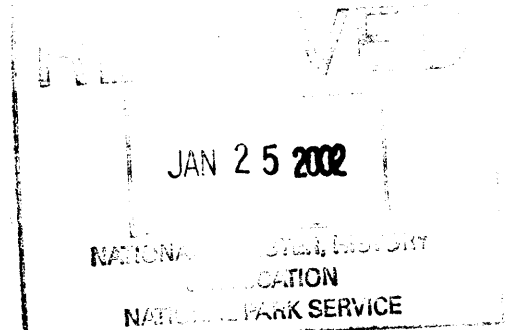


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United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



Jo

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number	136 Sheboygan Street	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Fond du Lac	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Fond du Lac	code 39 zip code 53935

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Alicia T. Goer Signature of certifying official/Title
January 16, 2002 Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Name of Property

Fond du Lac
County and State

Wisconsin

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined eligible for the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined not eligible for the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.
___ removed from the National Register.
___ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall

3-6-02

for

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

private
___ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

building(s)
___ district
___ structure
___ site
___ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
1	1 buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	1 total

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources is previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)
Late 19th and Early 20th
American Movements/ Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)
Foundation stone
walls brick
stucco
roof asphalt
other wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The George and Mary Agnes Dana House is a large Craftsman Style house that sits on a medium-sized urban lot in a large residential neighborhood in Fond du Lac, a medium-sized city in east-central Wisconsin. The Dana House is located in the city's most prominent historic period neighborhood, an area that lies along Sheboygan and East Division streets between the city's downtown commercial district and a large hospital complex in the eastern suburbs. This area developed primarily during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with the construction of large, high-style homes in the Queen Anne, Period Revival, and modern styles for some of Fond du Lac's most prominent families. These homes joined a few Greek Revival, Italianate and Gothic Revival houses that started the development of the neighborhood during the mid-nineteenth century. 1906 is the probable date of construction based on an evaluation of tax rolls, city directories, and information from the owner.

The Dana House lies at the western edge of this neighborhood, only a few blocks from downtown Fond du Lac. The streetscape along this part of Sheboygan Street consists of houses in the styles mentioned above, all on medium to small-sized lots with similar setbacks from the street. Sheboygan Street is a wide, urban street with improved concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks. The street is wide enough for parallel parking on both sides of the street and for average-sized terraces between the sidewalks and the street. The topography of the area is generally flat and dotted with mature trees and shrubs, along with smaller, more recent plantings, many replacing older trees that have been removed.

Several mature trees accent the Dana house lot; the majority of the lot is made up of lawn areas both in front and behind the house. On the east side of the house is a driveway that leads back to a one-car, one-story garage, probably built during the mid-twentieth century. The garage has a stucco exterior, a hip roof, a modern garage door, and a multi-light window opening. The garage is a non-contributing element of the property.

Exterior

The house, itself, is a two-story dwelling with Craftsman Style and Tudor Revival details. The house has a roughly rectangular plan and is covered with a complex hip roof. Projecting from the north elevation is a shed-roofed dormer filled with three multi-light openings. Projecting from the east and west elevations of the roof are smaller hip-roofed dormers filled with single small openings that feature multiple lights over a single light. Both the main roof and these dormers have wide, overhanging eaves with exposed rafters.

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Section 7 Page 2 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

The second story of the house is covered with a false half-timber exterior finish of stucco and both vertical and horizontal boards. The first story is covered with a smooth, red brick veneer. Most of the house sits on a decorative fieldstone foundation below a rough-finished stone water table. Parts of the east and south elevations, out of the public view, sit on a cut limestone foundation below a plain stone water table. The decorative fieldstone foundation also supports the front porch, which spans the main or north elevation. This stone is also used for the piers and the balustrades for the front steps of the porch. A few small openings project from the foundation of the house. Some of these openings have been filled in with wood paneling, while others are filled with small windows.

The main or north elevation of the Dana House features two, two-story, bays flanking the entrance. The bays are stucco-covered on the second story and brick-covered on the first story. Each bay has a set of four openings on each story. These openings are identical and consist of single lights topped with transoms. The transoms of the first story are filled with single lights, while on the second story, they are filled with six lights of unusual colored glass in a mottled pattern of greens, browns, tans, and reds. Above the front entrance is another set of similar, but smaller openings, also with transoms filled with colored glass.

The main entrance sits in the center of the first story of the main or north elevation. It consists of an original wood and glass door flanked by sidelights filled with leaded glass. The front porch roof covers only the main entrance, but its deck spans the entire main elevation. A metal post balustrade runs along the deck between fieldstone piers. The porch roof is flat and has wide eaves and exposed rafters. The roof is supported by two brick posts and two pilasters that flank the entrance. The ceiling of the porch roof has exposed beams.

