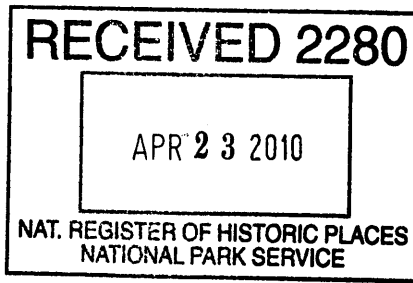


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NPS Form 10-900
(January 1992)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)



OMB No. 10024-0018

**United States Department of Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 211 North Ludington Street N/A not for publication
city or town Columbus N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Columbia code 021 zip code 53925

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally _ statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title James Dray Date 4/9/10
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Wisconsin

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _ meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House

County Columbia

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall

6-7-10

Edson H. Beall

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	1 building(s)	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	district		0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	structure		0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	site		0 objects
	object	1	0 total

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
Foundation Limestone
walls Weatherboard

roof Asphalt
other Shingle

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Name of Property

County Columbia
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1894

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than One Acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 336790 4800260
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Timothy F. Heggland	Date	April 16, 2009
organization		Telephone	(608) 795-2650
street & number	6391 Hillsandwood Road	zip code	53560
city or town	Mazomanie	state	WI

Schedel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Name of Property

County Columbia
County and State

Wisconsin

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title	Eugene Stuart Salzwedel	date	April 16, 2009
organization		telephone	(920) 623-5121
street & number	W11468 Behan Road	zip code	53925
city or town	Columbus	state	WI

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Columbus, Columbia Co., WI

Description:

The Reinhard and Amelia Schendel house is a large, very fine, and very intact two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style single family residence. It was built in the city of Columbus for the Schendels in 1894. This house sits on a lot that fronts onto N. Ludington St., which is one of the two principal historic thoroughfares of the city, and its main facade faces southeast onto this thoroughfare. The house has an L-plan, it measures approximately 34-feet-wide at its widest point by 70-feet-deep, and its exterior walls rest on a tall, cut stone foundation. These walls are sided in narrow clapboards and they are sheltered by the asphalt shingle-covered cross-gable roof that covers the house. The principal gable ends of this roof are also sided with very elaborate decorative wood shingles. The Schendel house is a very fine example of the larger Queen Anne style residential designs that were favored by members of Wisconsin's upper middle class in the mid-1890s. Even in a city that is notable for its numerous excellent Queen Anne style houses, the Schendel house stands out, thanks to its size, its setting, its fine design, and its extremely intact and well maintained exterior. All of these elements make it especially notable today.

The 100 block of N. Ludington St. is contained within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places-listed Columbus Downtown Historic District (NRHP 3-5-1992) and both sides of this block are given over mostly to historic commercial buildings.¹ The 200 and 300 blocks of N. Ludington St., however, are lined for the most part with fine historic single family residences and it is within this residential stretch that the Schendel house is located. The rectangular lot that is associated with the Schendel house is mostly flat, but its northwest rear end slopes downhill somewhat. The principal façade of the house faces southeast onto the southwest-northeast-running N. Ludington St.² Historically, Ludington Street was (and still is) one of the principal routes into and out of Columbus, and it was also originally known locally as the Madison road because once it left the boundaries of Columbus it continued southwesterly towards the capitol city of Madison. The lot that is associated with the Schendel house is surrounded by mown lawn and mature shade trees and its Ludington street side is also bordered by concrete curb and gutter, a mown grass terrace, and a concrete sidewalk. The rear of the house is serviced by a short graveled driveway that is accessed from Mill St. In addition, a concrete footpath that is accessed from the N. Ludington St. sidewalk runs along the southwest side of the lot and it provides access to the house's main and side entrances and to the small rear yard that is located behind the house.

¹ The 2000 population of Columbus was 4479.

² This same street is also known as Park Ave beginning at the point of the intersection of S. Ludington St. with Fuller St.

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Columbus, Columbia Co., WI

Exterior

The Reinhard and Amelia Schendel house was built in 1894 and it is asymmetrical in appearance, has an L-shape plan, is two-and-one-half-stories-tall, and its design is an interesting variant example of the "cross-gabled roof" subtype of the Queen Anne style that was identified by Virginia and Lee McAlester.³ In this instance, the design consists of a cross gable-roofed 28-foot-wide by 40-foot-deep main block that has a 15-foot-deep by 6-foot-wide, rectilinear plan, one-story-tall, flat-roofed entrance vestibule attached to its southwest-facing side elevation. In addition, there is a 16-foot-wide by 30-foot-deep, rectilinear plan, one-story-tall, gable-roofed ell attached to the northwest-facing rear elevation of the main block. The entire house rests on cut stone foundation walls of dressed limestone blocks. These walls enclose a full basement story that underlies the entire house, and they are crowned by a wooden water table. The exterior walls that rest on this foundation are clad in narrow painted clapboards and these wall surfaces are enframed by the water table, corner boards, and a frieze board. Vertically positioned boards also divide some of these wall surfaces of the main block into smaller panels in Stick Style fashion. The encircling frieze board that crowns these wall surfaces is itself crowned with a molded drip cap located just below the wide, open, overhanging eaves that encircle the house, the eaves of which have soffits that are clad in wide boards. The house's main block is sheltered by the steeply pitched, asphalt shingle-covered multi-gable main roof that covers the attic story of the block. All of the house's original double hung one-over-one-light wood sash windows and its original exterior doors are still intact, and they are all contained within rectilinear openings.⁴

