

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 22 1987

date entered MAR 6 1987

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

1. Name

historic The Bowles-Cooley House (Historic Resources of Aspen - MRA)

and/or common The Bowles-Cooley House

2. Location

street & number 201 West Francis Street

n/a not for publication

city, town Aspen

n/a vicinity of

state Colorado

code 08

county Pitkin

code 097

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>n/a</u> district	<u>n/a</u> public	<u>x</u> occupied	<u>n/a</u> agriculture	<u>n/a</u> museum
<u>x</u> building(s)	<u>x</u> private	<u>n/a</u> unoccupied	<u>n/a</u> commercial	<u>n/a</u> park
<u>n/a</u> structure	<u>n/a</u> both	<u>n/a</u> work in progress	<u>n/a</u> educational	<u>x</u> private residence
<u>n/a</u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>n/a</u> entertainment	<u>n/a</u> religious
<u>n/a</u> object	<u>n/a</u> in process	<u>x</u> yes: restricted	<u>n/a</u> government	<u>n/a</u> scientific
<u>x</u> multiple resource	<u>n/a</u> being considered	<u>n/a</u> yes: unrestricted	<u>n/a</u> industrial	<u>n/a</u> transportation
		<u>n/a</u> no	<u>n/a</u> military	<u>n/a</u> other:

4. Owner of Property

name George Vicenzi

street & number Box 2283

city, town Aspen

n/a vicinity of

state CO 81612

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pitkin County Court House

street & number 506 E. Main Street

city, town Aspen

state CO

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Inventory of Historic Sites

has this property been determined eligible? n/a yes x no

date Ongoing

n/a federal x state n/a county n/a local

depository for survey records Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

city, town Denver

state CO

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> removed
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____ n/a

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bowles-Cooley House is located in the 19th century West End residential neighborhood on a large, four lot corner site, featuring mature cottonwood street trees, a small irrigation ditch and a low wrought iron fence. (photo #6, 6a, 25) This two story, red brick, gable roof house was designed in the Queen Anne style with a slightly irregular plan and a steeply pitched cross gable roof. There is a semi-hexagonal, two-story bay with a gable roof on the north front of the house. The wood elements of the front porch include turned posts with simple top brackets and railing with turned balusters. (photo #6h) There is a wood lattice covering the opening below the wood porch floor. There is a one story brick kitchen wing on the south rear with a gable roof and an enclosed wood frame back porch along the west side.

The gables have decorative barge boards and are faced with square cut shingles. At the peaks of the gables, there are ornate finials. The wooden brackets under the eaves are of sawn wood. The roof has painted cedar shingles. (photo 6, 6a)

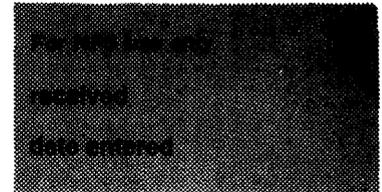
The house sits on a sturdy foundation of rusticated sandstone. The window sills and lintels are also of sandstone. The tall Victorian, one-over-one windows are paired on the front of the bay. An arched stained glass window highlights one side of the front entrance. On the east street side, there is a one story bay window with a shed roof which is supported from below by stone brackets.

The house is in excellent condition and has only minor alterations. The second story porch on the north-east corner was enclosed with a large window on the east side. (date unknown) According to the Aspen Building Department records, the bathrooms were up-dated in 1965. In 1978, an additional bath was installed in the unused attic space over the kitchen wing. A one-over-one window was installed in the gable and skylights in the roof. The kitchen was remodeled at that time. In 1980, a new wood frame rear bay window was added to the south wall of the kitchen. The interior window trim of the bay came from a razed Aspen house from the same period. (photo #6b) Also in 1980, a small two story extension with double entry doors was constructed on the east side of the rear to admit more light into the first floor library and second floor bedroom. The extension has a balconette with wood railing and a gable faced in shingles over the doorway. (photo #6b) The living room fireplace was repaired and a new chimney built on the west side.

The property is grassed with a large side yard to the west. At the rear along the alley is a one-and-one-half story brick building with a gable roof, which may have once been a barn and is now a garage. This building was probably built at the same time as the house. Attached to the west rear wall is a slightly taller wood frame and clapboard building. (photo 6, 6c). The date of the frame building is not known. Both are considered to be contributing.

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Bowles-Cooley House

Continuation sheet Description

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The interior of the well maintained Bowles House features a combination of natural golden oak and hand-grained mahogany woodwork. The stairway has golden oak paneling, railings with turned balusters and newel posts with carved wood insets. The door surrounds and pocket doors are hand grained. (photo #6g) The living room fireplace has an original wood mantle with a plate glass mirror. The original brass light fixture still hangs in the dining room. The rooms are large with high ceilings. (photo #6e, 6f) The living room floor, of quarter sawn oak put down sometime in the 1930s, has an unusual pattern with board lengths running parallel to the angled walls and decreasing in length as the boards reach the center of the room. The floor has a limed oak finish.