The west elevation of the house has the false half-timber second story and brick first story mentioned above. On the second floor, the wall is punctuated with a variety of openings. At the center are two small single-light sashes. A similar sash also sits toward the south end of the elevation next to a larger opening that features a single lower light and a six-light transom. This transom has the colored glass panes seen in the transoms of the second story windows of the main elevation. A pair of identical windows also sits at the north end of the elevation, and a set of three identical windows sit between the single-light sashes.

On the first story of the west elevation of the house the openings are also irregular. A one-story bay projects from the center of the elevation. It is filled with two single lights with plain transoms flanking a panel of half-timbering under another plain transom. To the north of the bay is a large brick chimney that rises above the roofline. Flanking this chimney are two plain transom-level single lights. At the south end of this story are two arched openings, both

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

decorated with segmental brick arches. The single opening has been enclosed with modern bricks, while the double opening is filled with two single-light sashes.

About two-thirds of the east elevation is set back from the main elevation, unlike the west elevation, which runs straight back from the main elevation. The set back portion of this elevation begins about one-third of the way back from the main elevation, giving the east elevation the appearance of a main block with an attached rear wing. Projecting from the center of the set back portion of this elevation, is a two-story square bay. Like the other elevations, this elevation features a false half-timbered second story and brick first story. The only differences are in the square bay, where the half-timbering extends into the first story, and at the south end of the elevation, which is an enclosed two-story porch.

Like the other elevations of the house, the windows of this elevation are irregular. At the north end of the second story, there is a single opening filled with a single light topped with a colored, multi-light transom. A pair of these same openings sits in the east wall of the square bay. Flanking the bay on the south is a plain single-light sash, and north of the bay is a tall opening filled with stained glass flanked by two single-light sashes. At the north end of the first story there is a large single-light sash. Three identical sashes sit together in the east wall of the square bay. To the south of the bay there is also an undecorated entry door.

The two-story porch wraps around the east and south elevations. Originally a sun and sleeping porch, it is now enclosed. Wide clapboards enclose the first story of the porch and extend to the second story under the banks of single-light sashes that span both the east and south elevations of this story. Modern windows punctuate both sides of the porch on the first story.

Aside from the enclosed porch, the rear or south elevation is covered with the half-timber and brick exterior of the rest of the house. A single opening sits in the second story wall. It is filled with a single-light lower sash and a six-light upper sash. The one opening in the first story wall sits under a brick segmental arch. It is filled with a single-light sash.

Interior, first floor

Although the exterior of the Dana house reflects Craftsman Style and Tudor Revival influences, the interior was not decorated in a typical Craftsman or Arts and Crafts manner. Rather, it is heavily appointed with classical and Renaissance architectural details, and Art Nouveau decoration. Behind the main entrance is a small entryway leading to another wood and glass door flanked by wide sidelights filled with panels of leaded glass in an oval, diamond, and arched pattern. Under the sidelights is dark-stained wood paneling and the door is decorated with a cornice molding and plain trim. The entryway has plaster walls with wallpaper and wood

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

paneling. The entryway floor is covered with a mosaic tile floor that has a fret band border and a centered design of multi-colored mosaic tiles laid in stylized floral pattern.

The entryway leads into the main foyer. The foyer provides access to all areas of the house. To the right is the living room, with access to the dining room and kitchen behind it. To the left is a parlor, and at the back of the foyer is a hallway that runs along the staircase to the second floor and leads to an office. The foyer is appointed with a floor of thin maple boards, a wainscoting of wood paneling, and plaster walls covered with wallpaper. The foyer has a coffered ceiling decorated with elaborate plaster moldings featuring acanthus leaf and bead-and-reel motifs. Trimming the edges of this ceiling is a molded plaster cornice featuring rows of egg-and-dart, dentil, and bead moldings. The details of these moldings are accented with gold paint.

Hanging from the ceiling in the foyer is an original metal chandelier that features both upward-facing and downward-facing lights. Two scroll brackets with bead moldings project from the neck of the fixture and hold two of the upward-facing lights. Four similar brackets project from the round body of the fixture and hold four downward-facing lights and two upward-facing lights. All of the lights have cut glass covers. The upper covers have a simple quilted pattern, while the lower covers have beaded dome tops and long vertical glass falls. The metal fixture itself is decorated with classical motifs, including large shields with floral and ribbon decoration.

