

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received DEC 6 1984
date entered JAN 3 1985

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

1. Name

historic Cottage at Rock and Dubuque Streets

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Rock and Dubuque Streets (Rte. 4, Box 3) not for publication

city, town Solon vicinity of

state Iowa code 019 county Johnson code 103

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Karen L. Jensen

street & number Rte. 4, Box 3

city, town Solon vicinity of state Iowa 52404

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Johnson County Courthouse, S. Clinton St.

city, town Iowa City state Iowa 52240

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		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The cottage at Rock and Dubuque Streets, Solon, (c. post 1870), is a remarkably well preserved example of the application of the Queen Anne style to a smaller scale residential plan. Its importance resides in its unusual state of preservation (including an adjacent summer kitchen), and the careful restoration efforts on the part of its current owner.

The cottage plan is that of a rectangle (45' by 70'), set north and south, with gabled side wings which project from the near end of the west wall and the far end of the east wall. The east wing is slightly broader than that on the west (37' as compared to 32'). A full length side porch with raised wooden floor on brick supports covers the south face and a front corner porch fills the southeast corner. The overall plan presents two facades, the public or formal one to the east, and the working porch front to the south. The roof lines follow the plan, with gable ends placed on the right hand side of each facade. Each gable face has a centered square cut window on it. Corner sunrise motifs and alternating wood shingle patterns ornament each gable face. Small rounded finials mark the termination points of each roof ridge. The roof is wood shingled.

The house public front consists of a kitchen window and door which exit to the corner porch, a living room door which also connects with the porch, and a broader picture window which is centered on the east wing wall. The north wall has three windows, one of which is a very narrow one, set in the side of the wing. The (bedroom/bath) window in the wing is off center. The south front fenestration consists of a central door with flanking side windows. These are not placed symmetrically but are roughly balanced. All windows are 1/1 double hung sash. The gable windows are multipaned with a centered square pane with a surround of sixteen square lights.

The continuous foundation is of brick. While no water table is provided for, cornerboards frame each facade and wing, a belt course with sill divides each gable and wall mass. Paired flat drip molds, one above the other, are set above gable windows. The building is sided with clapboard. Windows surrounds are plain with sill and drip molds. Only the living room area has an excavated cellar beneath it. A working cistern is beneath the corner porch and connects with the kitchen.

The porches feature turned columns, posts, and simple turned gingerbread ornamentation. A central flue (now built with large square concrete blocks) is centered on the plan. A metal flue projects from the kitchen. Inside, the kitchen and living room front on the plan, with two bedrooms to the rear. That in the southwest corner is now a bathroom. A pantry and stairway separate the two original bedroom areas. A trap door on the corner porch leads to the cellar. A crawlspace is above the first floor.

One entry door (front wall, southeast corner) retains a rounded glass. Original screens with gingerbread trim survive. All interior woodwork is of pine. The house frame is of locally milled oak, 6" by 6" or 4" by 4" in section, and retains one barked side. The other faces were milled with a circular saw. The pine millwork and indeed the remainder of the house is possibly a package assembly.

The present paint color scheme is white with black sash, and red porch decks. Paint removal disclosed earlier use of beige on the exterior walls, dark green on the trim, scarlet on the sunrise motifs, and red on the porch deck. The porch ceiling was originally white.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1870 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The cottage at Rock and Dubuque Streets, Solon (c. post 1870) is a remarkably well preserved example of the application of the Queen Anne style to a smaller residential plan. Its importance resides in its unusual state of preservation, and the careful restoration efforts on the part of its present owner.

The identification of construction date and builder for this cottage remains illusive. Paul B. Anders (1812-1893) is associated with the property for most of its early recorded history. Anders with H. H. Kerr prepared the final plat of Solon in 1850 and was noted locally for his community involvement. He established a blacksmith shop in Solon in 1848, gave land for the local Methodist church, and served as justice of the peace and school board member. Known locally as "Squire Anders," he also platted Anders Second Addition to the town of Solon, which included the subject property.

