

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0688711

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED NOV 1 1978  
DATE ENTERED DEC 18 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  
Jessie Jack Hooper House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
1149 Algoma Boulevard  
CITY, TOWN  
Oshkosh  
STATE  
Wisconsin 54901  
VICINITY OF  
6th  
COUNTY  
Winnebago  
CODE  
55  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
6th  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CODE  
139

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENC
<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 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  
Lee N. and Dorothy F. Newcomer

STREET & NUMBER  
1149 Algoma Boulevard  
CITY, TOWN  
Oshkosh  
STATE  
Wisconsin 54901  
VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Registry of Deeds  
STREET & NUMBER  
Winnebago County Courthouse  
CITY, TOWN  
Oshkosh  
STATE  
Wisconsin 54901

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places  
DATE  
1977  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin  
CITY, TOWN  
Madison  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53706  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 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"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The Jessie Jack Hooper house is a detached 2 1/2-story frame dwelling 36 by 57 feet. The entire building is covered with painted shingles: On the first floor the shingles run in regular horizontal courses, second-story shingling is imbricated, and attic-story shingling is wave patterned with the exception of the front-facing gable which has regularly coursed shingles in a sweeping curved pattern. Originally, shingling was stained deep red. The house is basically a single block facing east with broad gable ends in the north and south. A smaller gable faces front. The roof slopes to the first-story level in the front and over a single-story wing at the north side of the rear.

The first story of the main facade contains a central doorway set back beneath an arched entry. Picture windows, which were installed in the 1950s, flank the doorway, and at both ends of the facade are arched windows with ornate leaded glass. Originally, a single-story veranda sheltered by the roof ran the width of the main facade. This was enclosed in 1901 to add space to the interior of the house.

The front-facing gable end encompasses the southern two-thirds of the second and attic levels of the facade. It contains a small recessed second-story arched balcony centered over the doorway and a Shavian bay with an arched stained-glass window and sunburst spandrels flanked by double-hung windows with multiple lights surrounding a larger pane in the upper portions. A triplet of small double-hung windows beneath a projecting triangular hood are centered at the attic level in the gable. The gable's surface both projects and rakes outward to form a wide eave over the second level. An eyebrow dormer with multiple small-paned lights of Venetian glass illuminates the attic on the north side of the main facade.

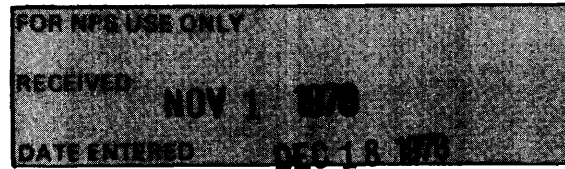
The north and south facades are similar to each other with the exception of fenestration and a small projecting gable at the front of the building on the south facade. The small gable, which is supported on arching shingled brackets, shelters an arched window, which evidently was originally an entrance to the veranda from the driveway. Fenestration of the first and second levels of the south facade is regular with two pairs of double-hung windows on each level. The upper portion of each window contains a single pane surrounded with twelve smaller panes; the lower portion is a single large pane. Centered in both the south and the north-facing gables are triplets of windows similar to those in the front-facing gable excepting that these are inset about one foot.

In the north facade directly below the attic triplet of windows and centered between the first and second levels is an array of windows which illuminates the stairwell. This array is capped with an ornately carved lintel. Double-hung windows similar to those on the south facade are arranged asymmetrically elsewhere on this side. An arched window with ornate leaded glass is similar to the one beneath the south facade's projecting gable both in design and location.

The surfaces of the north and south facades are similar. Above the first level, the surface rakes outward to create a small overhang. Above the second, the gable itself projects which, combined with a similar rake, creates an overhang of more than a foot. Both the north and the south gable ends have projecting triangular hoods similar to the one on the front-facing gable.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

Inside the front door a vestibule leads to a large rectangular reception hall lined with three-foot high oak wainscoting with geometric designs and panelled oak woodwork. The flooring is maple. On the left is a fireplace, one of three in adjoining rooms using the same flue. On the right is a built-in bench beneath the oak railing and newel post of the winding stairway with broad landings illuminated by large windows.