Several steps down from the foyer is the hallway that leads to the office. This hallway also has a maple floor, wood paneled wainscoting, and plaster walls covered with wallpaper. There are several doors leading off this hallway. Three doors are identical, constructed with a tall recessed panel under a smaller recessed panel. These doors are decorated with simple cornice moldings and plain wood trim. The door to the office has a stained glass window in place of the upper panel. The stained glass window has a tulip pattern in the Art Nouveau style. A door with six vertical panels leads under the staircase into the back of the house. Behind the door nearest to the foyer, there is a small bathroom; and behind the office door, there is a small room. This room features walls with wood-paneled wainscoting topped with a bracketed shelf.

To the left of the foyer is a formal parlor that is reached through an opening with two sliding "French" style oak and multi-light doors. The opening is trimmed with simple oak jambs and a long cornice molding. The parlor has plaster walls and simple wood trim and cornice moldings around the windows. All of the trim is stained with a dark varnish. A bay window projects from the north wall of the parlor. Between the four windows of the bay are mullions and under the four windows there are wood panels. Suspended from the ceiling is an original chandelier that is identical to the one in the foyer, except that it does not have the upward-facing lights. The parlor floor is covered with maple boards decorated with an inlaid border of short perpendicular or

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

horizontal maple boards. Also in the room is a large original cast iron radiator, painted white, that is similar to the cast iron radiators found throughout the house.

To the right of the foyer is the living room, which is currently under renovation. The living room is reached through an opening covered with another set of multi-light sliding "French" style doors identical to those covering the parlor opening. The plaster wall surfaces have been removed from the room, along with the old ceiling. The owners plan to finish the room with new materials that resemble the old, while maintaining and returning all of the decorative elements to the room. These decorative elements include a built-in bench and cabinet that sits along the west wall flanking the original fireplace. The back of the bench features wood paneling that is similar to the wainscoting in the rest of the house. Above the bench is a rectangular opening with simple wood trim. The built-in cabinet sits on the other side of the fireplace. It is constructed of oak and has glass doors decorated with small panels of glass, several featuring a stained-glass Art Nouveau tulip design. Above the cabinet is another rectangular opening. A bay window that is identical to the bay in the parlor projects from the north wall of the room.

The fireplace has a rectangular opening filled with a modern metal wood-burning insert that has a "period" appearance. Surrounding this insert are metal panels with raised classical details. The fireplace has a ceramic tile facing with a mottled green finish and these tiles also cover the hearth floor. The facing is trimmed with oak and decorated with oak colonettes with Corinthian capitals supporting a thick, plain oak mantel.

The floor of the living room is similar to the floor of the parlor. It is covered with light maple boards accented with a decorative inlaid border of short, perpendicular or horizontal, boards. This flooring extends into the dining room that is located behind the living room. The opening to the dining room is also covered with the same sliding "French" doors that cover the openings between the foyer and the parlor and the living room. The dining room walls have tall wood-paneled wainscoting that is finished with a light wood grain stain that the current owner thinks was applied during the 1930s. On top of the wainscoting is a bracketed plate rail. The paneling of the room is a Craftsman style decorating finish. A bay window projects from the west wall of the room. Its simple moldings are also stained with the light wood graining. Above the wainscoting, the walls are covered with wall paper.

Along the south wall of the dining room is a built-in sideboard that is finished like the wainscoting. The sideboard has a lower cabinet with three drawers and three recessed panel doors. At the center of the lower cabinet's shelf is an elliptical arch with a keystone supported by two dwarf Tuscan columns. Above the lower cabinet's shelf is the upper cabinet that is covered with three leaded glass doors. The center door is curved and each door is accented at the

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 6 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

top and bottom with an Art Nouveau style tulip border. The sideboard is framed with simple trim and a cornice molding.

The ceiling in the dining room is coffered and accented with acanthus leaf and bead moldings and a molded plaster cornice of scroll shaped modillions and bead and dentil moldings. The entire ceiling and cornice is painted white. Hanging from the ceiling is another original metal chandelier. It is shaped like a three-dimensional shield with an attached pendant. Long curved arms extend from the center of the fixture, then rise to hold candle style lights. The fixture is heavily decorated with acanthus leaves, scrolls, swags, and winged figures.

A six-panel door in the south wall of the dining room leads into the rear of the house, which holds the kitchen and family room. The kitchen has been remodeled with modern wall, ceiling, and floor surfaces, modern cabinets and counters, and modern appliances. A wall between the kitchen and the porch was removed and the porch remodeled into a family room probably during the 1960s. This area has a modern ceiling, modern wood paneling, and carpeting. This is the only area of the interior that has been significantly remodeled.