Southeast-Facing Main Facade

The 28-foot-wide principal facade of the house faces southeast onto N. Ludington Street and this facade is asymmetrical in composition. The approximately 16-foot-wide right-hand section of this façade is one-bay-wide and it is dominated by the broad full-width front-facing gable end that crowns it. The first story's single bay is centered on the section and this bay contains a pair of one-over-one-light double hung windows that are simply enframed and which are crowned by a drip mold. A wooden belt course that encircles the southeast, southwest, and northeast-facing elevations of the main block divides the first story from the second story. Another narrower wooden belt course is placed a bit above the lower one at the level of the second story window sills. The second story's single bay is also centered on the section and it also contains a pair of one-over-one-light double hung windows that are

³ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1984), pp. 263-264.

⁴ Most of the house's operable windows have modern but unobtrusive aluminum storm windows but a number still retain their original multi-light wood storm windows.

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
Columbus, Columbia Co., WI

simply enframed and crowned by a drip mold that, in this case, extends across the full width of the base of the triangular gable end above. This gable end features the same overhanging eaves as the rest of the house and it is enframed by plain rake boards below the slopes of the roof and by the main frieze board of the house, which serves as the base of the frame. Placed high up in this gable end is a small window opening that is also simply enframed and crowned with a drip molding and its single light is fixed. The wall surface of this gable end is completely covered with courses of wood shingles which have been cut so as to represent the four suites of a deck of cards: clubs, diamonds, hearts, and spades.⁵

The entire first story of the approximately 12-foot-wide left-hand section of the main façade is sheltered by an elaborate, entirely original, one-story-tall open veranda that also shelters the first story of the south corner of the house and a portion of the first story of the southwest-facing side elevation. This 8-foot-deep veranda has a floor of wide tongue-and-groove boards, a ceiling of beaded boards, and the overhanging eaves of its flat roof have a frieze board that is placed just below the eaves. The veranda's roof is upheld by Tuscan Order wood columns, there being eight columns in all. (Two additional half-round engaged columns of the same design are attached to the wall surfaces themselves.) These columns rest on solid clapboard-clad balustrades that edge the veranda. These wooden balustrades have a beveled top rail and a flared base, both devices that were intended to shed rainwater. Located just below and hiding the crawl space underneath the porch from view is an apron composed of lattice-work panels.

The first story of the left-hand section of the main façade sheltered by this veranda has a large double hung window that has simple side casings and a simple entablature above. This window provides light to the front parlor. Placed directly above this window in the second story is a three-sided polygonal bay window that rests on the veranda's roof. The two narrower sides of this hip-roofed bay both contain narrow one-over-one-light double hung sash windows, while the wider middle face of the bay contains a large one-light fixed window; all three provide light to a second story bedroom. These three windows also each have a paneled spandrel below them and they are separated from each other by very thin turned wooden colonettes. This section is dominated by what at first glance could be mistaken for a two-and one-half story-tall tower that forms the south-facing corner of the house. In reality, this feature was created by chamfering the south corner of the house and crowning the open second story with a circular plan third story turret. The first story of this tower has a single window opening that also provides light to the front parlor, it is placed on the angled south-facing corner, and this opening also contains a single large double hung window. The second story above is actually a small open porch. This porch is accessed by a single door that is placed on the angled south-facing corner of the house. This door is flanked on either side by a narrow one-over-one-light double hung sash window

⁵ This whimsical treatment may or may not be unique but it is currently the only known instance of it in Wisconsin.

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
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that has a paneled spandrel placed just below it. This entrance door and its flanking windows open onto the flat roof of the veranda. One half of the original wrought iron grille work balustrade that protected the users of the porch is still intact, as is all of the wrought iron frieze band that encircles the porch just above. This porch is then sheltered by an enclosed circular plan turret in the third story above that is partially supported by a single thin turned wooden post and two identical engaged colonettes. This wooden turret features five narrow one-light windows that face south, southwest, and southeast. These five windows are separated from one another by narrow turned wooden colonettes. The rear (north) side of the turret is clad in octagonal pattern wood shingles and the turret is crowned by a tall wood-shingle clad conical roof.

