

# DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES- INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>
COUNTY: <b>La Crosse</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>MAY 6 1975</b>

### 1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Anderson, Mons, House**

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**410 Cass Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**La Crosse**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**Third**

STATE: **Wisconsin**    CODE: **55**    COUNTY: **La Crosse**    CODE: **063**

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY <small>(Check One)</small>	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE <small>(Check One or More as Appropriate)</small>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u><b>Apartments</b></u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

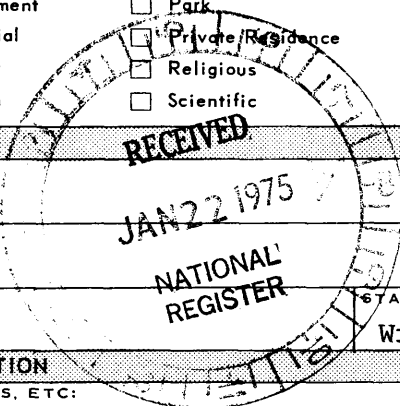
### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Mr. George Lassig**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**410 Cass Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**La Crosse**

STATE: **Wisconsin**    CODE: **55**



### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**La Crosse County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**La Crosse**

STATE: **Wisconsin**    CODE: **55**

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, The Inventory**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**State Historical Society of Wisconsin**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**816 State Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Madison**

STATE: **Wisconsin**    CODE: **55**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>
COUNTY: <b>La Crosse</b>
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

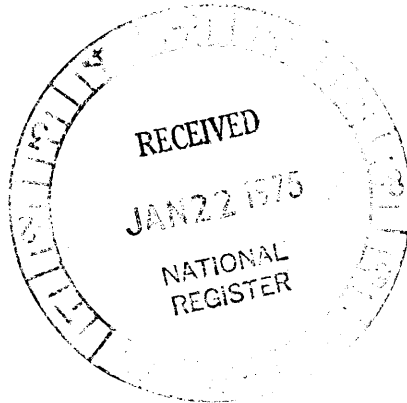
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In 1861 the east wing of this house was begun by A. W. Sheperd, a La Crosse mason contractor. In 1865 it was acquired by Mons Anderson and its west wing was built. By 1877 it had been enlarged to its present size.

Built of local, buff-colored stone, the two-story house has tall turrets and presents a picturesque appearance. It is a Gothic Revival house with a handsome ground-floor loggia on the north, and a castle-like turret on the south side. The trim around windows and doors is partially stone and partially dark-brown wood.

In the nineteenth century the house was the most elegant in La Crosse with large gardens adjacent which contained pieces of sculpture. The gardens no longer exist, though some of the sculpture has been saved and can be seen in various other homes in La Crosse. The land adjacent to the Mons Anderson house has been put to commercial uses. The house served as the La Crosse Y.W.C.A. from 1906 to 1917. Today its interior has been converted into apartments, but the exterior fabric remains much as it originally appeared.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1861, 1865-1874 (additions)**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Association with locally significant personage.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In its day, the Mons Anderson house was the most elegant in La Crosse. Today the house is one of the finest mid-nineteenth century houses in west-central Wisconsin. Its elaborate stonework, brackets and columns are a striking composition. The Gothic Revival style is relatively rare in Wisconsin houses, particularly in stone structures as substantial as this residence.

Mons Anderson was a Norwegian who came to La Crosse in 1851 having lived first in Milwaukee and attended school there. Anderson began his career in La Crosse as a clerk in S.T. Smith's store, but by 1852 he had bought Smith out and by 1856 he had opened a store of his own. Between 1861 and 1870 he constructed the recently-demolished Mons Anderson building, a Second-Empire structure which was the largest "trade palace" in La Crosse and one of the largest in the northern Midwest. From 1885 on, Anderson dealt only in wholesale dry goods with firms up and down the Mississippi. His trade was extensive and on a large scale for its locale and he was important to the development of La Crosse's economy.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

"Mons Anderson," History of La Crosse County, Wisconsin, 1881, pp. 733-4.  
 "Mons Anderson," Biographical History of La Crosse, Monroe, and Juneau Counties, Wisconsin. Chicago: Lewis, 1892. p. 221.  
 Sanford, Albert H. and Hirshheimer, H.J. A History of La Crosse County, Wisconsin, 1841-1900. La Crosse, La Crosse County Historical Society, 1951, pp. 181, 183, 193, 195, 198.  
 "Mons Anderson," Columbian Biographical Dictionary, 1895. pp. 598-600.  
 "Mons Anderson," Wisconsin Necrology, vol. VIII, p. 10.

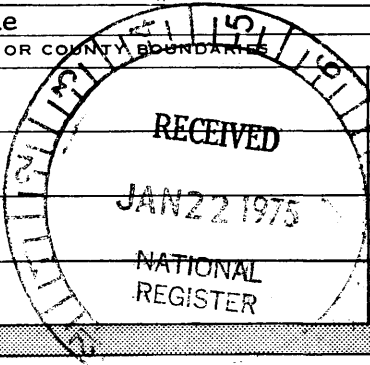
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>		<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	UTM ZONE 15: 4,851,850 N. 640,660 E.		
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Charlene Stant Engel, Preservation Planning Assistant**

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE: July 23, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin 53706 CODE: 55

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name James Morton Smith  
 James Morton Smith

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date Jan. 15, 1975

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

A. R. ...  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/6/75

ATTEST:

Charles ...  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 5.2.75