Interior, second floor

The main staircase rises from the foyer of the house to a half-story hallway that runs in front of the music room. To the right of the music room is a small staircase that leads to a back hallway and bedroom. In front of the music room, the staircase rises another half story to the second floor. The balustrade of the staircase continues around the north and east hallways of the second story, creating an open area that rises to a decorative ceiling. This ceiling has similar classical motifs seen on the first floor, but in a different pattern. At the center of the ceiling is a shallow dome defined by a circular coffer. Diagonal coffers radiate from the dome. The coffers are decorated with acanthus leaf and bead-and-reel moldings, accented with colored paint. At the center of the dome is a replacement light fixture and small lights are set in the inside molding of the circular coffer. The ceiling decoration also includes a molded plaster cornice accented with acanthus leaf, egg-and-dart, dentil, and bead moldings.

The heavy oak staircase is classically detailed. The steps are covered with paneled face strings and the balustrades are made up of heavy turned posts that sit on small bases. The oak newel posts, which sit at the base of the staircase and at the corners of the balustrades on the second floor, are identical square posts with flat caps, fluted decoration, and carved wreath swags and shields. Along the steps, the staircase banisters are straight, but in front of the music room and along the second floor hallways, they are curved. Under the curved banisters, some of the balusters are "sunken" in a repeating pattern.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 7 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

The music room is on the one-and-one-half-story landing, sitting in the projecting square bay on the east exterior wall. The large entrance to the music room is framed by two colossal Ionic columns that support a paneled entablature. The room has a plain plaster ceiling accented with the same classical molded plaster cornice that decorates the second floor ceiling. Hanging from the ceiling of the music room is a long and delicate crystal chandelier made up of strings of both round and drop crystals.

At the center of the back wall of the music room is a large cast plaster panel that spans the length of the upright piano it sits above. The plaque has a molded frame and depicts several classical figures dancing as two infants and a winged figure look on. A large wreath with a bow accents the upper left corner of the plaque. Flanking this plaque are two large carved brackets that are decorated with classical floral and harp motifs. Between the plaque and the brackets are original light fixtures that consist of two lights sitting at the end of a double arch that is attached to a simple oval.

Like the rest of the house, the floor of the music room and the second floor hallways are covered with maple flooring. The walls of the second floor hallways are covered with wallpaper and wood-paneled wainscoting. On the east wall of the staircase that runs in front of the music room, there is a large opening filled with stained glass and flanked by two single-light sashes. The stained glass has a flowing, Art Nouveau design executed in brilliant colors.

Stained glass also accents the built-in oak cabinet along the north hallway. This cabinet features six drawers under two stained glass doors. The stained glass doors also have an oval and diamond patterns with two shields. On either side of the cabinet are two bedrooms that originally had two walk-in closets behind the hallway cabinet. The walk-in closets have been combined for one large closet for the master bedroom in the northwest corner that is currently under construction.

The bedroom at the northeast corner is currently in use and features a cove ceiling, wallpapered walls, carpeting, painted woodwork, six-panel doors, and a bay window. A small bathroom is behind one of the doors. The bedroom that is currently being renovated has an entrance into the combined walk-in closet. On the other side of the bedroom, there is a door leading into the original bathroom. The bedroom has a cove ceiling, maple floors with an inlaid maple border, and six-panel doors with simple moldings. The wood of this room is birch, but the bedroom entry door is faced with oak on the opposite side to match the oak trim of the hallway. This bedroom also has bay windows and both bays have transoms with six lights filled with the mottled colored glass described earlier. The triple window in the walk-in closet also features

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 8 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

these transoms. The bathroom is currently under renovation and new, modern, fixtures will be installed. But, an unusual stained glass opening that features nautical motifs is extant. The owner believes that this window was added during the 1930s.

A third bedroom sits behind a six-panel wood door at the south end of the second floor hallway. This bedroom is finished in a similar manner to the other bedrooms. It features a maple floor with the contrasting inlaid trim and painted moldings around the doors and windows.

The staircase on the side of the music room leads to a six-panel door that is the entrance to the back hallway. Off this hallway is the old "servants" bedroom. This small room has been remodeled with an acoustical tile ceiling, modern paneled walls, and carpeting. Also in this hallway is a small paneled access door that covers the dumbwaiter. To the east is an entrance into the old second floor porch, now used as storage. The hallway ends at the rear staircase that goes down to the first floor and to the east side entrance to the house.

Attic and Basement

The attic covers almost the entire length of the house. It has unfinished walls, flooring of wide, unfinished boards, and is not divided into rooms. It is used for storage. The basement is partially finished. It has a poured concrete floor that has been painted. A large cistern sits on the east side of the house. There are some interior brick walls that divide the basement into rooms, including an old bathroom that was once used for the servants, and an old summer kitchen that sits under the current kitchen. There are also storage rooms and a boiler room in the basement level.