In addition, the overall width of the main façade is further extended to the southwest by a one-story-tall, six-foot-wide by 15-foot-deep, rectilinear plan ell that is attached to the southwest-facing side elevation of the house. The six-foot-wide southeast-facing end elevation of this ell contains the main entrance to the house. This entrance is sheltered by the veranda's roof (as is the whole of this ell) and it is accessed by a flight of six wood steps that are flanked by solid clapboard-clad balustrades. These steps descend to a concrete sidewalk that runs southeast to the main sidewalk that parallels N. Ludington St.

Southwest-Facing Side Elevation

This asymmetrical 70-foot-wide elevation consists of the 30-foot-wide southwest-facing one-story-tall side elevation of the rear wing to the left (north) and the 40-foot-wide southwest-facing two-and-one-half-story tall elevation of the main block to the right (south).

Almost the entire width (35 feet) of the first story of the asymmetrically designed 40-foot-wide southwest-facing side elevation of the house's main block is sheltered by the roof of the veranda that is described above. The nine-foot-wide right-hand (south) section of this story consists of the southwest-facing side of the three-story-tall angled corner described above. As a result, this elevation also shares the single first story window opening that is located on the angled south corner of the house. In addition, the first story of this section also contains another single window opening that is located on the elevation's main wall surface just to the left of the south-facing corner. This opening contains a large double hung window that also provides light to the front parlor.

Placed just to the left of this right-hand section is the 6-foot-deep by 15-foot-wide projecting one-story-tall ell that contains the house's main entrance. A small, oblong, one-light window that lights the entrance vestibule inside is placed high on the southwest-facing wall surface of this ell to the right (south) and a second door opening is placed to the left of this window. Still another door opening that

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
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opens into the house's kitchen is located to the left of this ell on the main southwest-facing wall surface of the main block. This entrance is flanked on the left by another large one-over-one-light double hung window that provides light to the kitchen.

The second story of the southwest-facing elevation of the house's main block is three-bays-wide and its left-hand bay contains a pair of one-over-one-light double hung windows that are more or less centered over the kitchen door and adjacent window in the first story below. The middle bay contains just a single one-over-one-light double hung window that is roughly centered over the entrance ell below, and the right-hand bay contains a second pair of one-over-one-light double hung windows. In addition, the right-hand (south) section of this story shares the entrance door and two flanking windows located on the angled south corner of the house. The most striking feature of this elevation, however, is the gable end that crowns the right-hand section. This gable end features the same overhanging eaves as the rest of the house and it is enframed by plain rake boards below the slopes of the roof and by the main frieze board of the house, which serves as the base of the frame. Placed high up in this gable end is another small window opening that is also simply enframed and crowned with a drip molding and which also contains a single fixed light. The wall surface of this gable end is completely covered with courses of wood shingles which have been cut so as to represent both larger and smaller stars that surround a still larger circular shingle that represents the moon.

In addition to the main block of the house, this elevation is further extended to the left (northwest) by a one-story wing that is attached to the rear of the house; it is believed that this wing housed Schendel's office, sample room, and storeroom. This wing is rectilinear in plan and measures 30-feet-wide by 16-feet-deep, it has a gable roof whose ridgeline runs northwest-southeast, and it rests on cut limestone block foundation walls that enclose a full basement story.⁶ The left-hand 20-feet of the 30-feet-wide southwest-facing side elevation of this wing is two-bays-wide with each bay containing a single one-over-one-light double hung window. The remaining right-hand ten-feet of this elevation is covered by a projecting flat-roofed six-foot-deep entrance pavilion that also rests on cut limestone foundation blocks. This pavilion contains the first story entrance to the wing and the walls that rest on this foundation are clad in the same narrow clapboards as the main block of the house. The rest of the wing, however, is clad in wider clapboard. But, since both appear to be original, the reason for using two different widths of clapboard is unknown.

⁶ Since the house's site slopes downward towards the rear of the lot at this point, most of this wing's foundation walls are visible.

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Northwest-Facing Rear Elevation

The 28-foot-wide rear elevation of the house is asymmetrical in design and it consists of two sections: the 28-foot-wide rear elevation of the main block, and the 16-foot-wide rear elevation of the rear wing.

The 16-foot-wide northwest-facing elevation of the rear wing has an almost fully exposed basement story. This story's limestone block wall features a small oblong window opening that is placed high up on the wall to the left, to the right of which is placed a door opening that provides access to the wing's basement story. The first story above contains a single one-over-one-light double hung window that is placed to the right, while a small, fixed, one-light oblong window is centered in the gable end that crowns the elevation.

