

PHC 500500

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 6 1977  
DATE ENTERED JAN 9 1978

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 Bowen Mansion  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 229 West 12th Street  
CITY, TOWN Pueblo VICINITY OF 3rd  
STATE Colorado CODE 03 COUNTY Pueblo CODE 101

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Elizabeth Lundy Adams and Frances Lundy Leonard  
STREET & NUMBER 2100 South Union  
CITY, TOWN Tulsa VICINITY OF STATE Oklahoma 74107

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Register of Deeds  
STREET & NUMBER Pueblo County Courthouse  
CITY, TOWN Pueblo STATE Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Colorado State Inventory of Historic Sites  
DATE February 22, 1976  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS State Historical Society of Colorado, 200 E. 14th Avenue  
CITY, TOWN Denver STATE Colorado

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Resting proudly on its weathered red rusticated sandstone foundation, the Bowen Mansion blends the Richardsonian Romanesque with the Queen Anne. Its lower floors, built of Pennsylvania red brick (said to have been wrapped individually for shipment to Pueblo) are highlighted with rusticated stone lintels and stringcourses. The third (top) floor, also revealing Richardson's ever present inspiration, is faced with shingles arranged in a wavy decorative motif.

Several vertical elements tie the lower floors to the uppermost floor, most noticeably the tower (southwest corner), chimney (east side), projecting bay windows flanking each side of the mansion, and shingled frontal projection rising from the veranda roof. Moving skyward, the tower pushes rounded architectural lines, composed first of brick and then of shingles, upward while the chimney carries lower floor brick successfully through the shingled pediment above. Continuing the strong vertical lines, bay windows reach out and up to support their gable roofs while, in contrast, third floor wavy shingles cascade dramatically downward covering over and overcoming the Pennsylvania red brick before splashing upon the veranda roof below. Holding the vertical forces safely in check, sandstone string courses securely girdle the mansion several times.

Windows throughout the mansion, with several notable exceptions, are double hung and, in the case of those looking out from the tower, are curved. On the third floor, carrying over the shingled design, the double hung upper portion is broken into sixteen lights. On the side of the mansion and inserted within the pediment surmounting the bay, two quarterround circle windows, separated by the rising chimney, look east while just to the south of that bay, the elegant stained glass window captures the light of the rising sun flooding the grand oaken staircase inside. Most of the windows rest upon the rusticated sandstone stringcourses that wind their way around the mansion, while overhead, sturdy block lintels or arch stepped voussoirs cap each of them.

Entrance to the mansion is gained beneath a shingle faced, airy veranda masterfully occupying a large area of the southeast corner. Originally a double-storied porch, it is supported by two double and three triple (corners) sets of ionic columns set on massive foundations composed of cut sandstone blocks. Projecting from beneath its protective cover, two engaged lookouts athwart the columns bulge from front and side. A pediment, built atop the south side and supported by two modest but stylistically adequate consoles, announces the grand entry.

The third floor, which breaks into the roof, sets squarely but lightly upon its ample brick and sandstone "foundation." Completely at ease architecturally, its multiple gables lead one

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

to the next and from there to another, rhythmically forming waves that animate the skyline. Substantial consoles (again having no more bulk than necessary) of shingle on the south and brick on the east, easily and comfortably support their gable topped projections. The curiously notched main gable was designed to announce the wife of the owner (Mrs. Margarette Bowen) to passersby. The whole of the mansion rises to its climax by way of the bellcast cupola topped with its finial.

The elegant exterior houses a virtually unaltered interior. Extensive use of oak characterizes each of the rooms. Hung on gleaming hinges, golden oak doors, surrounded by golden oak frames, open from room to room--twenty-three in all--seven of which boast fireplaces in original condition, no two alike, and all built of heavy, beautifully carved golden oak surrounding and supporting beveled plate glass mirrors above the mantel and faced with tiles of various shades below. The paneled entry hall leads to the second floor by way of a golden oak staircase decorated with a carved balustrade composed of spooled and twisted balusters interrupted at corners by bold newel posts. Anchoring the staircase at its foot stands the massive carved newel supporting a Grecian faced brass figure holding aloft what was once a gas light but which is now electric. A beautiful solid oak hat rack and umbrella stand complete with brass umbrella pan, occupies the grand hallway ready to greet visitors to the mansion.

Wall coverings in many parts of the house are original. In the dining room, the elaborate heavy brocade pressed paper above contrasts with the carved Lincrusta Walton forming the wainscoting below. Paintings by Mrs. Bowen, graced by their gold leaf frames, still hang throughout the mansion while the several large oils by Mitteldorfer Strauss are amply displayed within the mansion in their exquisite gold leaf frames.

Eleven rooms, some of which contain the original furniture, occupy the upper two floors. The second floor is taken up by five bedrooms (one containing a massive bed and its matching marble topped pieces) and a large cedar-lined closet. The third floor, separated by three feet of space capable of dampening gleeful sounds emanating from above, originally served as a recreation area and artist studio but has been converted to six bedrooms.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bowen Mansion is significant for two reasons, its architecture and its builder and long time occupant, Thomas Mead Bowen.

Designed by the prominent local architect, F.W. Cooper, the Bowen Mansion is representative of the unique architectural style found in Colorado toward the turn of the century. The distinctive style of the Bowen Mansion represents an interesting cross between the well loved Queen Anne style and the well known Richardsonian Romanesque, which were popularized in the late 1800s.

One finds the irregularity of house shape, variety of color, and texture, so characteristic of the Queen Anne style, well portrayed in the Bowen Mansion. The decorative shingles, Pennsylvania brick, and rusticated stone result in a complex and unique massing, especially on the front facade. The Bowen Mansion also is composed of windows of various forms--quarterround, rectangular, eyebrow, square, and circular, another major characteristic of the Queen Anne style. The Richardsonian Romanesque influence is shown in the rusticated stone lintels over the windows and the stonestring courses that contrast with the red brick massing. The tower, topped with dome and arched opening found in the upper story porch, is also of primary consideration in the Romanesque style. The chimney is also worth noting, as it seems to represent a compromise between the large ornamental chimneys of the Queen Anne style and the more modest squat chimney of the Romanesque style.

The Bowen Mansion is a major visual feature in the community, due to its proximity to the Central Business District and the County Courthouse. It once stood among other noteworthy residences, representing the indigenous architectural style of homes belonging to the prominent and wealthy citizens of Pueblo. The Bowen Mansion remains as the only existing residence of what was once the traditional higher-income neighborhood found at the edge of every city, a neighborhood close to transportation lines (in Pueblo's case, the street car), and within easy access of downtown retail activities).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A T T A C H E D

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY under one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,3	5,3,4,1,5,0	4,2,3,6,5,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Barbara A. Cole--Colorado; Elizabeth Lundy Adams--Oklahoma

ORGANIZATION

Pueblo Regional Planning Commission

DATE

September 28, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

#1 City Hall Place

TELEPHONE

(303) 543-6006

CITY OR TOWN

Pueblo

STATE

Colorado 81003

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

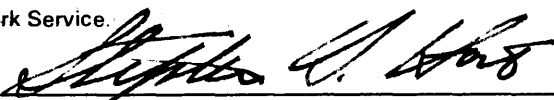
NATIONAL

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



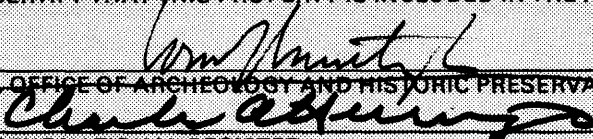
TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE MARCH 31, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION



ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REENTER ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6-9-78

DATE

1-6-78

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The significance of the Bowen Mansion is also evident in the attainments of the builder and original owner of the home. Thomas Mead Bowen was an intelligent, ambitious man, who accomplished a great deal in his seventy-one years in the fields of law, the military, politics, government, and mining.

Always a colorful figure, Bowen was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives at 21 (1856) from Wayne County. In 1858, he moved to Kansas where he engaged in the practice of law until the outbreak of the War between the States. During the war, he advanced in the Union Army from the rank of Captain of the First Regiment of Nebraska volunteers to Colonel of the Thirteenth Kansas Infantry, then to the rank of Brigadier General by Brevet. When the Confederacy collapsed, he was stationed in Arkansas and remained to take an active part in the reorganization of the state government.