Two areas of the Dana House are currently under renovation, but the vast majority of the building's historic details are intact and in good condition. These features have been and will continue to be retained as the owners continue to renovate. In particular, the owners are taking pains to retain the elaborate woodwork of this house, the beautiful maple floors, the fine doors and hardware, the classical ceilings, the period light fixtures, and the massive central staircase and balustrade. They are also working to renovate the exterior of the house, again retaining and renovating the building's extant historic details.

Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Name of Property

Fond du Lac
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1906

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

SIGNIFICANCE¹

The George and Mary Agnes Dana House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C, architecture, because it is locally significant as a fine example of the Craftsman Style with an unusual and elaborate, classically-appointed interior. The city of Fond du Lac has few fine examples of the Craftsman Style, and this house ranks among the best, both because of the fine details of the style, and because the house has a high level of exterior integrity. What is most unusual about this house, though, is that it does not have the expected Craftsman interior. Rather, its interior architectural details are classically influenced and elaborate in their quality and quantity with a high level of integrity. 1906 is the probable date of construction based on an evaluation of tax rolls, city directories, and information from the owner.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Between 1672 and 1829, the area at the southern end of Lake Winnebago was explored by French explorers, missionaries, and fur trappers; and trading posts were built in what is now the city of Fond du Lac. In 1829, James Duane Doty, along with several companions, traveled from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien looking for sites to develop. Among the sites they viewed was an area where the Fond du Lac River flows into Lake Winnebago. In 1835, after the federal government overcame Native American claims to the area, Doty and George McWilliams purchased 3,705 acres of this land under the name of the Fond du Lac Company. Within these acres, Doty also drew the city's original plat of 33 city blocks with 1800 lots.²

In 1836, the historic Military Road came through Fond du Lac on its way between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, an event that helped early settlement in the state. Looking to capitalize on the new road, the Fond du Lac Company established a tavern, inn and land office at the site of the new community. Brothers Colwert and Edward Pier, with Colwert's wife, Fanny, agreed to run this business in a log cabin, becoming the first permanent white settlers in Fond du Lac.³

In 1838, physician Mason C. Darling, who was recruited to the new settlement by James Doty, arrived in Fond du Lac. As a fee for locating there, the Fond du Lac Company gave Darling 80 acres of prime land in the new plat, along with some nearby farmland. In a shrewd, but underhanded, economic move, Darling legally blocked the Fond du Lac Company from selling their lots for a time, while selling the lots from his own 80-acre parcel and some additional land

¹ The period of significance for this house is the probable date of construction. The date for this house was selected based on an evaluation of tax rolls, city directories, and information from the owner.

² Carol Lohry Cartwright, *City of Fond du Lac Intensive Survey Report*, Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, 1992, pp. 9-10.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2 Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

he had obtained. Much of Darling's land was in what would develop as downtown Fond du Lac, and Darling quickly became wealthy. Additionally, Darling promoted the settlement by giving away some lots, donating land for the county courthouse, acquiring the postmaster appointment, and opening a hotel. But, despite Darling's efforts, Fond du Lac grew slowly during the 1840s, and only 400 people lived there in 1847.⁴

During the 1850s and 1860s, the population of Fond du Lac grew rapidly, the result of two important developments. The first was the development of an important rail link. In 1851, ground was broken for the Rock River Valley Railroad, a line out of Janesville, Wisconsin. This line was reorganized in 1855 and absorbed by the large Chicago North Western Railroad Company (CNW) in 1859. The Fond du Lac stop was part of the CNW's rail line that they developed through eastern Wisconsin during the 1860s, a line that became one of the most important transportation lines in the state.⁵

The second development that changed Fond du Lac was the lumber industry. Fond du Lac was an early "sawmill town," processing the timber that came down the Fox River system from areas north of the city. The first sawmill built in Fond du Lac operated in 1846-1847, then reopened in 1849, and operated until 1855. During the 1850s and 1860s, more sawmills were established in Fond du Lac. In 1873, at the peak of the lumber industry in the community, the city had 18 lumber and wood products mills that employed over 1,400 workers, who processed 67,000,000 feet of lumber and 2.3 million dollars worth of wood products.⁶

Largely due to these developments, the population of Fond du Lac rose to almost 5,000 in the early 1850s, then doubled to 10,000 during the 1860s. At the peak of the lumber boom, Fond du Lac had just over 15,000 residents, 18 churches, six banks, and a dozen hotels. In order to house all of these new residents, a building boom began in the city. This boom included the development of downtown Fond du Lac, as well as three residential neighborhoods that grew up to the east, west, and south of the downtown. Much of the new housing was built for workers and was simple, vernacular housing, but a number of wealthier families built larger, more stylish, houses in these neighborhoods.⁷

In the residential area east of Fond du Lac's downtown, the larger, more stylish houses were concentrated primarily along two streets, East Division and Sheboygan, and during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this area developed into the city's most prominent

⁴*Ibid.*

⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 11, 108.

