



DAVID C. COOK RES.  BOWES HEALTH AND RETIREMENT CENTER 105 NORTH GIFFORD

This residence was built in 1885 for David C. Cook, who had moved his publishing company to Elgin in 1882. Design changes occurred but primary elements of the house remain; dormers, masonry construction, window divisions, roof form, pinnaculled gables and roof peak details. David Cook was the founder of the nation's largest interdenominational publishing house. The Cook family resided here until 1945 in their 12 room mansion. A special display by Clarence Reber and the Elgin Area Historical Society will be set up on the ground floors of this building. As you tour the exhibit note the opulent combination of multi-colored ceiling treatment, and ornate woodwork. It is difficult to imagine that the original residence as shown in the sketch cost only \$10,000 to build.