The left-hand 16-feet of the first story of the 28-foot wide rear elevation of the main block is covered by the southeast end of the attached rear wing. The next six feet are covered by the rear wing's entrance pavilion. There are no openings in the six-foot-wide portion to the right that is the only visible part of the first story of the rear elevation of the main block. The second story of the rear elevation of the main block contains just a single door opening that is placed off center to the left and this door opens onto the flat roof of the rear wing's entrance pavilion.⁷ A pair of small, one-over-one-light double hung windows is centered in the attic story of the jerkinhead gable end that crowns the main block's rear elevation and this pair is flanked on either side by a single small, nearly square, fixed single light window.

Northeast-Facing Side Elevation

This asymmetrical 70-foot-wide elevation consists of the 30-foot-wide northeast-facing one-story-tall side elevation of the rear wing to the right (north) and the 40-foot-wide northeast-facing two-and-one-half-story tall elevation of the main block to the left (south). Here, however, these two elevations are both placed in the same plane, unlike the corresponding southwest-facing side elevation.

The 30-foot-wide northeast-facing one-story-tall side elevation of the rear wing is three-bays-wide and the two right-hand bays each contain a narrow single one-over-one-light double hung window. The left-hand-bay, however, contains what appears to be an entrance door or loading door opening that is now covered with a painted plywood sheet, but which is still crowned by its original two-light oblong transom-like window.

⁷ The modern wooden railing that encircles this entrance pavilion's roof is the only alteration that has been made to the exterior of the house.

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
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The 40-foot-wide northeast-facing two-and-one-half-story tall elevation of the main block is three-bays-wide. The first story's right-hand bay consists of a large triple window group that contains a large, fixed, one-light window that is flanked by narrow one-over-one-light double hung windows, all of which provide light to the original dining room. A pair of one-over-one-light double hung windows is placed in the second story above. The first story's center bay contains a single one-over-one-light double hung window. A single larger one-over-one-light double hung window is placed to the left in the first story's left-hand bay. A single one-over-one-light double hung window is positioned in the second story above between the first story's center and left-hand bays. These two bays are then crowned by a triangular gable end above that is this elevation's dominant feature. This gable end, like the one that faces southeast on the main façade, is also sheltered by the same overhanging eaves as the rest of the house and it is also enframed by plain rake boards below the slopes of the roof and by the main frieze board of the house, which serves as the base of the frame. This gable end also features a small window opening placed high up in the gable end that is also simply enframed and crowned with a drip molding and its single light is fixed. The wall surface of this gable end is also partly covered with courses of wood shingles which have been cut so as to represent the four suites of a deck of cards: clubs, diamonds, hearts, and spades. On this gable end, however, one finds courses of coved, octagonal, fish scale, and dart-shaped shingles as well.

Interior

The interior of the Schendel house was converted into three apartments at the beginning of World War II and some parts of these apartments have been remodeled again since then. Fortunately, almost all of the original woodwork in the house is still intact, including its varnished doors and windows, door and window casings, baseboards, the built-in cabinets in the dining room and kitchen, and the painted equivalents in some of the second story bedrooms. In addition, the original wood floors and the plastered walls and ceilings are mostly intact, although some have now been covered with other materials, such as wall-to-wall carpeting and vinyl floor tiles. Fortunately, the original room configurations have survived. As originally laid out, the front (south) third of the first story consisted of the front parlor to the left and the second parlor to the right. The middle third of this story was occupied by the dining room, which is located behind the second parlor, and by the stair hall, which is located directly behind the front parlor. The rear third of this story was occupied by the kitchen, which is located behind the dining room, and by a bathroom, the rear stairs, and by the basement stairs. The second story, meanwhile, had a hallway off of which were located four bedrooms and a bathroom, while the attic story contained finished rooms that were used as servants' bedrooms. In addition, the first story of the house's rear wing contained a single large room that served Schendel as an office and sample room.

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Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
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When the house was converted into apartments, the first story of the main block became one apartment, the second story became a second, and the rear wing was converted into a studio apartment. This configuration has survived to this day except that the current owner has converted the front parlor and the entrance vestibule portion of the first story into an office for his plumbing business and the attic story has been finished off and is now part of the second story apartment.

Because of the rental nature of this property, most of the rooms were not available for viewing except for those discussed below.

Entrance Hall

One enters the house by passing through the oak and plate glass main entrance door that is located on the southeast end of the entrance vestibule. It opens directly into a small rectilinear plan entrance hall. The lower two-thirds of the walls of this hall are covered in paneled golden oak wainscot, the single door opening in the rear (northwest) end of the hall contains a varnished golden oak ten-panel door that is enframed by fielded casings and crowned with an entablature that is enriched with a denticulated molding. Similar casings enframe the entrance door and the pair of golden oak ten-panel pocket doors that are located in the northeast side of the hall and which open into the front parlor. Natural light enters the room from the large light in the entrance door and from the small oblong window that is located high up on the room's southwest wall. In addition, the walls in the hall are covered with what is probably original lincrusta and thin crown molding encircles the hall where the walls meet the ceiling.