⁶*Ibid.*, pp. 84-85.

⁷*Ibid.*, p. 11.

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residential neighborhood. South and east of the city's downtown, the larger, more stylish houses were less concentrated. Only two small concentrated areas of stylish houses were built in these neighborhoods. One is a small area along West Division Street close to downtown, and the other is a small area along Linden Street, just south of the city's downtown and courthouse complex.

After the lumber industry died out in the 1880s, Fond du Lac's economy slowed for a while. Although the city had other industries, none could rival the size of the lumber mills and factories. But, after the turn of the twentieth century, new or expanded industries brought a revival of the city's industrial economy. Large repair shops and division headquarters for both the Soo Line and Chicago North Western railroads in North Fond du Lac employed almost 2,000 men by 1912. Several industries, including the Fred Rueping Leather Company, the Moore and Galloway Lumber Company, and the Giddings and Lewis Company, employed another 1,500 workers at that time. Several smaller industries, such as the Gurney Refrigerator Company, the Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company, the Northern Casket Company, the Vulcan Manufacturing Company, and the Galloway-West Dairy Products Company employed almost 1,000 workers in 1912. These companies continued to grow during the twentieth century; in particular, the Giddings and Lewis Company, the Vulcan Manufacturing Company, and the Galloway-West Company. They were the core of Fond du Lac's industrial economy in the twentieth century that helped the city become one of the largest industrial centers in east-central Wisconsin.⁸

During the economic boom of the early twentieth century, Fond du Lac's already-established residential neighborhoods grew significantly. But, most of this new housing was in the form of small to medium-sized residences built for the skilled industrial workers of the city. In fact, Fond du Lac's historic housing stock contains large concentrations of American Foursquare and simple Bungalow style houses, both built among the older streetscapes of the city and in new streetscapes further east, west, and south of the older neighborhoods. In the East Division and Sheboygan streets neighborhood of large, stylish houses, the new construction of the early twentieth century consisted primarily of large Craftsman and Period Revival style homes. But, in the older neighborhoods to the south and west of downtown Fond du Lac, including the West Division and Linden Street neighborhoods, this new construction was primarily smaller "infill" type housing for middle-class and working-class families that was typical of the American Foursquare and Bungalow homes rising in other areas of the city.

During the late twentieth century, the residential neighborhoods of Fond du Lac continued to expand, primarily with tracts of suburban-style ranch houses. The prominent neighborhood along East Division and Sheboygan streets has been largely retained, and some houses that had been deteriorating during the 1970s and 1980s, are now being restored. The other historic

⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 11-12.

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neighborhoods in Fond du Lac have seen more intrusive elements introduced and more remodeling. But, overall, these neighborhoods are relatively stable, and the larger, historic homes along West Division and Linden streets are still extant. Other historic houses scattered throughout the city have also been largely preserved and are recognized as local landmarks in the community.

The George and Mary Agnes Dana house was one of the large, stylish houses built in the East Division-Sheboygan Street neighborhood during the early twentieth century. Much of this neighborhood was filled in already with mid and late nineteenth century houses, many in the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. The Dana house was one of the group of early twentieth century style houses built in this neighborhood, most of which were examples of period revival styles.

George Dana was a notable person in Fond du Lac during the early twentieth century. He was born in 1879 to a prominent business family in the city. In October of 1905, he married Mary Agnes Boyle and, soon after, they had this house constructed. Mary Agnes' family, the Boyles were also members of the East Division and Sheboygan Street neighborhood, and they owned a large, older home across the street and the land that this house sits on. According to tax assessment rolls, city directories, and information from the current owner, the house was built between 1906 and 1907.⁹

George Dana was one of the owners of the Globe Furniture Company, a downtown business that was sold in 1927. He was a high-ranking member of the Catholic fraternal order, the Knights of Columbus, and a member of the Elks Club. He died in January of 1939 at the age of 59. He and Mary Agnes had no children and after George Dana's death, the house was sold to a cousin. This family owned the house for a number of years. Recently, the house had two short-term owners before becoming the property of the present owner.¹⁰

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHITECTURE

The George and Mary Agnes Dana House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a fine example of the Tudor influenced Craftsman style with an unusual and decorative classically influenced interior. In fact, according to the 1992-completed intensive survey report

⁹ Tax Rolls for the City of Fond du Lac, on file in the Area Research Center of the Library of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; City Directories for the City of Fond du Lac, on file in the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Information from the current owner; "George A. Dana Expires After Brief Illness," *Fond du Lac Commonwealth Reporter*, 16 January 1939, p. 12.

¹⁰"George A. Dana Expires;" Information from the current owner.

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for the City of Fond du Lac, this house is one of only three Craftsman style houses in Fond du Lac that were determined to be potentially eligible for the National Register.

According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, the Craftsman style was popular in Wisconsin between 1900 and 1930. The style is distinguished by its high regard for natural materials, honest construction techniques, and high quality wood craftsmanship, both on the exterior and interior of the house. Craftsman houses are often constructed of brick, stucco, or stone, and details include broad gable or hipped roofs, large dormers, decorative brackets or exposed rafters, prominent chimneys, and open porches with heavy piers.¹¹

The exterior of this house is typical of the Craftsman style as described above in its combination stucco and brick exterior walls, broad hip roof, prominent dormers, large chimney, and open porch with exposed rafters and heavy piers. These details are all well executed with high quality building materials. In particular, the heavy fieldstone foundation, elegant smooth red bricks, and half-timber and stucco second story are all high quality building materials that suggest the substantial, honest construction that is the hallmark of the Craftsman style. The exterior also has a high level of integrity with almost all of its historic details intact. Only a few minor alterations can be seen on the building's exterior. In particular, the original windows, many with stained glass transoms, are extant and in generally good condition.

Elements of the Tudor Revival are also seen in the design of the Dana House. The most prominent is the use of false half timbering and stucco on the second floor with the first floor faced in brick. Like all the period revival styles, the Tudor Revival was popular during the first four decades of the twentieth century. While often seen in pure examples of the revival style, elements of the Tudor Revival can also be found on Craftsman Style and transitional Prairie Style houses.

The most interesting architectural feature of this house, though, is its interior. Because the exterior has very typical Craftsman details, it could be assumed that the interior would have typical Craftsman details of high-quality, yet simple, woodwork and built-in cabinets. The Dana house is a surprise on the inside, because it does not have this type of interior, but is elaborately decorated with classical details. Classical details can be seen right away in the main staircase, with its massive oak balustrades that have classically-decorated newel posts, heavy turned balusters, and wood paneling. The ceilings in the foyer, parlor, living room, dining room, and second floor hallways are lavishly appointed with plaster moldings in classical motifs, a marked contrast to a typical Craftsman ceiling with simple exposed beams of natural woods.

¹¹ Barbara Wyatt, *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. II*, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture, p. 2-24.

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The house does have built-in cabinets with leaded glass doors, but these cabinets, located in the dining room, living room, and second floor hallway, have classical details, including leaded glass doors with stained glass Art Nouveau decoration. The Ionic columns, plaster panel with classical figures, and classical brackets of the music room, add to this motif. Classical details also accent the chandeliers of the foyer, parlor, and dining room, and the light fixtures of other rooms. The paneled wainscoting and the cornice moldings that are used throughout the house are also classically influenced interior details.

Like the exterior, the interior has a high level of integrity and its historic details were executed with high quality materials and craftsmanship. The oak and other wood trims, oak staircase, maple flooring, plaster moldings, and stained glass details all feature high quality materials and high quality construction techniques. For example, the craftsmanship is evident in the built-in cabinets, with their beautiful leaded and stained glass doors. The massive oak staircase is an intact and impressive element of the house, as is the large stained glass window on the second floor. This Art Nouveau window is a beautiful work of art. Even simple window transoms were embellished with unusual mottled colored glass panes. And, instead of simple maple floors, this house features floors with inlaid borders that add distinctiveness throughout the interior.

The only major alterations in the interior are at the back of the house, which has been opened up into the first floor porch to make a modern kitchen and family room. Also, the old "servants" bedroom was remodeled, probably during the 1960s. The owners are currently renovating the house, but appreciate its historic details and plan to preserve most of them. The only change they have made to the floor plan is the alteration of the bedroom closets and the conversion of the old bathroom into a modern master bath on the second floor. But, these changes are being made in a way that preserves as much of the historic fabric as possible. The renovation of other rooms of the house will also retain as much of the house's details as possible.

The Dana house is architecturally significant and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because it is a fine example of the Craftsman architectural style, one of only three good examples in Fond du Lac. The house is also significant because of its elaborate classically appointed interior, with unusual and highly artistic details. The house has a high level of integrity, both on the exterior and the interior, and its fine details make it stand out as a landmark in the city.

Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Name of Property

Fond du Lac
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
Other State Agency
Federal Agency
 Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one _____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 384030 4848170
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Carol Lohry Cartwright, Consultant	date	5/7/2001
organization	prepared for the City of Fond du Lac	telephone	262-473-6820
street & number	W7646 Hackett Rd.	zip code	53190
city or town	Whitewater	state	WI

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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City Directories for the City of Fond du Lac. On file in the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

“George A. Dana Expires After Brief Illness.” *Fond du Lac Commonwealth Reporter*, 16 January 1939, p. 12.

