

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JAN 4 1980

FEB 8 1980

DATE ENTERED

**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

HISTORIC

Ruth Anne Dodge Memorial

AND/OR COMMON

The Black Angel

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Fairview Cemetery

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Council Bluffs

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Pottawattamie 5

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Council Bluffs

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Council Bluffs

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ruth Ann Dodge Memorial is the work of sculptor Daniel Chester French and architect **Henry** Bacon. It is situated on a knoll adjacent to Fairview Cemetery in Council Bluffs, which affords a good view of the city.

The memorial consists of a statue of an angel, wreathed with laurel and holding a shallow basin of water on her right arm. The statue is cast bronze, 3/4" thick. It is about 8½ feet high, and 5 feet 8 inches at greatest width. The pedestal is pink marble, cut to suggest a ship's prow, and garlanded with swags. It rises out of a semicircular reflecting pool, the floor of which is inlaid with earth-toned pebbles. The pool is ringed with three low marble "steps", the uppermost of which serves as the pool's edge. The pedestal is backed with a low marble platform, about 2 feet high, that forms benches on either side of the statue, and which has memorial inscriptions chiseled in the faces over the pool. The corner blocks of the platform are decorated with wreaths in bas-relief.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
1916-18	Daniel Chester French Henry Bacon

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ruth Anne Dodge Memorial is Iowa's only work by Daniel Chester French, a sculptor most popularly known for the Lincoln statue (Lincoln memorial, Washington), the Minuteman (North Bridge, Concord) and John Harvard (Cambridge). After Augustus Saint-Gaudens, French was perhaps the most prominent American sculptor of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but his works (from 1869 to 1924) were concentrated largely on the east coast. Exceptions included works in Chicago (especially for the 1893 exposition), Minneapolis/St. Paul, Kansas City and Omaha.

The work was commissioned in late 1916, by Anne Dodge and Ella Dodge Pusey, for their late mother, Ruth Anne Dodge, whose husband was railroad magnate Grenville M. Dodge. The idea for the statue (an angel holding a basin of water) originated in a recurrent dream that came to Ruth Anne Dodge shortly before she died of cancer September 4, 1916. In the dream, an angel approached her with a bowl of water, urging the sick woman to drink. In the third occurrence, Mrs. Dodge dreamed that she did drink; she died shortly thereafter. Her daughters were much impressed by the story, leading them to plan a memorial on the theme.

Since the Dodges maintained a residence in New York as well as in Council Bluffs, the sisters' selection of Daniel Chester French to execute their mother's memorial was not unexpected, as they probably had seen examples of French's work in eastern cities. According to French's account book, first payment for the sculpture was made 18 December, 1916. The memorial was finished in 1918, water in the fountain and pool turned on in May, 1969. There was a private dedication ceremony, the date of which has not been fully established, although in later years Anne Dodge recalled it as March, 1920.

Over the years the memorial has suffered neglect, the water system is no longer in use, and the originally landscaped area has become overgrown; the statue has also been subject to vandalism. The Director of the Grenville M. Dodge house has proposed moving the memorial to the Dodge House grounds, in order to protect it from further defacement.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Account Book, Daniel Chester French Papers, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.
 Council Bluffs Nonpareil, September 6, 17, 1916.
 Green, Samuel N. American Art: A Historical Survey. New York: Ronald Press Co., 1966.

(See Continuation Sheet).

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 1 1/4 acres
 QUADRANGLE NAME Council Bluffs north, Iowa; Nebraska QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	26	14	6	0	4	5	72	13	0	B						
	ZONE	EASTING			NORTHING				ZONE		EASTING			NORTHING			
C																	
E																	
G																	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

September, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319-353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City,

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian A. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

December 3, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol O'Shell

DATE

2-8-80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

William H. Bushman

DATE

2-4-80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Ruth Anne Dodge Memorial, Council Bluffs, Iowa

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9, 10 PAGE 2

Bibliographical References

Jurgens, Kathy, "The Memorial Fountain to Ruth Anne Dodge," typescript, 1978 (copy on file at SHPO).
Anne Dodge to Eva T. Canon, 6 January 1938; Anne Dodge to Mrs. William J. Leverett, 20 November 1933; Excerpts from letters of Margaret French Cresson to Eleanor Baptist, 6, 18 February 1964; 8 March 1964. From the collections of the Free Public Library, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Verbal Boundary Description

That portion of Lots 1, 2, and 3 of Thomas Elder's Addition to the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of Lot 3 in said addition thence easterly along the southerly line of said Lot 3 a distance of 166.1 feet thence northwesterly a distance of 124.55 feet along a line forming an interior angle of $84^{\circ}26'$ with the southerly line of said Lot 3; thence westerly a distance of 157 feet along a line having an interior angle with the second described line of $105^{\circ}46'$; thence southerly along the easterly side of North Second St. in the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa distance of 153.5 feet on a line having an interior angle with the third described line of $79^{\circ}42'$ or to the point of beginning. (Such fourth line also forming an interior angle of $90^{\circ}6'$ with the first line described above.)