Front Parlor

To the right of the entrance hall is the front parlor, which occupies the southwest part of the front portion of this story. One enters the parlor from the entrance hall via the pair of ten-panel oak pocket doors just described that are placed in the parlor's southwest wall. A second pair of identical doors is centered on the room's northeast wall and they open into the second parlor. Natural light enters the front parlor from large double hung windows on the room's southeast and southwest sides and from a still larger single-light window that is placed on the room's angled south corner.

Dining Room

The dining room is located behind the second parlor (not seen) and it occupies the northerly half of the first story's mid-section. Natural light enters the dining room from a triple window opening that is centered on the room's northeast wall. The upper part of the walls of this room are encircled by thin

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varnished wood crown molding. Placed on the room's southwest wall is a fine built-in, varnished, golden oak sideboard that takes up most of the wall surface. The central portion of this sideboard has two side-hinged paneled doors placed above a single broad drawer and just below three smaller drawers. Just above these three drawers is the sideboard's serving area, whose rear and sides are covered in mirrors, and there are also two hanging cabinets placed above this serving area that have shelving inside them that is protected by side-hinged paneled doors. This central portion is flanked on both sides by narrow floor-to-ceiling mirrors that are also enframed in golden oak casings and additional cabinets and drawers (five drawers placed below single, side-hinged, paneled doors) are placed on either side of these mirrors as well.

Kitchen

The kitchen occupies the southwest portion of the rear third of the first story and while much of its cabinetry is original, its appliances and counter surfaces are modern. Natural light enters this room from the light in the side entrance door and from the double hung window located next door to it, both of which are located on the room's southwest wall. Original built-in varnished oak cabinets are still located on the room's southeast and northeast walls and one can enter or leave the room via ten-panel oak doors that are located on the room's northeast wall.

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Significance

The Reinhard and Amelia Schendel House was identified by the City of Columbus Intensive Survey in 1997 as being potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for its local significance under National Register (NR) Criterion C (Architecture) as one of the best examples of the Queen Anne style in the city.⁸ Research designed to assess the house's potential for eligibility was undertaken using the NR significance area of Architecture, a theme that is also identified in the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP). This research centered on evaluating the house by utilizing the Queen Anne Style subsection of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.⁹ The results of this research are detailed below and demonstrate that the clapboard and wood shingle-clad Schendel House is locally significant under NR Criterion C as an excellent, highly intact example of Queen Anne Style residential design.

This house was completed in 1894 and has an asymmetrical, two-and-one-half-story-tall, cross-gable-roofed, cruciform plan main block. The client of the as yet unknown designer was prominent Columbus lumber dealer Reinhard Schendel and his wife, Amelia Luepke Schendel. Mr. Schendel lived here until his death in 1899 and Mrs. Schendel continued to live in her home until her own death in 1924. Subsequently, the house was sold to the Salzwedel family, who still own it today, and they converted it into a three unit apartment building. Fortunately, the very fine exterior of the house was untouched and the original interior woodwork and the original floor plan of the house are also largely intact. Consequently, both the interior and exterior of the Schendel house are significant today as fine, intact examples of Queen Anne style residential design.

History

The 821-page collected local newspaper columns of Frederic A. Stare provide an excellent general history of the city of Columbus up to World War II.¹⁰ A detailed history of the city and its built resources is also embodied in the City of Columbus Intensive Survey Report, printed in 1997. Consequently, the history that follows deals primarily with the history of the Reinhard and Amelia Schendel House itself and also with the evolution of the city during the time of its construction.

⁸ Timothy F Heggland, *City of Columbus Intensive Survey Report*. (Columbus, Wis.: City of Columbus Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission, 1997), pp. 83-84.

⁹ Barbara Wyatt (ed.), *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Historic Preservation, 1986), Vol. 2, p. 2-15 (Architecture).

¹⁰ Frederick A. Stare, *The Story of Columbus*, (Columbus: Journal-Republican, 1951-1963).

