on front and west sides which are similar in design. A two-story enclosed porch is located on the southwest corner in the rear. A smaller one-story projecting wing extends out from east wall. It is enclosed with red brick and features a floriated leaded glass, rectangular-shaped window. There is a two-story four sided bay in center of the rear wall. Hipped roof dormers are located in each of the four roof slopes. There is one tall rectangular-shaped interior chimney stack of red brick materials.

First floor facade has four 1/1 sash windows with molded masonry surrounds which flare at the base. Of the four, two are located on either side of the main entry. On the first floor of the west side, there are two 1/1 sash windows with molded masonry surrounds which flare at the base. Of these two, one is located on either side of west porch. East side first floor fenestration includes one 1/1 sash window in both north and south walls of the projecting wing. The aforementioned leaded glass window is located on east wall of the projecting wing. Rear first floor windows include two small square-shaped types with plain masonry lintels and sills to the right of the two-story bay. The bay has four 1/1 sash windows with plain masonry lintels and sills. The enclosed two-story porch has bands of rectangular-shaped windows on both floors.

Second floor fenestration is similar to the first floor, except over the porches in front and west walls, there are two small casement-type windows with molded masonry surrounds which flare at the base. Above the one-story wing on the east side, there are two 1/1 sash windows and one small casement-type window. Each has molded masonry surrounds which flare at the base.

The main entry features double wood doors with paneled aprons and leaded glass panes in a geometric pattern. The door in porch on the west is a wood panel-type. Both porch doors are surrounded with molded masonry which flares at base. There is also a door in the rear enclosed porch which is metal with a glass panel. Windows in the roof dormers are all bands of two of the fixed pane type.

The outstanding characteristic of the house is its overall symmetry in proportion, scale, and detailing in the porches on front and west as well as the window/door surrounds and roof dormers. Chinese architectural features are highlighted in the tu kung construction techniques used in front and west porches and the projecting wing on the east. The use of purlins in roof construction of the porches and projecting wing give the home a definite Oriental appearance. The porches and projecting wing feature six square-shaped columns of red brick and masonry set on smooth-faced masonry pedestals.

Other Oriental features embodied in the exterior include the widely overhanging eaves resting on multiple brackets on all four sides and the gently-pitched red tile roof with bell-like flaring at the corners.

A 3' brick wall with smooth-faced masonry detailing delineates the front and west entryways to porches.