The Bowles-Cooley House is a locally designated landmark.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<u>n/a</u> prehistoric	<u>n/a</u> archeology-prehistoric	<u>n/a</u> community planning	<u>n/a</u> landscape architecture	<u>n/a</u> religion
<u>n/a</u> 1400-1499	<u>n/a</u> archeology-historic	<u>n/a</u> conservation	<u>n/a</u> law	<u>n/a</u> science
<u>n/a</u> 1500-1599	<u>n/a</u> agriculture	<u>n/a</u> economics	<u>n/a</u> literature	<u>n/a</u> sculpture
<u>n/a</u> 1600-1699	<u>X</u> architecture	<u>n/a</u> education	<u>n/a</u> military	<u>n/a</u> social/ humanitarian
<u>n/a</u> 1700-1799	<u>n/a</u> art	<u>n/a</u> engineering	<u>n/a</u> music	<u>n/a</u> theater
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	<u>n/a</u> commerce	<u>X</u> exploration/settlement	<u>n/a</u> philosophy	<u>n/a</u> transportation
<u>n/a</u> 1900-	<u>n/a</u> communications	<u>n/a</u> industry	<u>n/a</u> politics/government	<u>n/a</u> other (specify)
		<u>n/a</u> invention		

Specific dates 1889 **Builder/Architect** Believed to be Ryland R. Bowles

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The stately red brick Bowles-Cooley House, constructed in 1889, is significant for its local design interpretation of the Victorian Queen Anne style. The style is characterized by a cross gable roof, a large two story gabled bay in front, a decorative wood front porch and ornate finials on the gable peaks. It is one of the few large Aspen houses constructed of brick, which was rarely used for residential construction in Aspen. Prominently sited on a large corner site with large cottonwood street trees on the east side, the two story Bowles-Cooley House is one of the largest dwellings in the historic 19th century residential neighborhood known as the West End. This house, a designated local landmark, is among the few which have retained their original integrity with only minimal alterations. The first owner and occupant of this residence, Ryland R. Bowles, was an Aspen pioneer, contractor and lumber dealer who began business in Aspen ca. 1880-1881. Bowles undoubtedly was responsible for the construction of any number of the town's early buildings and may well have designed this house as well.

BACKGROUND

Ryland R. Bowles began in the contracting and lumber business ca. 1880-1881, with partner William E. Turley under the name of Turley and Bowles, contractors and builders.¹ Bowles was also associated with the Turley, Bowles and Arey Furniture Company, which not only sold furniture and Queensware, but also did undertaking. (Turley was the county coroner and a county commissioner.) In 1885, Bowles continued in the building business on his own with the R. R. Bowles Lumber Supply. In the late 1880s, he became associated with J. A. Shepard in the Shepard and Bowles Hardware.²

The second owner, William W. Cooley, bought the house in 1891. Cooley, a notable attorney and long-time Aspen resident, specialized in mining law. He was associated first with the firm of A. W. Rucker and J. A. Ewing and later with H. W. Clark.

Cooley had come to Aspen in 1885 after passing the Colorado bar in 1883. He was an organizer of the Mollie Gibson Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, one of Aspen's most prosperous and productive mines. He also served on the company's board of directors and was retained as their general council. He served as attorney for a number of other mining companies. In 1892, Cooley built a house at 125 West Main Street and moved there.³

It is not known who lived in the Bowles-Cooley House between 1892 and 1903, when it was bought by John Shumate, a local district court judge. In 1915, Pat Rowland, a local barber, bought the house.⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____ under one _____

Quadrangle name Aspen

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References

A

1	3	3	4	2	5	6	1	0	4	3	3	9	6	8	1	0
Zone			Easting						Northing							

B

Zone			Easting						Northing							

C

Zone			Easting						Northing							

D

Zone			Easting						Northing							

E

Zone			Easting						Northing							

F

Zone			Easting						Northing							

G

Zone			Easting						Northing							

H

Zone			Easting						Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 49, lots F, G, H, I Aspen Townsite

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code n/a county n/a code n/a

state n/a code n/a county n/a code n/a

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Norgren, Consultant

organization n/a

date July 13, 1986

street & number 7453 East Jefferson Drive

telephone 740-7860

city or town Denver

state CO

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

n/a national n/a state X 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

Barbara Sudler

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1-9-87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Patrick Andrews

date 3/6/87

Keeper of the National Register

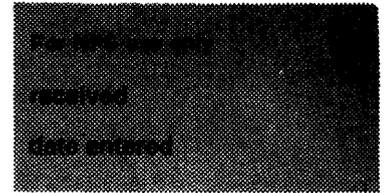
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