To the left of the reception hall a doorway leads to a large living room with its fireplace, and to the right another doorway leads to the music room. Both rooms have panelled pine woodwork with square designs under the windows and a wide decorated molding around the ceilings.

To the rear of the parlor and beyond heavy sliding doors is the dining room. This room has six-foot panelled pine wainscoting and pine woodwork including two tall cabinets with sections backed by beveled mirrors, and topped with a row of small spindles. Dominating the room is a fireplace with green majolica floral tiles. The mantelpiece extending into an Eastlake style shelf and niche is held up by spindles and its sections backed with beveled mirrors.

Across the room between two hot water radiators is a two-shelf iron platewarmer. A second heavy sliding door between the dining room and the entry hall makes it possible to close off this room. Each of these three rooms has unadorned ceiling light plates.

A swinging door gives access from the dining room to the kitchen area. In the 1950s the butler's pantry was made into a powder room, and a stairway from the kitchen to the cellar was closed off.

The second and third floors have not been altered since Jessie Jack Hooper's death. Four bedrooms on the second floor and two on the third floor have hardwood floors. Mrs. Hooper used the northeast bedroom as a study.

To the rear of the house stands a similarly-styled 2 1/2-story shingled coach-house with overhangs at the various levels and a projecting triangular hood in the front gable end. The coachhouse dates from the time of construction of the house.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
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 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

William Waters

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jessie Jack Hooper house in Oshkosh is significant to the history of Wisconsin by its association with Jessie Jack Hooper, an important social leader, reformer, suffragist, politician, pacifist, and humanitarian. It is significant to the architectural history of the state as a fine Wisconsin interpretation of the shingle style, a style relatively rare in Wisconsin, and also as the work of the locally important architect, William Waters.

### History

This house was the home of Jessie Jack Hooper from the time of her marriage in 1888 to her death in 1935. Built in 1888 at an estimated cost of \$5,000 for Jessie and her husband Benjamin Hooper,<sup>1</sup> it is the Oshkosh building most closely associated with her.

Jessie Jack Hooper is remembered for her roles in the social and humanitarian circles of Oshkosh, in the fight for woman suffrage in Wisconsin as well as the nation, in Wisconsin politics, and in the peace movement of the 1920s and 30s.

Married to Benjamin Hooper, a prosperous Oshkosh grocery wholesaler, Jessie assumed the active socially responsible role which she believed was appropriate for a woman of means. In the years before the First World War she took the position of regent of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and as president of the Oshkosh Ladies Benevolent Society she urged for the visiting nurses movement and a tuberculosis sanatorium. During this time she also became involved in the woman suffrage movement; an early member of the Wisconsin Woman's Suffrage Association, she lobbied in the legislature for the infancy and maternity bill, for the children's code, and for raising the age of consent.

During the First World War she helped organize women's war work throughout Wisconsin and directed that work in Oshkosh. Later she was summoned to Washington by Carrie Chapman Catt to lobby for the suffrage amendment. That Wisconsin was the first state to ratify the amendment was in part due to her efforts. By 1922 Jessie was president of the Wisconsin League of Women Voters and the most well known woman in Wisconsin politics. That year she was drafted by the Democratic Party as candidate for the U. S. Senate to run against the incumbent Robert M. La Follette.