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Today, Columbus is located in Columbia County. In 1839, though, when Major Elbert Dickason, the first settler of the land that was to become the city of Columbus arrived, all this land was included within the boundaries of the larger and as yet undivided Portage County and was then without formal governmental organization. Dickason, a veteran of the Blackhawk wars, had contracted with Lewis Ludington (1786-1857), the non-resident purchaser of a 1300 acre tract of land straddling the Crawfish River in that county, to manage and improve the property for their mutual benefit. Arriving at the site in the spring of 1839, Dickason's first act was to build himself a log cabin (non-extant) on the banks of the Crawfish at a spot close to where the railroad depots are located today. Dickason, like so many other town founders of that time, settled along a river because it provided both a reliable source of water and the only readily available means of generating power for industrial purposes. This power source was put to good use the following year when Dickason constructed a saw and grist mill (non-extant) on the river bank with additional financial assistance from Ludington. Building such a mill was usually the first step in building up a town in the days before the coming of the railroads because the locale surrounding a mill was a natural gathering place for area farmers and was thus a logical place around which to build a trading center. This held true in this place as well. With Dickason's mill in place, which was among the first in this section of the state, the rich gently rolling prairie that surrounded it became especially attractive to settlers wishing to engage in agricultural pursuits. They did not arrive in sufficient numbers to save Dickason, however, who was unable to generate enough income to meet his financial obligations to Ludington and to the other owners of the land. Consequently, Ludington replaced him with Col. Jeremiah Drake (1784-1868), who arrived at the site in 1842 and promptly set about enlarging the mill and building the first frame dwelling in the place for himself.

By 1843, farmers were coming from as far as Madison and Stevens Point to have their grain milled at the place that Dickason had christened Columbus and the farms of these new arrivals were beginning to dot the surrounding countryside. In the same year, Henry A. Whitney (1819-1880) built the first store (and tavern) in Columbus and the long lines of farmers waiting their turn at the mill persuaded him to build the first hotel in the new community in the following year at the corner of James and Ludington streets, where its 1857 replacement now stands (101 S. Ludington St.). Also in 1844, Lewis Ludington, the town proprietor, recorded the first plat of the future city, which was known as Ludington's Plat (or the original Plat) and comprised a nine-block area (Blocks 1-9) bounded by Mill, Spring, Prairie, and Water streets. In 1845, the second store in the community was constructed for Josiah E. Arnold and Daniel E. Bassett, and the first doctor, James C. Axtell, and the first lawyer, future Wisconsin Civil War governor James T. Lewis, also set up office in that year.

By 1846, population in the region had grown to a point where it made sense to set Columbia County off from Portage County. Most of Columbia County's earliest settlers were transplanted Yankees and

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persons of English descent, but by 1848, the first of what would prove to be a large number of immigrants from Germany would begin to arrive. Not coincidentally, 1848 also saw the construction of the first brewery (non-extant) in Columbus on the banks of the Crawfish at its intersection with N. Ludington St. In 1849, Ludington platted a four-block addition (Ludington's Addition) to his original plat (blocks 10-13) bounded by Water, Prairie, Spring, and School streets and a year later platted a second six-block addition (blocks 14-19) bounded by Mill, Spring, Newcomb, and Water streets (the First Addition to the Original Plat). These nineteen blocks now comprise the historic commercial core of Columbus, which quickly spread outward from the Ludington Street/James Street intersection and Whitney's first hotel to encompass the area now listed as the Columbus Downtown Historic District (NRHP 3-5-1992).

By 1855, Columbus had a population of approximately 800 and a well-established business core centered around the intersection of Ludington and James streets that was surrounded by residential plats to the northwest and northeast. In February of 1855, the first issue of the *Republican Journal*, stated that at that time the village:

Had already seven stores with two or three more to be opened in the spring. There was a drugstore, a good flouring-mill, a saw-mill, two wagon-shops, one of which had made a hundred wagons, and the other fifty, during the year previous; three groceries and provision stores, two hotels, four blacksmith shops, three boot and shoe stores, three tailor shops, one jewelry store and one harness shop. The Congregational Church was building, and it was thought the coming spring would lay the foundations of Methodist and Universalist houses of worship.

To these were added the first bank in Columbus, which was established the following year by William L. Lewis. But, the most momentous news of 1856 was the eagerly anticipated arrival of the Milwaukee & Watertown Railroad, the first railroad to reach Columbus. This all-important event would all but guarantee that Columbus would be able to hold on to its existing trading advantage in the area. Well before the railroad reached Columbus, the April 17, 1856 issue of the *Republican Journal* was busy making sure that everyone understood its importance. Under the headline "The Prospects of Columbus" were the following comments:

Never before have the prospects of our village been as bright as at present. The certain completion of the Milwaukee & Watertown railroad to this place early next fall and also that of the Wisconsin Central road within one year from next fall, has put an impetus into the business of this place that surpasses that of any previous year. We were surprised last year to see so many buildings going up. Some thought the village was growing too fast, that it would be a long while before those buildings that were being erected would find occupants, but here we are, at the commencement of another

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spring and not a building to rent. If there were fifty buildings now ready for occupants, they could all be rented before the end of another week.