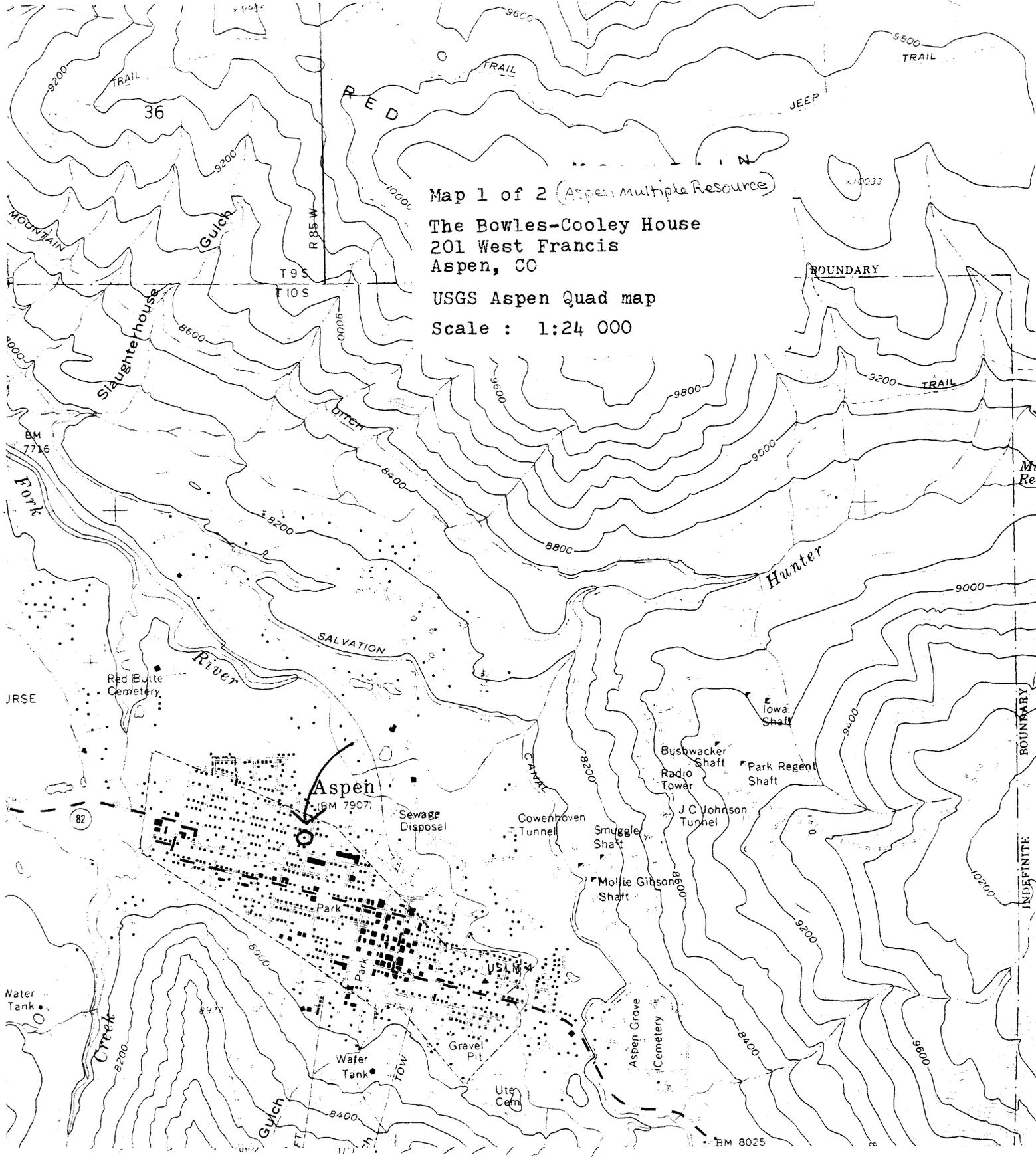
Footnotes

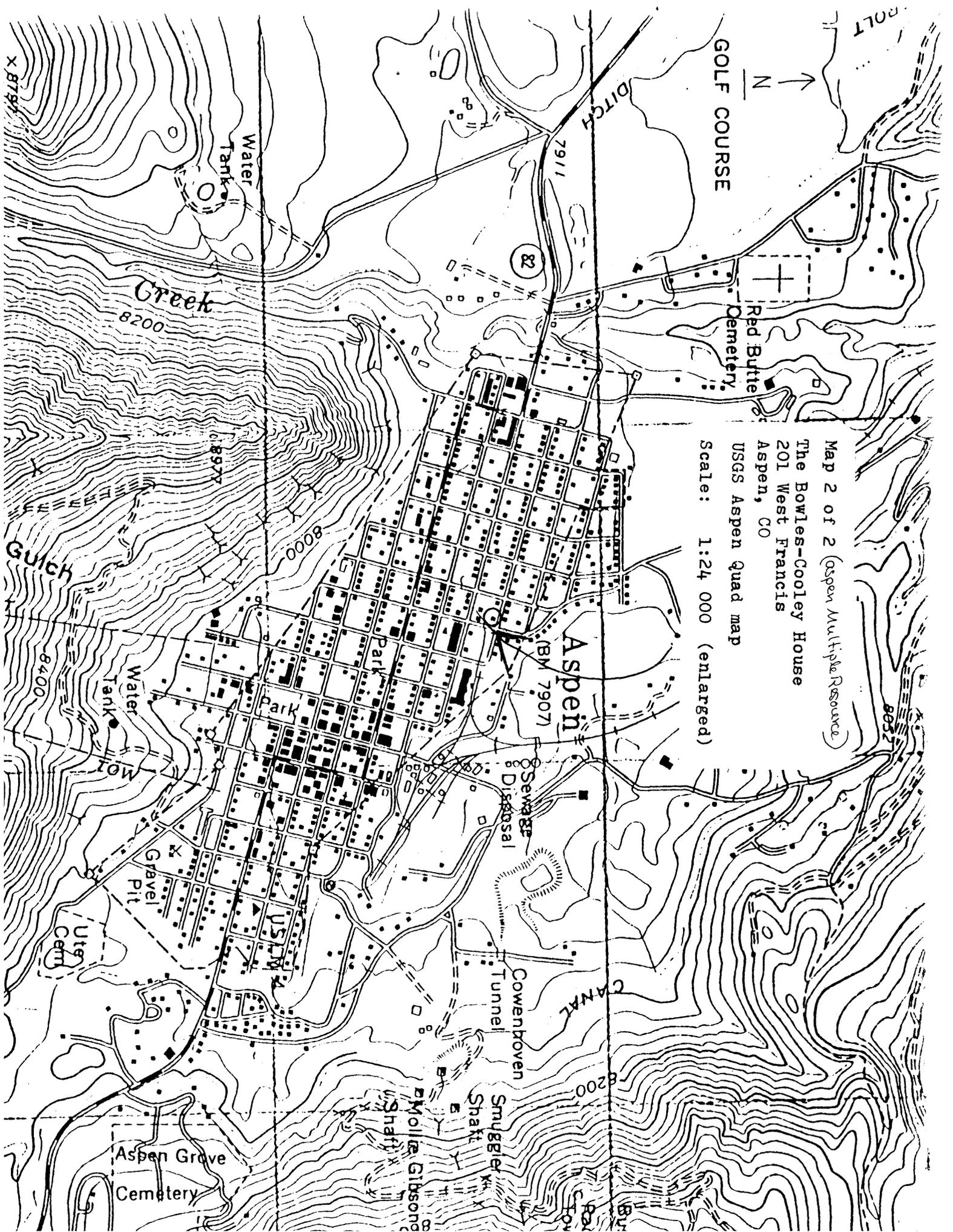
1. Aspen Daily Times, 4/23/1881, p.3, c. 1.
2. Colorado Business Directory, 1881-1886.
Aspen City Directory, 1889, 1892-1893.
3. Mines and Mining Men of Colorado, Historical, Descriptive and Pictorial, Denver: John G. Canfield, 1893, p. 40.
4. Vera Kirkpatrick and John P. Stanford, "Inventory of Historic Sites and Structures", prepared for the City of Aspen, Mayor Herman Edel, Aspen, Colorado, December 1980.

Map 1 of 2 (Aspen Multiple Resource)

The Bowles-Coolley House
201 West Francis
Aspen, CO

USGS Aspen Quad map
Scale : 1:24 000





Map 2 of 2 (Aspen Multiple Resource)

The Bowles-Coolley House
201 West Francis
Aspen, CO

USGS Aspen quad map

Scale: 1:24 000 (enlarged)

GOLF COURSE

N

Aspen (BM 7907)

CANAL

Sewage Disposal

Cowenbroun Tunnel

Smuggler Shaft

Mollie Gibson Shaft

Aspen Grove Cemetery

Gravel Pit

Water Tank

Water Tank

Creek

Guich

X 8797

X 8977

X 8400

X 8200

X 8000

7911

82

(BM 7907)

8200

8000

8057

8057

8200

8000