After losing the election to La Follette, Hooper devoted a bulk of her energies to furthering the cause of world peace. A member of the national committee of the League of Women Voters for International Cooperation to Prevent War and a founder of the Conference for the Cause and Cure of War in 1925, she undertook anti-war petition campaigns among women in the early 1930s. In 1932 the Conference chose her to convey nearly one million petition signatures to the Geneva Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments. She died in Oshkosh in May 1935.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheet)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.2

QUADRANGLE NAME Oshkosh, Wisconsin

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 6 3, 7, 5 3, 4, 0 4, 8 7, 6 2, 9, 0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B                    
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The southeast 60 feet, front and rear, of lot 32 of block 110 in the fifth ward, City of Oshkosh, according to Leach's map of 1894.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Donath, Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

STREET & NUMBER

816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

DATE

July, 1978

TELEPHONE

608/262-3390

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

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

*Richard Perry*

TITLE Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

10/20/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*for Charles A. Stensby*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12.18.78

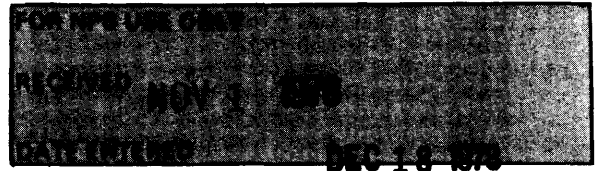
ATTEST: *Lucy B. Franklin*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12.13.78

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Architecture

The Jessie Jack Hooper house is a fine example of the Shingle Style. With the important exceptions of the front veranda being enclosed to increase the size of the front parlors in 1901, and the 1950s picture windows, the exterior of the house is virtually unaltered. Shingled on all three stories, the house exhibits the small-paned windows, the moderately pitched roof with broad gable ends, and the eyebrow dormer usually associated with the shingle style. Overall, the building reads as a unified mass with strong horizontal elements and its structure well concealed beneath its taut shingled surface.

The rarity of good examples of the Shingle Style in Wisconsin increases the significance of the building. It is, moreover, the work of the important Wisconsin architect William Waters.

After receiving his education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, Waters established himself at Oshkosh in 1867. He maintained a prolific practice there for half a century. In 1895 he was reputed to have been the architect for some ninety per cent of the better residences both north and south of the Fox River in Oshkosh.<sup>2</sup> Among these were the Jessie Jack Hooper house as well as the house of Moses Hooper, Benjamin's father (1884, now the President's House at UW-Oshkosh). Other surviving samples of Waters' work in Oshkosh include: Read School (1879), the Oshkosh Opera House (1883), Trinity Episcopal Church (1887, NRHP 1974), the Edgar Sawyer house -- now the Oshkosh Public Museum (1908), and a limestone arched bridge in Menominee Park. Waters also designed a substantial number of courthouses, schools, and other public buildings as well as commercial and domestic buildings throughout east central Wisconsin. Waters also received the commission for the design of the Wisconsin Building at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893 and later won a competition among Wisconsin architects held at the exposition.

<sup>1</sup> Tax Assessment Rolls, City Clerk's office, Oshkosh; The Sunday Times [Oshkosh], December 16, 1888.

<sup>2</sup> Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley Counties (Chicago, 1895), 1172.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Title to Property.

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Hooper, Jessie Jack. Papers. At the Oshkosh Public Library, the Oshkosh Public Museum, and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

"Jessie Jack Hooper and the League of Women Voters." Wisconsin Then and Now. XVI (September 1969).

Kellogg, Louise Phelps. "Jessie Annette Jack Hooper." Dictionary of American Biography. Supplement 1 (New York, 1955).

Miller, Josephine, friend and former nurse of Jessie Jack Hooper. Interviews, February 9 and April 13, 1978.

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Oshkosh Daily Northwestern. obit. Jessie Jack Hooper, May 8, 1935.

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Smith, James Howell. "Mrs. Ben Hooper of Oshkosh: Peace Worker and Politician." Wisconsin Magazine of History. XLVI (Winter, 1962-63).

The Sunday Times [Oshkosh], December 16, 1888.

Tax Assessment Rolls. City Clerk's Office, Oshkosh.

Youmans, Theodora W. "How Wisconsin Women Won the Ballot." Wisconsin Magazine of History. V (1921).

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Lee N., Dorothy F., and Timothy J., Newcomer  
Owners  
May 15, 1978  
1149 Algoma Boulevard  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901  
414/233-4148