Perhaps in anticipation of the growth the railroad would bring, no fewer than eleven additions to Columbus were platted in 1856 and 1857 and by March of 1857, the difference that the railroad (which would finally arrive on May 25, 1857) was going to make to the community was obvious. During 1856, the population of the village more than doubled and even if one allows for a large degree of boosterism on the part of the *Republican Journal*, just the bare bones of the description of Columbus that it reprinted from another Wisconsin paper in its March 24, 1857 issue represented a record of quite extraordinary community growth for one year.

Columbus contains about 2000 inhabitants. Its places of business include four hotels, 12 dry goods stores; 4 saloons; 2 drugstores; 7 grocery stores; 3 hardware stores; two bookstores.

During this same period, Columbus, spurred on by the arrival of the railroad, experienced sufficient population growth in the late 1850s and early 1860s to justify its being officially incorporated as the Village of Columbus in 1864. The newly minted village was even big enough now to be divided into three wards and to have areas located across the Crawfish River from the main portion that were known locally as "Mexico" and "Lowville." This growth could not be indefinitely sustained, however. Part of the growth that the community had experienced up until then had been based on the fact that for a short time Columbus was the actual terminus of the Milwaukee & Watertown road. This was just a momentary advantage. In reality, many of the persons who gave the city a short term population in the mid 2000 range actually intended to locate there for just a short time before moving into the surrounding countryside or to points beyond Columbus. Also, other communities in the area that were already well established, like Portage, which was also located on the Wisconsin River, or which had access to more than one railroad, like Watertown, eventually outstripped Columbus because of these and other natural advantages. In the long term it was Columbus area farmers who more than anyone else made the growing community a success, because servicing the needs of area farmers and helping them succeed would turn out to be Columbus's principal business.

Among those who came to the Columbus area at this time was Reinhard Schendel (1832-1899). Schendel was born on March 26, 1832 in Prussia and came to the United States in 1861. Soon thereafter, Schendel came to Columbus and in 1867 he married Amelia Luepke (1843-1924), another German-born immigrant who had come to this country with her family in 1859. Schendel subsequently went into the lumber business in Columbus and he would follow this trade for the rest of his life.

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By 1874, the village's population had reached the point where another advance in its governmental status was deemed necessary, so in that year application was made and permission was given to reincorporate Columbus as a city. By 1885, Columbus's population had advanced to just 2050, which would seem to indicate that by that time Columbus had reached its natural place in the economic order of things as a prosperous rural trading center whose economy was, and would remain, dependent on the larger agricultural community that surrounded it. Still, if its economic dependence on agriculture placed limits on Columbus' size, the city benefited greatly from the steadily increasing prosperity of the surrounding farms, which was reflected in the increased prosperity of the city's mercantile establishments. As a direct result of this prosperity, new commercial, residential, and institutional buildings were built throughout the city in the 1880s and 1890s. Many of the buildings that line the streets of Columbus's downtown today were constructed during this period and these are now part of the Columbus Downtown Historic District (NRHP 3-5-1992).

During this period, Reinhard Schendel steadily built up his business and he and his wife became pillars of Columbus' German Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1894, Schendel had acquired the entire southwest corner of Block 15, which is bounded by N. Ludington and W. Mill streets, and he, his wife, and two sons lived in an older house (non-extant) located on this corner. In that same year, Schendel decided to build a new and larger house Queen Anne style for his family on the vacant lot he owned that lay just to the northeast of his existing house. It is this new house, which was completed later in that year, that is the subject of this nomination. Schendel was not to enjoy his new house for very long; he died just five years later on October 15, 1899, at the age of 67.¹¹

Schendel was survived by his wife, Amelia, and their two sons, Otto and Oscar. Oscar John Schendel (1869-1905) was born in Columbus and attended the public schools there. At the age of sixteen he became a telegraph operator for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad and served in a number of different communities in this position, but ill health forced him to abandon this career. He subsequently entered the University of Wisconsin's law school, from which he graduated with honors. Once again, ill health ended his new career almost as soon as it began. After three years spent traveling in the southwest in a futile effort to regain his health, Schendel returned once again to Columbus. In 1903, Schendel ran for the office of mayor of Columbus and he was elected by a large majority. Unfortunately, he was in the second year of his term when the ill health that had dominated his life finally won out, and he died in Columbus on June 4, 1905, at the age of 35.¹²

¹¹ "Death of R. Schendel." *Columbus Republican*, October 21, 1899, p. 1. Obituary of Reinhard Schendel.

¹² "Death of the Mayor." *Columbus Republican*, June 10, 1905, p. 1. Obituary of Oscar Schendel.

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Amelia Schendel continued to live in her fine house on N. Ludington Street until her own death in 1924.¹³ The house then passed into other hands and in 1940 it was purchased by Carl Salzwedel, who converted the interior into three separate apartment units. This arrangement is still intact today and the building is now owned by yet another generation of the Salzwedel family.

Architecture

The Reinhard and Amelia Schendel House is believed to be eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level of significance because it is an excellent example of the larger Queen Anne style residences that were built in Wisconsin's smaller cities between 1880 and 1910. This significance is considerably enhanced by the high degree of integrity which is still present in the exterior and, to a lesser degree, in the interior fabric of the Schendel house. The name of the designer of this house is unknown, but the design made good use of the "irregularity of plan and massing" and the "asymmetrical facade" compositions that are hallmarks of the Queen Anne style that are specifically mentioned in the Queen Anne style subsection of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.¹⁴

The design of the Schendel house also makes use of such typically Queen Anne style elements as variegated exterior surface materials, "wall projections," "steeply pitched roofs," "cutaway bay windows," a "dominant front-facing gable," a "polygonal turret," (circular in this case) and a "wrap-around veranda," all of which are also mentioned as specific attributes of the Queen Anne style in the CRMP.

The Schendel house is also an interesting, somewhat more elaborate variant example of the "cross-gabled roof subtype" of the Queen Anne style that was identified by Virginia and Lee McAlester in their important work *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Such houses were described as follows.

About 20 percent of Queen Anne houses have simple cross-gabled roofs without a central hipped unit. These are normally of L-shaped plan; a tower, when present, is usually embraced within the L.¹⁵

¹³ "Mrs. Amelia Schendel Called to Final Rest." *Columbus Democrat*. December 24, 1924, p. 1. Obituary of Amelia Schendel.

¹⁴ Barbara Wyatt (ed.), *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Historic Preservation, 1986), Vol. 2, p. 2-15 (Architecture).

¹⁵ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1984), p. 263.

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The style in which Schendels chose to build was a popular one in Columbus. A considerable number of Queen Anne style houses were built throughout the city in the 1890s, and many of the most notable examples were built by the city's merchants and by members of the various professions on or near W. Prairie Street, where they are now part of the NRHP-listed Prairie Street Historic District (NRHP 1-7-1999). The Schendel house is the equal of the best examples of the style found elsewhere in the city, which makes it all the more unfortunate that the only information about its design and construction is contained in the following contemporary newspaper item:

The architecture of the neat new building being erected on the Schendel corner is unique in design in some details. In one shingled gable is worked out the moon and a whole constellation of stars, while in the other hearts and diamonds, spades and clubs, appear, while the window affords a place where the face cards may appear.¹⁶

Regrettably, no reason for this possibly unique gable end treatment has been found other than the obvious one that it served as a kind of showcase for a man whose business was dealing in lumber and in lumber-related products. Whatever Schendel's reasons were, the resulting design made a unique statement even in a city that takes justifiable pride in its many fine Queen Anne style houses.

The Reinhard and Amelia Schendel House is therefore believed to be locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent, highly intact, and representative example of the Queen Anne style houses that are an important part of Columbus's architectural heritage. Columbus is unusually rich in fine intact houses of this and other styles, but even in this company the Schendel House stands out as one of the finest examples. It is also one of Columbus's most characteristic examples of the Queen Anne style. The building has all the typical features of a Queen Anne style house of its time, such as an irregular plan, a mix of siding materials, cutaway bay windows, a corner tower, and an encircling veranda. The significance of the house is further enhanced by its very intact and well maintained condition.

¹⁶ *Columbus Republican*. October 20, 1894, p. 1.

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Verbal Boundary Description

City of Columbus: Ludington's Second Extension. Block 15: NE 11.66-feet of Lot 5; SE 10-feet of Lot 6; SE 10-feet of SW 40-feet of Lot 7.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries enclose all the land that has historically been associated with the Schendel House.

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Items a-d are the same for photos 1 - 7.

Photo 1

- a) Schendel, Reinhard and Amelia, House
- b) Columbus, Columbia County, WI
- c) Timothy F. Heggland, February 2009
- d) Wisconsin Historical Society
- e) General View, View looking N
- f) Photo 1 of 7

Photo 2

- e) Southeast-facing Main Elevation, View looking NW
- f) Photo 2 of 7

Photo 3

- e) Detail View of Main Southeast-Facing Facade, View looking NW
- f) Photo 3 of 7

Photo 4

- e) General View of House, View looking W
- f) Photo 4 of 7

Photo 5

- e) Northeast-Facing Side Elevation, View looking SW
- f) Photo 5 of 7

Photo 6

- e) Northwest-facing Rear Elevation, View looking SE
- f) Photo 6 of 7

Photo 7

- e) Detail View of Southwest-Facing Side Elevation, View looking NE
- f) Photo 7 of 7