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United States Department of the Interior Nernauex Conservation xand Recreation Service

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NUL¹1 2 1984

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

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

The Stone House historic

same and/or common

2. Location

902 14th Street street & number

N/A not for publication

_ museum ___ park

religious

scientific

_ other:

_ transportation

private residence

023

Arcata city, town

N/A vicinity of CONSCIENCE AND A CONSCIENCE

California state code 06 ; county Humboldt. code

Classification 3.

Cate	egory
	district
<u> </u>	building(s)
	etructure

site

object

Ownership ____ public private both **Public Acquisition** __ in process ___ being considered X N/A

X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted _ yes: unrestricted no

Status

- **Present Use** agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial
 - military

Owner of Property

Sam Pennisi and Sharon K. Ferrett name

street & number 902 14th Street

city, town Arcata

N/A vicinity of

state Calif. 95521

Location of Legal Description 5.

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Humboldt County Courthouse

825 Fifth Street street & number

Eureka city, town

state Calif. 95501

Representation in Existing Surveys 6.

title Reflections of Arcata's History has this property been determined elegible? _ <u>yes X</u> no

January 1979 date

depository for survey records Planning Dept., City of Arcata

city, town Arcata

state Calif. 95521

federal _ state _

__county __X_local

7. Desc	ription		
Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated unaitered ruins altered unexposed	Check one original site moved date _	N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located within Arcata's most important architectural district which includes settlementera house types, Victorians, turn-of-thecentury styles, bungalows, and modern houses, the Stone House is an excellent example of Queen Anne architecture. Set well back from the street behind two stately palms and surrounded by flowers and shrubs, this fine Victorian-period house displays the identifying features of the style: multiple rooflines, corner tower, gables with pediments, bay windows, projecting upper story, and a variety of textures and wall surfaces. Alterations are minor. Ornamentation is rich, but tastefully applied to windows, frieze, cornice, and porches. The spacious entrance porch, wide walk and steps, and double doors give a palatial air to this old home which has withstood the years with a dignity befitting its fine heritage.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

The Stone House sits on the plateau north of Arcata's Plaza within the community's most important architectural district. Nearby buildings represent the periods and styles from the 1850's through the 1970's. The Stone House is a major contributor to this area's historic/ architectural heritage.

Located on a corner lot which once commanded a fine view of the Bay and surrounding countryside, the house is of wood construction, two and a half stories high and contains approximately 3,500 square feet on the first and second floors. The attic, which was originally designed as a children's play room, is about 750 square feet. Flowering shrubs surround the house, two palm trees flank the entrance walk, and a picket fence (built within the past ten years) is lined with a variety of flowers and roses.

Siding includes two kinds of fancy shingles in the pediments and on the second story and tower; narrow shiplap on the first story, and rusticated skirting below the water table. The cornice is decorated around the house with a line of strip-like brackets. The frieze is marked by a raised fretwork. Moulding on the lower-story windows is grooved and terminates in large brackets. Second-story windows are plain except for a little decoration below the sill, also found on the lower-story windows. Windows are double-hung and of two panes.

more

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The front facade presents a corner tower, two roof gables and a porch gable. The tower has two windows and sits atop the corner of the porch which has been partially glassed-in. The porch has an incised, leafy decoration in the pediment, decorated and turned posts, an arch over the top step, turned decoration beneath the porch roof, and a handsome balustrade lining the brick steps. The double doors have narrow panes of glass in the upper portions and are paneled and decorated above and below the glass. Above the doors is a beautiful, stained glass transom. To the side is a leaded glass stairway window.

Beside the porch is a pedimented gable extending beyond the lower story. The pediment of the gable contains a Palladian window centered above the double windows of the second story which overhangs a four-window bay.

The east side of the house has another extended pedimented gable above the second story which also overhangs a four-window bay. To the side of this bay is a little, flat-roofed bay with three, narrow windows. A side porch and door lead into a flat-roofed section. The porch has turned posts, a balustrade and the top is decorated with the same strip-like brackets as the main house. It almost appears as if this is an addition, but, if so, it is quite old and well tied to the house through decorative detail. The door, however, is not original.

The rear of the house presents a variety of rooflines and heights. There is a third-story gable, a one-story kitchen section with a hipped roof, and a one-story gabled section which extends beyond the rear of the house. This gabled-roof section is probably the original store house-woodshed mentioned in an 1889 description of the house. Another flat-roofed porch with turned posts, cutout brackets and the same balustrade as the side porches covers entrances into the rear of the house and into the gabled section. The paneling of the door into the gabled section is the same as that on a west-side door and appears to be original. The door into the rear of the house is not original. A multi-paned, stained glass window has been added to the gabled section along with several small, two-paned windows.

The west side of the house has two windows into the one-story kitchen area and a porch with entrances into the kitchen and into an interior stairway to the second floor. Both doors appear to be original, however, the kitchen door seems to have had the upper panels replaced with a large glass pane. This west-side porch has the same posts and balustrade as the rear porch. Another pedimented gable extends above what would be a four-window bay, except that the side porch extends into the bay, covering what would have been the north side window. There is a small round window in the lower story and a stained glass window in the second. The roofline curves towards the front to accommodate the corner tower. FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITIGE XXXXERVALUE XAVE XREATION X SERVICE National Park Service

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To the rear of the property are two garages, one of which is of wood construction with a sliding door towards the street. This may be the "auto house" built for Mr. Stone in 1904. A newer garage of concrete blocks is at right angles and attached to the old garage.

Alterations to the property are minor. The front brick steps have replaced the original wood steps and the front porch has been glassed-in on the west and on part of the south side. There have been window additions in the gabled rear section which was once the wood house and store room. The east side and rear doors are not original. The concrete-block garage may have been built in the 1960's. The picket fence was added within the past ten years. All-in-all, however, the architecture of the house remains intact without intrusive alterations.

The location, surrounding neighborhood, and beautiful yard, including the palm trees which probably date to the early 1900's, contribute to the architectural and historic qualities of this important Arcata house. Continuation sheet

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The interior of the Stone House has survived the years with its character intact. The present owners are preserving and enhancing the old house's 19th century charm as the Lady Anne Bed and Breakfast Inn. Woodwork, flooring, windows, room arrangement, stairway, and wall coverings recall that gracious era of a century ago.

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The entrance hall and stairway are particularly beautiful with a stained-glass transom above the double doors, dark woodwork (which fortunately was never painted), handsome banister with newel posts, and rose-colored carpeting. To the right of the hall is the parlor with the sitting room behind it. Area rugs, lacy curtains at the tall windows, and furnishings complement the dark woodwork, flooring, and fireplace. The diningroom is especially nice. Another fireplace, inlaid flooring, beautiful built-in china cabinet, and wood wainscot have been preserved.

The four guest bedrooms upstairs are furnished with appropriate pieces, including canopy and iron bedsteads. Each room has been decorated with care right down to the bed coverlets and pillows, lacy curtains, rugs, wallpaper and paint, and those special touches which make the rooms so inviting. Airy and light, the south bedrooms have a wonderful view of Arcata, the bottom lands and Humboldt Bay. The tower bedroom on the southwest corner is especially delightful. The guest bathroom still has its old claw-footed bathtub and the room is tastefully decorated.

At the rear of the downstairs are the family's living quarters and the kitchen. Changes have been made in these rooms. The kitchen has been modernized and the children's bedroom may have originally been the storeroom/woodshed.

Without intrusive changes, the interior of the main part of the house retains its 19th century character which is being renewed in the Lady Anne Bed and Breakfast Inn.

Humboldt Times, March 23, 1889, description of the Stone House:

"It is situated on the corner of Fourteenth and I Streets on an elevation overlooking the town and the bay, from which a splendid view of the surrounding country is obtained. The exterior of the home gives evidence of being substantial and comfortable.

"As you enter the front door, you are ushered into a roomy hall, from which doors open into the parlor, sitting room, and dining room. The parlor is $13\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ feet and is connected with the sitting room, or back parlor, of the same size, by double sliding doors, which,

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when thrown open make a room of no small dimensions. Back of the sitting room is a spacious bedroom, while to the left of it is the cosy diningroom. This room is arranged with a view to comfort and convenience. It is supplied with a large closet for dishes and glassware, the back of which is provided with doors which slide upward, revealing to the eye the pantry adjoining the kitchen. From the diningroom access is gained through a swinging door into the roomy kitchen, which is supplied with every modern convenience. Connected with the kitchen, and all under cover, are the laundry, store house, and wood house. In the rear of the kitchen is also a stairway leading to the second floor.

"A noticeable feature on the ground floor, and one that it would be well for all builders to pattern after, is that all the doors slide into the walls the same as double doors, and as a consequence the slamming of doors is avoided. Another noticeable feature is that all the doors and finishings are made of curly redwood with the exception of the mantle over the grate in the sitting room, which is of oak. The redwood doors and finishings are handsome and present a very rich appearance and the mantle over the grate in the dining room, ornamented with redwood burl, is equally so.

"The parlor and sitting room are supplied with large bay windows, while the other rooms are generously lighted by proportionately large lights, and no pains have been spared to secure proper ventilation. In the front hall way, which is almost as large as an ordinary room, is a large cloak room, which is provided with a stationary marble wash stand, supplied with hot and cold water.

"The stairway leading to the second floor is wide and comfortable, being supplied with two landings. The bannisters, in keeping with the other furnishings of the house, are of curly redwood. On the second floor are four sleeping apartments, 14×14 feet in size. On this floor is also a large and well arranged bathroom and a store room. Above this is the attic, which is devoted to the use of the children for a play room. The second floor, like the first, is all finished in curly redwood, ornamented with burl.

"The walls of all the rooms in the house are neither paper nor hard-finished but are sand finished and tinted with water colors, presenting a handsome appearance. Another novelty are the glasses in the front door of the dwelling, they being known as English leaded glass somewhat similar in appearance to stained glass, although much more handsome and more costly. They are, we believe, the only ones of this kind in the county.

"Mr. Stone has a house that is supplied with every modern convenience and one that is arranged with a view to comfort, which at the same time, is handsome in all its parts. It is of Eastlake style and was designed and built by Theodore Dean at a cost of \$6500."

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance_C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications		g landscape architectur law literature military music	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1888	Builder/Architect	Theodore Dean	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Stone House is nominated to the National Register as an excellent example of Queen Anne architecture. It is classic Queen Anne and one of a dozen or so buildings which form the core of Arcata's most important architectural district. Recognized in David Gebhard's <u>Guide to Architecture in San Francisco</u> and Northern California (1973), the Stone House and its counterpart on the opposite corner of the block are two of the best examples of Queen Anne architecture in Arcata, both retaining a high degree of architectural/historic integrity. In addition, the house is associated with Wesley Whipple Stone, Arcata's first banker.

The Stone House was built in 1888 at the height of the fiveyear period from 1884 through 1888 which saw the construction of Arcata's "fanciest" buildings: St. Mary's Catholic Church (1884); the Pythian Castle (1885); the Schorlig House (1885) which is on the National Register; the Lord House (1886); the Falk House (1887) which was torn down some years ago; and in 1888, the Frank Graham House, and the Jackson and Stone Houses, and the Bair House, described by Gebhard as a "must" for those fascinated by Victorian architecture. Prosperity in the lumber industry coincided with Victorian styles, which arrived somewhat late on the northcoast, to produce these fine buildings, reflective of the period and strong reminders to present Arcatans of their community's heritage.

As part of that heritage, the Stone House was built by the town's first banker, Wesley Whipple Stone, who came to Arcata in 1886 to open the Bank of Arcata. A native of Ohio, Stone served in the Union army during the Civil War and was married to Celia Crippen in 1871. A brother Charles B. Stone and a sister Mrs. Thomas Bair also came to Arcata, perhaps, on the advice of their uncle, Col. Stephan G. Whipple who had served as northern California Indian Agent in 1855 and later as commander of Fort Humboldt.

Stone opened the bank's doors in the fall of 1886 and managed it alone for the first eight years. In 1890, he oversaw construction of the Bank of Arcata building on the west side of the Plaza. The Arcata Union of January 24, 1891 described that building, which is now gone, as the "finest," most substantial and artistically finished building in northern California." Stone served as cashier for 25

9. Major Bibliographical References

Arcata Union, 1 Sept. 1888 Arcata, CA. and 21 May 1927. Deed Records, Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka, CA. Humboldt Times, 24 March 1889, Eureka, CA.

10. Geo	grap	hical	Data				
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As the designated 665), I hereby nom according to the c State Historic Pres	inate this p riteria and p	pric Preserva property for in procedures s	tion Officer for nclusion in the set forth by the	National Regi	ister and ce	rtify that it ha	t of 1966 (Public Law 89– as been evaluated n Service.
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years, becoming vice-president in 1911 and then president upon the death of Thomas Bair in 1916. When the Bank of Arcata was taken over by the Bank of Italy in the mid-1920s, Stone resigned from active participation in the bank's affairs. Upon his death in 1927, the Union noted that "...few men in Humboldt County have played as important a part in the growth and uplift of the community as Mr. Stone did in Arcata."

In 1928, Mrs. Stone sold the house and its furnishings to Dr. Burpee Cooper, who had been the physician on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation before his move into town. In 1944, the house was purchased by the Rev. J. W. Donavan and, according to appraisal records, was converted into apartments. In 1958, Ortho and Edith Davis became owners, followed in 1966 by Tommie and Loretta Daly, who restored the interior. It was sold in 1974 to Warren and Sara Marion, and in 1977 to the Eugene Greers and Robert and Virginia Cargill. The present owners purchased the house in 1984.

Theodore Dean was a contractor/builder who practiced in the Humboldt Bay area during the 1880s. Before constructing the Stone House for \$6,500 in 1888, Theodore Dean had built a residence and several commercial buildings for Isaac Minor, an Arcata pioneer settler and prominent lumber entrepreneur. He is also credited with the construction of a "mirror-image" copy of the Stone House at the far corner of the block.

Only four years shy of its 100th birthday, the Stone House has gracefully survived the intervening years with only minor exterior changes. For its outstanding Queen Anne architecture and enduring historic qualities, the Stone House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.



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