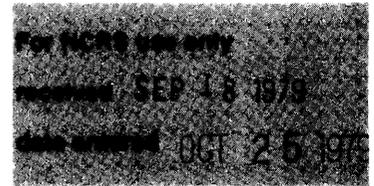


United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Leggett House

and/or common Queen Anne Inn

2. Location

street & number 352 West 22nd Street _____ not for publication

city, town Merced _____ vicinity of congressional district 15

state California code 06 county Merced code 047

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

4. Owner of Property

name Paul Randolph Christensen & Candice Lindsay Christensen

street & number 352 West 22nd Street

city, town Merced _____ vicinity of state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Merced County Courthouse

street & number 2222 "M" Street

city, town Merced _____ state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None 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 type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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

Situated two blocks from the Old Merced County Courthouse in an old Victorian neighborhood, the Leggett House is a fine example of Queen Anne architecture. Built in 1884 on a 50 by 150 foot lot, the 2700 square foot house is an angular, narrow, two-story, balloon frame, all-redwood structure, sheathed in horizontal ship-lap siding on the first floor and fish scale shingles on the second story. The stories are marked by the change in siding, and incised corbels which decorate the overhanging second story bays on the east and west sides of the house. The steep pitched shingle roof features gables over the front porch and the east and west sides. The gable ends have sawn bargeboard with a circular shape at the edge. The most prominent roofline feature is a Witch's Cap--an eight hip, scalloped shingle turret with jutting bay windows beneath. This unusual feature makes the house a visual city landmark.

The front porch has vertical ship-lap siding at the foundation. The porch is supported by turned and carved ballusters and framed with spindles, openwork curvilinear brackets and patterned shingles. The front door has stained glass panels. Above the front door is a transom. In 1905, a window to the right of the front door was removed and replaced with a door of stained glass taken from a French hotel ca. 1880. This non-functional door is framed in redwood. Above the gabled front porch roof is a square window, with squares of colored glass, framed in a sunburst. This window differs from the tall, narrow, double-hung,, two sash windows of the rest of the house, in that it is a single sash. The windows have a scroll decoration at the bottom sill.

At the rear of the house is a full porch similar in decoration to the front. This porch is covered with redwood lathwork which at one time supported a grape arbor. A single-story, single car garage of wood is located at the rear of the lot, next to the alley. This structure was added to the property at an unknown date.

The interior of the house is noteworthy for the original features which have been retained and the attention paid to detailing. The interior walls are of horsehair plaster with ceilings twelve feet high. The large entry hall features a ceramic tile floor and a French brass chandelier. There is an open staircase flanked by a long window seat at the landing. Two stained glass windows light the staircase, one at the top and one at the bottom. In the sitting room is mahogany wainscoting with redwood trim. When the house was built, the fireplace mantel was specially ordered from France and was shipped around the Cape Horn. Hand-tooled leather covers the top of the mahogany mantel and hand-laid tiles offset the surrounding flooring. The reception parlor has red fir floors, and an onyx ceiling light with jesters on the front of the globe. The dining room has an oak parquet floor and a French brass chandelier with crystal prisms. It also has a built-in china cabinet. The transom over the doorway is one of several used throughout the house to facilitate ventilation. The large kitchen features two stained glass windows and a coal and wood burning Wedgewood stove. Upstairs there are five bedrooms. The front bedroom, located in the spire, features a large bay window. The second bedroom, which was the wife's bedroom when the house was designed, has a connecting door to the third bedroom. The small fourth bedroom was used as a nursery. A fifth bedroom is located across the hall. The bathroom has a claw-footed cast iron tub, a large china pedestal with wash basin, and a toilet with wall tank plumbing.

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1884 **Builder/Architect** E. M. Herron

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Leggett House is a fine example of a Queen Anne style residential structure. The variations in siding material, the irregular form, the variations in roof line, the bay windows, and most importantly, the Witch's Cap, illustrate the characteristics of the style. By the 1880's-1890's, the Queen Anne style had moved into the Central Valley of California. This house shows the transition of the area from a struggling pioneer community to a prosperous county seat. In the conservative community of Merced, this house was considered highly decorated and ornate.

When the city was 13 years old, E. M. Herron, a prominent rancher in the area, purchased the property from the Crocker Huffman Land & Water Company. (This partnership consisted of Charles Crocker of Southern Pacific Railroad fame and C. H. Huffman, wheat king of the San Joaquin Valley. Crocker Huffman Land & Water Company was the precursor of the Merced Irrigation District.) Herron built the house on a knoll high enough to escape the flood waters of Bear Creek which often escaped its boundaries during heavy rainfall. He sold the house to T. H. Leggett, one of the early settlers of the community, who served as one of the first postmasters of Merced. In 1894, the front parlor of the home became Leggett's Jewelry Store, the first such establishment in the city. A search of Merced County tax records reveal an easement of \$1,500 on an inventory of jewelry at this residence in that year. The house remained a private residence until the 1930's when it became a rooming house. Later, in the 1950's, the building became a duplex apartment. In 1975, it was restored as a private residence.

The house is one of seven surviving private homes built prior to 1900 in Merced. With its prominent turret, it remains one of the finest examples of Queen Anne style architecture in the city. Important to the local community, this house has been featured in publications and walking tours as an example of Victorian tract housing. The Leggett House is one of the few historic homes in the city that has suffered only minor alterations to its original appearance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property .17
 Quadrangle name Merced, CA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	0	7	2	3	5	4	0	4	1	3	1	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

Lot 7, in Block 87, Supplemental Map to Town of Merced, in the City of Merced, County of Merced, State of California, as per plat recorded in Book 2 of Maps, page 12, records of said County.

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

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Randolph Christensen and Candice Lindsay Christensen

organization Home Owners date July 30, 1979

street & number 352 West 22nd Street telephone (209) 674-0405

city or town Merced state California 95340

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kenneth M. Ellison

title _____ date 9/11/79

For HCERS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Carol Skell
 Keeper of the National Register date 10-25-79

Attest: [Signature] date 10/24/79
 Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED OCT 25 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE

1

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TOWN OF MERCED
 R.M. Bk. 2, Pg. 12
 POR. SEC. 19, T. 7S., R. 14E.

Leggett House (Queen Anne Inn)
 352 W. 22nd St., Merced, California

