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Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Tennessee	
COUNTY:	
Bedford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	
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(Type all entries complete applicable sections) I. NAME COMMON (Governor Prentice) Cooper House AND YOR HISTORIC; 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 413 East Lane Street CITY OR TOWN: Shelbyville STATUS COOPERSHIP STATUS COOPERSHIP STATUS COCKES One) OWNERSHIP District Building Public Acquisition: Object District Building Private Being Considered Preservation work Preservation work Agricultural Commencial Industrial Agricultural Commencial Industrial Agricultural Commencial Industrial Agricultural Commencial Commencial Mullivary Religions Belford County Restrict Agricultural Commencial Commencial Mullivary Religions REGISTER Mrs. William Prentice Cooper STREET AND NUMBER: 413 East Lane Street CITY OR TOWN: Shelbyville STREET AND NUMBER: Public Square Cooper Restrict Restrict Shelbyville Tennessee 47 Tennessee 47 Tennessee 47 Tennessee 47 Tennessee 47 Tennessee 47 Tennessee T			i iiomiiiAi	TOTA I ORM	E	FOR NPS L	JSE ONLY			
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7.	DESCRIPTION							
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		(Check One)				(Check One)		
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	DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORI	GINAL (if kno	own) PHYSICAL	APPEARANCE			

The Governor Prentice Cooper House, built in 1904 by William Prentice Cooper, Sr., is a reconstruction of the Cooper's former home located in

Henderson, Kentucky. The architectural style is eclectic, American

picturesque, reflecting latent Victorian style overtones.

The original ell shape plan of the two story mansion was changed by the two-story addition on the northwest elevation, added by William Prentice Cooper, Jr. Original construction features brick bearing walls, common bond, rusticated stone masonry foundation walls and a full basement housing a fall-out shelter built during the 1960's. Three of the elevations feature original two story bays. Bays are accented by stone capped brick roof gables built flush with the bearing walls and extending above the eaves at each elevation. Gable ends are a silhouette composed of segmented curvilinear and straight lines. Attic windows in these sections feature extended, stone lintels. The modified hip roof is punctuated by attic story roof gables, four tall brick chimneys, original carved wood soffit. scrollwork, eave brackets and moldings. A raised terrace serves to connect the front veranda to the side porches. The verandas feature carved wood balustrades and hand railings with paired Ionic capitol columns. The front entrance is accented by side glass side light panels and a stained glass transom. A stained glass window is located at the second story above the main staircase. Other interior features include original carved cherry wood mantels and woodwork, pine floors and inside shutters. The quest house located on the property was built by Governor Cooper in the 1950's.



GNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ble and Known) 1904		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
∴ Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

The Cooper House is significant because it has been the home of two prominent Tennesseans. It was built in 1904 by William Prentice Cooper, Sr., a lawyer, farmer, and banker who became politically prominent as a mayor of Shelbyville and later as the Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1915 and 1916. Cooper opened his law practice in Henderson, Kentucky, in 1891 and while living there he built a house which served as a model for his later Shelbyville home.

Prentice Cooper, Sr. removed to Shelbyville in the 1890's and in 1895 William Prentice, Jr. was born. The younger Cooper also became a lawyer and was politically active as a Democrat. He served in the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1923 until 1925 and in the Tennessee Senate from 1937 until 1939. In 1938 he was elected to the first of three consecutive two-year terms as the Governor of Tennessee. From 1946 until 1948 he served as the United States Ambassador to Peru.

In 1950 Prentice Cooper, Jr. married and continued to live in the house with his parents. To accommodate guests without disturbing his parents, the former governor designed and built the commodious guest house which stands next to the main house. Construction of this guest house was undertaken in 1952, and Cooper was assisted by two Peruvian laborers who returned to America with him after his stay as ambassador to their country.

Prentice Cooper, Sr. continued to reside in the house he built until his death in 1961. Former Governor Cooper died in 1969, and his wife and sons continue to reside in the structure which contains a large collection of the Governor's memorabilia. In addition to its significance as being the residence of these men, this structure is a striking and unique contribution to Shelbyville's architectural heritage.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES							
Doors to the Past. The Bedford County Historical Society, Shelbyville Tennessee, 1969.	е,						
Biographical Directory: Bedford County Members of the Tennessee General							
Assembly, 1796 Nashville, State Library and Archives, 1968. Interview with Mrs. William Prentice Cooper, Jr., January, 1975.							
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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATE	16/54958(
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II. FORM PREPARED BY							
NAME AND TITLE:							
Paul Cross, Historical Projects Officer/Gail Hammerquist, Architect-Historical Pagentzation	orian C						
Tennessee Historical Commission April 8							
STREET AND NUMBER:	0						
170 Second Avenue North	CODE						
Nashville Tennessee	47						
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION							
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law I hereby certify that this property is included in	ı the						
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion National Register.	·						
in the National Register and certify that it has been							
forth by the National Park Service. The recommended							
level of significance of this nomination is:	tion						
National State K Local .							
Date 0/5/75							
Name Sawenetsen ATTEST:	,						
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