Anders reserved this double lot and several other parcels for his own use. This property remained in the family until 1895 when his daughter Missouri Anders Sutliff sold it. The house was owned by Czech families until 1958 (Joe Cerny to 1904, Katie Reha to 1914, Anton Holocek to 1928, C. J. Rak to 1938, and the Svatos family to 1958).

It is probable that Paul Anders built this cottage in the early 1870's following the arrival in 1870 of the railroad in Solon. The availability of ready made mill work would have made the construction possible. The 1895 and earlier state censuses indicate that Ander's daughter and her family occupied a single household on the outskirts of town. This could be that house but addresses are not given.

Czech newspapers, dated 1904-6, were found beneath the second wood shingle roof when the present roof was put on. If the house required a new roof as early as 1906, then it could very well date to the early 1870's. The primitive heavy wood framing also indicates such a date.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Solon

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	6	2	5	0	7	0	4	6	2	9	5	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1 and 2 in Block 3, Ander's Second Addition to the Town of Solon, Johnson County, Iowa. Parcel contains only house, summer kitchen and garage.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO date 15 November 1984

street & number E. 12th & 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 *John A. Anderson*

title Executive Director Iowa State Historical Department date 11/19/84

For NPS use only

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

John A. Anderson
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 1-3-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Physical Description

Item number 8

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The kitchen is supported by eight brick piers, and is sheathed in board and batten. A door connects it directly with the porch. Centered 6/6 windows are on the north and south side walls. A suspended brick chimney is inside the west wall. A hipped roof garage of undetermined date is on the southwest corner of the lot. Its clapboard cladding indicates considerable alteration with the addition of an extension for longer vehicles. A window and door remain on the east side, a sliding service door on the south, and two windows (4 pane) are on the north side. The roof is sheathed with standing seam tin.

The house occupies a quarter block or double lot (defined by two alleys, measuring 120' square) on the northernmost tier of Solon's town plat. A drainage basin borders the town on the north side. This neighborhood is historically associated with Czech settlement and occupancy. Similar although less well preserved cottage structures are to be found nearby. The local C.S.P.S Hall (1908) on the double lot due south from the house, replaced a brick church. Dubuque Street, on which the house fronts, was platted as a major street, eighty feet in width, other streets, including Rock Street to the north, are fifty-five feet wide. The cottage itself stands on the northeast corner of its lot, indicating that the rest of the parcel was used for gardening and similar uses. A sidewalk leads to the front (corner) porch, borders the house on the south side, and leads diagonally to the garage. A wire woven fence with metal posts borders the property on the north and east sides. The lot is well wooded with an evergreen wind break along its north side.

Alterations:

The house was repaired just after the turn of the century. The original wood shingle roof was replaced in 1906 with a roof of identical material. The floor was replaced about this time. A living room trap door remains framed in the floor but is sealed by the present flooring itself. Only the living room was floored, the rest had only sub-floor, the kitchen linoleum. The side porch was apparently extended c. 1910 and was partly built-in with a solid wainscot and screening. Interior remodeling occurred in the 1960's with the replacement of a bedroom with a bath. Celulose tile was used to cover the kitchen and living room ceilings. All interior woodwork except that in the bedroom and pantry was ingrained with a brown graining in the 1930's. Those other rooms retain their original reddish stained woodwork. Since 1980, the following tasks have been accomplished:

- exterior stripped to bare wood and painted.
- all sash stripped to bare wood and made workable.
- bath remodeled. Wooden wainscot, hexagonal floor tile, period fixtures installed in bath. Bath room closet combined with kitchen pantry and door to same sealed.
- both porches removed and restored with new porch railing, new porch ceilings.
- kitchen flue added.
- screen doors refurbished.
- house reroofed with wood shingle, finials restored.

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

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BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1895 Iowa State Census, Solon, Johnson County, Iowa.

Works Progress Administration Cemetery Records, Johnson County, Iowa. Des Moines; 1939. Oakland Cemetery, Solon, page 43.

Property Abstract, Lots One and Two, Block Three, Anders Second Addition to the Town of Solon.

Newcomb, Jessie, "An Early History of Solon," Solon Economist, ___ 1922.