Information from the current owner.

Tax Rolls for the City of Fond du Lac, on file in the Area Research Center of the Library of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Barbara Wyatt, *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. II*, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture.

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The George and Mary Agnes Dana House has a boundary that is described as follows:
McWilliams Addition, West 64' of the East 95' of the North 151' of Lot 4.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of this property has been its historic site since the house was built between 1906 and 1907.

Dana, George and Mary Agnes, House
Name of Property

Fond du Lac
County and State

Wisconsin

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title	Richard and Leila Burgdof	date	5/7/2001
organization		telephone	920-923-3939
street&number	136 Sheboygan St.	zip code	54935
city or town	Fond du Lac	state	WI

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

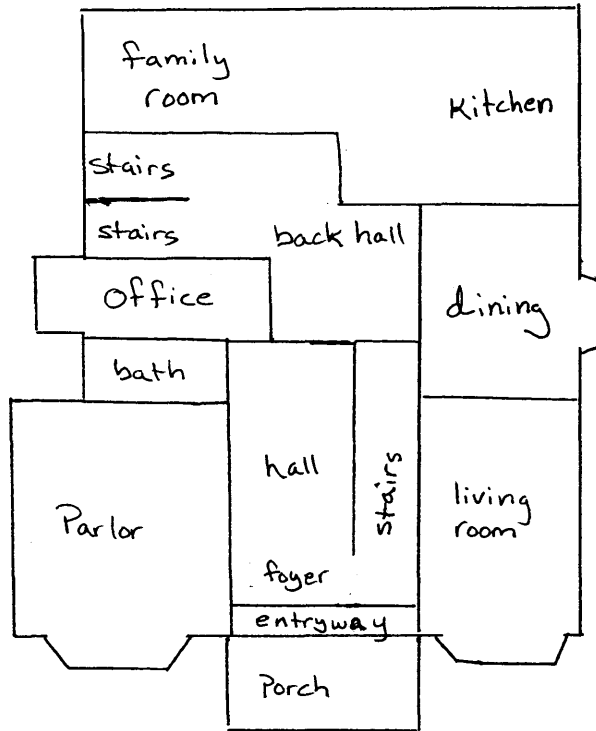
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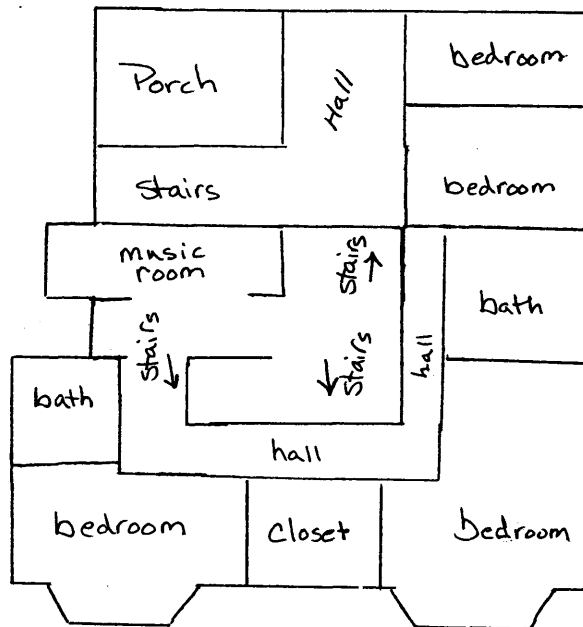
DANA, GEORGE AND MARY AGNES, HOUSE, Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. Photos by Carol Cartwright, February, 2001. Negatives on file in the Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin. Views:

- 1 of 17: Main or north elevation, view from the northwest.
- 2 of 17: West elevation, view from the northwest.
- 3 of 17: North and east elevations, view from the northeast.
- 4 of 17: Rear or south elevation, view from the south.
- 5 of 17: Interior, first floor, foyer.
- 6 of 17: Interior, first floor, parlor.
- 7 of 17: Interior, first floor, hallway toward office.
- 8 of 17: Interior, first floor, living room.
- 9 of 17: Interior, first floor, dining room.
- 10 of 17: Interior, first floor, dining room.
- 11 of 17: Interior, first floor, staircase.
- 12 of 17: Interior, second floor landing, music room.
- 13 of 17: Interior, second floor landing, music room.
- 14 of 17: Interior, second floor, hallway, staircase balustrade, and cabinet.
- 15 of 17: Interior, second floor, ceiling.
- 16 of 17: Interior, second floor, stained glass opening.
- 17 of 17: Interior, second floor landing, staircase to "servants" back hall.



Not to Scale

First floor plan



Not to Scale

Second floor plan

DANA, GEORGE AND MARY AGNES HOUSE
Floor Plan

Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin