

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received MAY 30 1985  
date entered JUN 27 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Fred G. Turner House

and or common Valley View Farm

**2. Location**

street & number State Highway 149/County Road V66 not for publication

city, town North English vicinity of 2 1/4 miles due north

state Iowa code 019 county Iowa code 095

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>XX</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>XX</u> building(s)	<u>XX</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>XX</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> N/A	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Sheri and Wayne Null

street & number RR#1

city, town North English vicinity of state Iowa 52316

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office

street & number Iowa County Courthouse

city, town Marengo state Iowa 52301

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?    yes    no

date    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fred G. Turner House (c. 1903) is a well preserved example of the free classic Queen Anne style, a style rarely applied in a rural setting in Iowa County. It is one of four such examples in its immediate area. Its prominent siting makes it a local visual landmark.

The house exemplifies the free classic Queen Anne style. Major stylistic attributes include the pyramid hipped roof, the lower cross gables, the basic assymetry of plan, the corner turret, the constrasting use of wood shingles on gable and turret faces, and the assymetrical porch. It's late date of constructiion is reflected in the more blocky overall plan and the presence of some classical elements, most notably the porch.

The house consists of a two story main block, square on plan with projecting gabled chamfered two story bays on the front and south faces. This block measures thirty four feet square. A story and a half rear kitchen wing with jerkinhead roof, measures twenty two by sixteen feet. A recessed side porch runs along its southern exposure.

The basement walls are of brick with a rusticated concrete block foundation veneer. The house is baloon framed with narrow clapboard exterior, presently painted white. Wooden shingles, with octagonal butts cover the faces of the two bay pedimented gables, and the gabled dormer face on the north wall. Shingles with square butts cover the uppermost level of the three story corner turret. The second floor level is clapboarded.

Many Victorian traits are carried over in this late Queen Anne example. Square cut saw tooth roofridge crests originally covered each gable ridge, and these remain on the east and north ridges. Corner pendants with scrolled corner mounts frame the tops of each chamfered bay corner. A corbelled chimney originally projected from the main block, but is no longer extant. The porch however is clearly classical in its derivation with its rounded portico and classical columns. A square cut corner is recessed partly beneath the corner turret. Fenestration is assymetrical and consists of numerous sizes and combination of window types. Narrow 1/1 windows are visually dominant, being placed on the bay sides and the turret. Four of these windows are banded together on the north first floor wall outside the dining room. Picture windows with art glass transoms fill most of the main bay faces of each floor, the stairway landing, and the second floor wall area which adjoins the corner turret on the facade. Single smaller scale 1/1 windows are centered in each gable face. These and those uppermost in the turret have a Craftsman-derived multi-paned upper light.

The interior floor plan consists within the main block of four rooms on each level including the basement. A longitudinal (north-south) interior support wall, bisects each level and defines the overall interior room arrangement. A dogleg stair in the northeast corner originally connected the floors in the main block. The principal room downstairs once had a corner fireplace and sliding doors. Ceilings were nine feet high. A broad curved hall on the second floor led from the stairwell to the "maid's room" above the rear wing. A straight enclosed stair, along the south side of this hall connected that level with the attic above.

The 1903 house replaced a T-plan two story plain farm house which stood in its immediate front. Supposedly, elements of this earlier house, probably trimwork, were reused in the new house. Several early views of the house are useful in documenting the degree of alteration which it has undergone since construction. An early painting of the house



# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name North English

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A 

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5	7	7	9	3	0
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4	6	0	0	8	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at a point 275' south of the NE corner of the East Half of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 13, Twp. 78N, R-11W, on the line of the public right of way (thirty feet west of east section line), thence west 225', south 125', thence east 225', thence north 125'. Includes subject house and garage only.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

Office of Historic Preservation

organization Iowa State Historical Department date 30 April 1985

street & number E. 12th and Grand Ave. telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines state Iowa 50319

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  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 *Arnold J. Lohr*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date May 13, 1985

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*for Melvyn Byers* National In the Keeper of the National Register date 6-27-85

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Physical Description

Item number 7

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indicates that early in its history the front portico was infilled with a band of four windows. A curved (no physical evidence of this) stone driveway approached the house and a small fountain was centered on the front lawn. An exterior door was at one time added just east of the south bay but is now gone. Some roof cresting, the main chimney were lost. During the Depression era a separate front entry replaced a half window on the front porch. The front porch railings on both levels were lost.

Inside, much of the original interior was obliterated by a host of changes. The open stairway was enclosed and straightened, the removal of the corner fireplace, the elimination of a sliding door set, the addition of a dropped ceiling, and the complete paneling of the main floor all took their toll. An attic water tank (originally filled by a windmill) which provided pressurized water to the house, was removed.

Restoration plans include the replacement of porch railings, the removal of the added front door and the replacement of the original half window, the opening of the interior stairway, and the "restoration to period of flavor" of the interior.

The house is located two and three fourths miles due north of the town of North English. It is sited on an elevation west of the county road, from which a good view can be had of the valley to the east. The farmstead of five hundred acres encircled the house. A square frame garage with pyramid roof and sliding doors, located just southwest of the house, dates from the construction of the house. Two barns, of varying ages, further southeast are the only remaining other outbuildings, are excluded from this nomination.

The house is one of some four similar houses which can be found in the immediate area. It is the only rural example. The Theodore White House, North English (NRHP), is square in plan with broad ground level two and a half story corner turret, is balanced by a wrap around porch on the opposite side. Two homes in Williamsburg are less comparable. Both employ a pagoda-like tower/turret, one using an octagonal porch wrap-around, the other using a centered multi-tiered front turret.

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Continuation sheet      Bibliography:      Item number      9      Page

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- Baumgartner, Henry C. The Iowa Official Register. Des Moines: State of Iowa, 1915, pp. 134, 172, 739.
- Hinrichs, Beman and Raim. Journal of the House. Des Moines: State of Iowa, 1949, p. 1701.
- "Valley View Farm, North English, Iowa 1900-11." MS, written by the children of Fred Turner.
- Interview, Mrs. Grace Lindgren, daughter of Fred Turner, 1983-4.
- Interview, Evelyn and Fred Donald Turner, son of Fred Turner, 1983-4.
- Interview, Mrs. Clarence Means, daughter of Leslie Roller, 1983-4.
- History of Iowa County, Iowa. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1915, pp. 92-5.
- Farm Name Certificate, 16 August 1911.