

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED 4 SEP 1979
DATE ENTERED OCT 18 1979

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

Duncan Rule House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

321 2nd Street SE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Mason City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY
Cerro Gordo

CODE

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Anna S. Swadberg

STREET & NUMBER

321 2nd Street SE

CITY, TOWN

Mason City

STATE

Iowa 50401

VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cerro Gordo County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Mason City

STATE
Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Mason City, Iowa: A Historic Heritage

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Community Development

CITY, TOWN

Mason City

STATE
Iowa

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 Duncan Rule house is a 2½ story house of wood frame construction on a stone foundation. Essentially rectangular in plan, the house is dominated by its broad gable roof, which sweeps down to shelter an enclosed porch on the east and a garage on the west. The long curves of the roof are broken on the east by a large hipped dormer and on the west by a two-story hipped projecting mass.

The large gable is open on the north and south. These facades feature broad expanses of shingled wall space, articulated by windows occurring singly, in bands of three, or, in the attic story, in the Palladian style with bracketed mullions. Many windows, and the pair of doors on the east end, have diamond-patterned leaded glass, and are set in plain wood surrounds.

On the north side, toward the northwest corner, is a round, projecting first story bay and a veranda somewhat asymmetrically placed with reference to the arrangement of the facade. This veranda, like the enclosed porch on the east end, features short Doric columns on high brick pedestals, which support an overhanging cornice with projecting rafter ends and a simple frieze. On the south side is a two-story projecting rectangular bay, the upper story of which extends slightly behind the first, and has a flat roof edged with a wooden balustrade. At the southwest corner is a diminutive one-story gable-roofed vestibule leading into the garage from the rear.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1909

BUILDER/ARCHITECT E.R. Bogardus, Mason City

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Duncan Rule house is significant as one of Iowa's few known examples of Shingle Style architecture utilizing the open gable. It is by no means a textbook example of the sort found along the New England coast, but represents the efforts of a local architect to integrate elements of the Shingle idiom in a harmonious, unpretentious, yet distinctive form. The sweeping line of the gable, the broad expanses of shingled wall surface, and windows grouped in horizontal bands are characteristic of this form and are quite competently executed in the Rule house. Other features to note are the attic-story Palladian windows, the north-side semicircular bay, and the use of small panes of glass. At least two elements appear to derive from other architectural forms popular at the turn of the century: the rectilinear leaded borders of the east porch windows are suggestive of Prairie School detail, and the Doric columns of the front veranda recall "classical" revivals of that time. The Shingle Style, and the earlier Queen Anne, were wont to emphasize natural or natural-looking materials and forms -- thus the use of wood shingles and stone. The Duncan Rule house uses stone minimally in its construction; its siting, however, adds an important naturalistic character. On the south, the house overlooks Willow Creek, and from the opposite bank appears to rise naturally on its stone foundation from the low limestone bluff.

The house was designed by E.R. Bogardus (1850-1927), a long-time resident and builder in Mason City. Bogardus came to Mason City as a child. He opened a contracting business in 1873. Although he apparently had no formal architectural training, he gradually began to design, as well as construct, houses, and after 1894 devoted all his time to architecture. During his long career, Bogardus was responsible for numerous buildings in Mason City. His works included the mission-style Calvary M.E. Church (1913); the Georgian/Federal Revival Verimlya (1894), Markley (c. 1902), and Keerl (c. 1894) houses; the City Park Hospital (1909), and the Queen Anne Longenecker house (1898), as well as assorted commercial buildings. He designed two houses using elements of the Shingle idiom: the Duncan Rule house and its precursor, the George Wilson house (1907). The latter is far more vernacular than the Rule house. It does, however, display features that Bogardus used to good effect on the Rule house: the high, dominating gable extended over a porch; the rounded corner projection, and the very large hipped dormer. The columns and protruding rafter ends of the porch roof were also repeated in the Rule house.

Duncan Rule was a local attorney and uncle of the Rule who lived in the Griffin-designed house at 11 Rock Glen in Mason City. It was acquired in 1920 by B.C. Way, owner of the local telephone company. Present owner was Way's housekeeper.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Environmental Planning and Research, Inc. Mason City, Iowa: A Historic Heritage.
 Historical overview and selected inventory from architectural survey, 1976.
 Original plans for house at the offices of C. Newell Architects, Mason City, Iowa.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Mason City, Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 484110 47772610

B

C

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E

F

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H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Parcel 2, and part of Parcel 1, in Stony Acre Subdivision, Mason City, Iowa.

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

M.H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

July 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Adrian A. Anderson

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE 8/20/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

John C. Hull

DATE 10-18-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William H. Bowman*

DATE 10-17-79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION