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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE O RECEIVED AUG 17 1976

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cooper mansion, originally known as "Redstone," is in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. It is constructed of red brick with matched red sandstone trim, and sits on a rusticated stone foundation. Its plan is basically square, with various appendages, including two porches supported by square columns with Corinthian-style capitals, and a corner tower capped by a conical slate roof. The roof line shows great variety, and features four finely-made brick chimneys. Classical influences are shown in the terracotta friezework on the cornices over the bay window, tower, and corner gables.

The $2\frac{1}{2}$ story house was built originally as a duplex with 27 rooms. "family" side was, and still is, more interesting in its decoration than the "tenants" side. The Fifth Street (family) entrance has an elaborate double entry with doors $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet high with lovely stained glass windows. The entrance hall is large, with panelled walls and a tiled fireplace with a half-moon mirror above it. On either side of the fireplace are built-in "pew-like" seats. The openings which lead off the entrance hall have wood sliding doors, and ornate grillwork at the top. The ceiling in the parlor has a design of flowers and seraphs. In the parlor is a fireplace done in maple with four Doric type columns that reach from the mantle to the ceiling. There is a mirror above the fireplace that goes to the ceiling also. The dining room, (which was turned into a bar, when it became "The Hearth"), has a triangular breakfast-nook, that has a step up to it, and is enclosed by an elaborate bannister and overhead grillwork. On the opposite side of the dining room there is a fireplace with built-in shelves and drawers There is a mirror reaching from the on either side of the fireplace. mantle to the ceiling, also. There is wood panelling on the walls of the stairway going to the second floor. The front bedroom, on the second floor, has a fireplace of wood and marble, with a hand-painted design on the marble. There is a small marble bubbler in the wall on the second floor. The second bedroom has a built-in marble lavatory with a mirror that pulls down like a window to cover it.

SPECIFIC DAT	1888	BUILDER/ARCH		mas Carkeek	
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		INVENTION		•	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
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1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Redstone is a particularly fine example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture, with many of the characteristics of this style. Chief among them are recessed Romanesque window openings, the use of rough limestone for lintels, and ponderous mass. Classical detailing on columns and cornice provide interesting variation from the generally medieval atmosphere of the design.

Redstone was constructed in 1888, as one of three large houses built by Augustine A. Cooper for himself and his two daughters. Cooper's fortune derived from the Cooper Wagon and Buggy Works, which owed much of its success to sales to railroad companies for construction purposes. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Cooper's plant produced nearly 20,000 wagons each year, and served international markets as well as national needs.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

File on A.A. Cooper from the Ham House Museum

Dubuque County History, 1911, Franklin T. Oldt, Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, pp. 499-501.

A. A. Cooper, biography by Dean Cooper Gilmore, unpublished

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