Bowen served as President of the Constitutional Convention (convened under the Reconstruction Act of 1867), and for four years served as a Judge of the Arkansas Supreme Court. He attracted the attention of President Ulysses S. Grant, who appointed him Governor of Idaho Territory in 1871. Bowen did not find Boise to his liking, so returned to Arkansas and continued in reconstruction politics.

Traveling through Colorado on his way back to Arkansas, he was fascinated by the prospectors, and in 1875, moved to Del Norte, a new town in the San Luis Valley, where he established a law office and took an active interest in the mining activities in the San Juan Mountains. In 1876, shortly after the organization of the new Colorado State government, he was elected Judge of the Fourth Judicial District of Colorado and presided over many controversial cases. One of his most famous decisions related to the Denver and Rio Grande and the Santa Fe railways fighting for control of the Royal Gorge. His decision was contested but eventually sustained by the Supreme Court. About 1880, his investments in mining were abundantly rewarded. He bought the Little Annie and the Little Ida mines near Summitville, on the north slope of South Mountain, from prospectors Peterson and Brandt. The Little Annie proved to be the largest producer of gold, and the Little Ida had the purest vein of gold in the Summitville District.

Bowen resigned his judgeship and was elected to the lower house of the Colorado Legislature in 1882. The following year, he was elected to the United States Senate. He served the full six-year term, 1883-1889. He was a free spender, and after six years in Washington D.C., his fortune dwindled. Hence, he returned to Colorado to resume his mining activities. Bowen bought the Ridge and the Solomon mines near Creede from prospector Charles F. Nelson in 1890 and once again made a fortune.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance      ITEM NUMBER 8      PAGE 3

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At this point in time, he decided to settle down. Thus, he contracted with Architect F.W. Cooper to draw up the plans for a mansion for himself and Mrs. Bowen in the thriving City of Pueblo, Colorado. He bought an attractive lot on the corner of 12th and Court and the Mansion was built in 1892. He was active in local affairs, helping to organize the Pueblo Country Club on April 11, 1892 and served on its first Board of Governors. The Bowens enjoyed living in their Mansion until his death on December 30, 1906.

Although the local paper referred to Bowen, upon his death, as a "prominent figure in National politics," the significance of Bowen occurs because he is representative of the frontier civic leaders as he held many prominent positions in many states in the 1800s.

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1. pothorn, Herbert, Architectural Styles, Vicking Press, New York, p. 44.
2. Harris, Cyril M. Dictionary of Architecture and Construction, McGraw Hill, New York.
3. Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780--A Guide to the Styles. The M.I.T. Press, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England, Copyright 1969, Library of Congress Catalogue Card No. 69-10376, pp. 133-140, and 115-120, 142 and 145.
4. Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1971. Senate Document 8, 92nd Congress, 1st Session. Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government, Washington, D.C.
5. Dictionary of American Biography, VOL. 2., Barsotti to Brazer, pp. 506 and 507. Charles Scribner and Sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. 10017.
6. Wolle, Muriel Sibell. Stampede to Timberline, the Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Colorado. Sage Books, the Swallow Press, Inc., Chicago 60605, 1139 S. Wahash Avenue. First printing July 1949. Second Edition Revised and Enlarged June 1974, pp. 315 and 320. Library of Congress Catalogue Card No. 74-6940.
7. Corbett, Thomas B. Directory of Mines of Colorado. Rocky Mountain News Printing Company, Denver, 1879, pp. 346 and 347.
8. Corregan, Robert A. and Lingane, David F. Colorado Mining Directory, 1883. The Colorado Mining Directory Company Publishers, Denver, Colorado, pp. 590, 591, and 592.
9. Creede Candle Newspaper, Volume III, No. 41, October 12, 1894.
10. The pueblo Star Journal and Sunday Chieftain, pueblo, Colorado. "Colorful Colorado," by Ralph C. Taylor, March 8, 1970, p. 5C; March 15, 1970, p. 4C.



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"The Reporter's Nosegay," by Marian Buchanan, Sunday, November  
4, 1945, p. 7.
12. The Pueblo Daily Chieftain, Pueblo, Colorado, Tuesday, April 12,  
1892, "Pueblo Country Club," p. 8.
13. The Pueblo Daily Chieftain, Pueblo, Colorado, Thursday, April  
14, 1892, "New Residences," p. 8.