

Architectural Statement (cont'd):

the south side gable dons a curvature with fish scale shingles beneath. The first story corners of the south gabled projection are chamfered. Distinctive ornamentation heightens the Queen Anne expression of the Johnson House, illustrated by a single west side dormer featuring a sunburst gable, panels, sunburst medallions, and a segmental window. Double entrance doors have raised panels and single glass panes. An array of window designs garnish the facade: a triple window with square stained glass transoms and a round hinged window are found on the south side; a decorative west side window features side lights, a leaded and stained glass transom and corner lights, and an arched lintel; and two narrow windows on the south side of the west gabled projection have leaded and stained glass transoms. All remaining windows are rectangular 1/1. A prominent element is the sweeping verandah with its turned posts, spindle railing, and boxed pediments with applied classical details. Observed by noted historian Roger Kennedy, who, in his article "Houses of the St. Croix Valley" describe the porch as being "West Indian....with a gazebo at the end".(A) A small porch has been built on the north side. Oak woodwork, a carved staircase with newel lamp and a turned spindle railing, raised panel doors, and a carved fireplace mantel in the living room ornament the interior.

Significance: Distinctive architectural details characterize the Queen Anne styling of the Dr. Samuel C. Johnson House at 405 Locust Street. Local builder Andrew Malmgren erected the structure in 1884. Distinguished by a sweeping verandah with a gazebo at the east end, a variety of window designs incorporating leaded stained glass, and a pedimented south side gable modified by an arching base, the dwelling has high integrity and serves as one of the finest Queen Annes in the community. As a representation of the period, the Samuel C. Johnson House is rivaled only by the William Phipps House at 1005 Third Street, which is being nominated as a pivotal structure within the Third Street-Vine Street Historic District.

Historical Statement (cont'd):

settled in Hudson in 1865.

Humanitarian and civic-minded, Dr. Johnson established a respectful practice administering to the medical needs of Hudson area citizenry. He spent enumerable dollars to build one of the most extensive and valuable libraries in Wisconsin, including subscriptions to every accessible medical periodical. Johnson's medical career, beyond the limits of a local practitioner, serving for a time as President of the Wisconsin State Board of Health and State Surgeon General. His devotion to community service was augmented by positions as School Commissioner, Hudson Mayor, and two nominations as Democratic contender for the U.S. Congress. During a time of severe crisis at the Oliver Wendell Holmes Sanatorium, which was erected in 1887 and has since been destroyed by fire, Dr. Johnson purchased the institution and poured personal funds into its accounts. As a result, the hospital continued to provide health services to the community.

Upon Johnson's death October 16, 1903, many renowned citizens and newspapers in the vicinity publicly eulogized the physician for his outstanding dedication to his profession and community. The Minneapolis Times reported that Dr. Johnson had touched the lives of many people, "(Representing) all grades of fortune and position; yet they are all united by one sentiment...-the remembrance of the lifework of a man who never tried to be great, but only to be rich in his work, honest in his profession, loyal in his promises, and generous in his judgments..."(D)

Highly revered as a physician, politician, and community servant, the life, career, and contributions of Dr. Samuel C. Johnson made a significant contribution to health care in the community.