Architect: Cowe, William
Birth/Death Dates: 1863 - 1930
Practice Dates: 1895 - 1919

Firms:
William Cowe, Architect (1895-1902)
Cowe and Harvey (1903-1904)
William Cowe, Architect (1905-1919)

Biographical Information

William Cowe was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, and emigrated with his wife to the United States in 1892. He came to Denver around 1894, working briefly as a draftsman before establishing his own practice. Two of Cowe's early buildings were featured in American Architect and Building News in 1896. During most of his career he maintained an office in the Mack Building on California Street. He belonged to the Colorado Chapter of American Institute of Architects and served as its secretary in 1901. During 1903 and 1904 Cowe went into partnership with George F. Harvey, Jr. After 1904 Cowe maintained his own practice until his retirement in about 1919. After a long period of failing health, Cowe died in Denver on August 8, 1930.

William Cowe designed primarily residential buildings. Most of his commissions were for single family residences in Denver, though he also designed several terraces and apartment houses. Examples of the latter include the Avery Apartments, at 2514 Champa, and the Hamilton, at 1475 Humboldt. He designed two houses for his own use. The first at 1330 Race (1901) and the second at 1420 Humboldt (1908). The house at 765 Marion (1904) is typical of the his work. Two prominent non-residential buildings designed by Cowe are the Highland Christian Church at 2601 W. 34th, in Denver’s Potter Highlands Historic District, and the 1918 Carnegie Public Library building in Sterling.

Credited Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Site No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Cowe House</td>
<td>1330 Race St., Denver</td>
<td></td>
<td>1901</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Hamilton</td>
<td>1475 Humboldt St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV2685</td>
<td>1902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highland Christian Church</td>
<td>2601 W. 34th, Denver</td>
<td>5DV85.25</td>
<td>c. 1903</td>
<td>Potter Highlands HD</td>
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<td>Avery Apartments (Cowe and Harvey)</td>
<td>2514 Champa St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV103/.94</td>
<td>c. 1904</td>
<td>Curtis Park HD</td>
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<td>B.M. Webster House (Cowe and Harvey)</td>
<td>765 Marion, Denver</td>
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<td>1904</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Cowe House</td>
<td>1420 Humboldt St., Denver</td>
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<td>1908</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sterling Public Library</td>
<td>210 S. Fourth St., Sterling</td>
<td>5LO469</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>NR eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Information Sources

Denver Building Permit Files, Western History Department, Denver Public Library.

*Denver City Directories*, 1894-1930.


Site Files Database, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver.

Revised: June 8, 2001