

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 09-00634 New Supplemental Revised 2/2016
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 09-00621
 Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing
 Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries
 National Register Status:(any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE
 9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____
 Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name Kern, Dr. Lester C. and Edith, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 702 1st Ave NW

city or town Waverly

vicinity, county Bremer

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision M.N. LeValley Add. Block(s) 63 Lot(s) Lot 8 & E 24' S 30' of Lot 2 & S 30' of Lot 1

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

<i>If Non-Eligible Property</i>		<i>If Eligible Property, enter number of:</i>	
Enter number of:		Contributing	Noncontributing
—	buildings	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
—	sites	—	— sites
—	structures	—	— structures
—	objects	—	— objects
—	Total	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title
Waverly's NW & SE Neighborhoods Historical & Architectural Survey

Historical Architectural Data Base Number
09-028

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

01A Single Dwelling

01A Single Dwelling

01C05 Garage

01C05 Garage

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

09A06 Hipped Roof, 2-story

foundation 04 Stone

05D Queen Anne

walls (visible material) 02A Weatherboard; 02B Shingle

roof 08A Asphalt/Shingle

other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | A | Property is associated with significant events. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | B | Property is associated with the lives of significant persons. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | C | Property has distinctive architectural characteristics. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | D | Property yields significant information in archaeology or history. |

County Bremer
City Waverly

Address 702 1st Ave NW

Site Number 09-00634
District Number 09-00621

Criteria Considerations

- 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)

02 ARCHITECTURE

Significant Dates

Construction date 1902 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation _____

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Lester C. Kern

Architect/Builder

Architect _____

Builder _____

Narrative Statement of Significance (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc. date 2/2016
 organization for City of Waverly, Historic Preservation Commission telephone 715/469-3300
 street & number N3834 Deep Lake Road city or town Sarona state WI zip code 54870

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____

- See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.
- Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
- Barn:**
 - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended
 This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____ Date: _____

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7. Description

This single-family house is estimated to have been built in 1902 according to Bremer County Assessor records. The house form and style are consistent with houses in Waverly built at the turn of the 20th century. By the time the 1913 city directory was published, the address is listed as occupied by, Dr. Lester C. and Edith Kern. Newspaper listings show the Kerns moving to Waverly in December 1898 making construction of the house for their use several years later a likely possibility. A construction date of ca. 1901 is consistent with public records for this property and the brief occupancy of the house by original builder, Baptist minister P. Monroe Smock. A timeline for Smock's Waverly history and subsequent career is included at the end of Section 8. It was researched and prepared by Mary Meyer, local historian and Waverly HPC member, 11/8/2015.

This 2-story frame house is an example of a Hipped Roof, 2-story house form that retains design details from the Queen Anne Style and the overall form of the "American Four-Square" that became popular in Iowa after the turn of the 20th century and continued to be built into the 1920s in Waverly. The house has a stone block foundation with narrow wood clapboard siding, corner boards and paired belt courses between levels. The low-pitched hipped roof on the main block has off-set gabled wall dormers on the front and side facades. Each of the gables is finished in octagonal-cut wood shingles that flare at the lower edges. A two-level entrance porch along the east façade includes an enclosed sunroom on the first floor and an enclosed sleeping porch on the upper level. The closed balustrades are clad in matching wood siding with 1/1 windows in the upper walls. The finish of the porch detailing suggests it was done as a part of the original design or within the first 15 years of the house's life, which included the period of greatest popularity for sleeping porches.

Fenestration throughout the house includes widely spaced single 1/1 double-hung windows of various sizes with more decorative sash on the front façade. On the first floor, a cottage window is located to the left of the entrance porch. It features a leaded glass design in the upper horizontal sash over the single square fixed sash. In the dormer gables, square fixed sash have a course of small square lights surrounding a large central light.

The property slopes up at the rear where a two-story hipped roof carriage barn was originally located. This was removed in ca. 2010.

Alterations: The house was converted to two apartments at an unknown date; the carriage barn at the rear of the property was razed sometime between ca. 1909 and 1911.

8. Significance

The Kern House at 702 1st Ave NW was originally built in ca. 1901 by Rev. P Smock, the local Baptist minister, and sold the following year to long-term occupants Lester C. and Edith Kern. It is an early example of the blending of a late 19th century architectural style with a new 20th turn-of-the-century building form. Queen Anne Style surface finishes – narrow clapboard siding, corner board trim, multiple belt courses, and decorative shingles – with the Hipped Roof, 2-story house form that became known as the "American Four-Square." The design gains additional significance because of the use of a sleeping porch integrated into the original form – a feature promoted for good health. The fact that the

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house was built for a medical doctor's family was likely more than a coincidence. Dr. Lester C. Kern's medical and surgical practice extended for 62 years in Waverly from 1899 to 1961. The house qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places as an individually eligible and contributing resource to the historic district under Criteria A, B and C.

Dr. Lester C. Kern (1871-1967) graduated from the College of Medicine at the State University of Iowa (University of Iowa) in 1895. Dr. Kern moved to Waverly in December 1998 and he set up his medical office over Schaffer's Grocery in the downtown. In 1899 he was unmarried and resided at the Fortner House on East Bremer Avenue. After he and his wife Edith were married, they occupied this house beginning in ca. 1902. In 1901 he moved offices to the new Broadie Building above the Broadie Drug Store. A short time later it appears that Kern and his new wife began construction of their house on West Jefferson Street (1st Ave NW). In the 1913 city directory, Dr. Kern was listed as a "physician and surgeon." A noteworthy early procedure performed by Kern was a skin graft reported in local newspapers on October 29, 1903. Dr. Kern placed skin removed from a father to place on a burn site of the man's 18-month old son. In 1913, he became a charter member of the American College of Surgeons. He remained in active practice in 1955 at the age of 84 when Lester and Edith were still residing on 1st Ave NW. Dr. Kern closed his office on March 31, 1961 at the age of 90. Edith died in 1966 and Lester passed away on March 3, 1967.

P. Monroe Smock Timeline (prepared by Mary Meyer, local historian and Waverly HPC member, 11/8/2015)			
Date	Year	Description	Notes
11/5	1900	P. Monroe Smock. Baptist minister. Called by Baptist church of Greenville.	Greenville Record-Argus
12/16	1901	P. Monroe Smock buys Lots 1, 2, 8 and 9 of Blk 63 of the M.N. LeValley addition from M.J. Eldredge.	Trans. Book
1/2	1902	"For sale at once - the old LeValley house will be sold cheap. Inquire of P.M. Smock."	WR
1/2	1902	"Rev. P.M. Smock will deliver his farewell sermon at the Baptist church next Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m."	WR
1/2	1902	"Building goes right on summer or winter. P.M. Smock broke ground yesterday for his new house in the 5th ward."	WR
1/2	1902	"Real estate transactions - W.J. Eldredge to P. Monroe Smock, 4 lots in 5th ward, Waverly, \$2,100. P. Monroe Smock to F.E. Eldredge N 1/2 of 2 lots in the 4th ward, Waverly, \$1,200. Erastus Taylor to P.M. Smock N 1/2 of 2 lots in the 4th ward, Waverly \$1,150."	WR
1/19	1902	Rev. Smock - farewell sermon - best wishes to him in his new vocation. New superintendent following F.P. Hagemann.	WR
1/30	1902	"Chas. Krause has the contract to build Superintendent Smock's new house in the fifth ward. It will be a handsome and commodious residence, 30x33 feet, two stories with all the modern improvements."	WR
5/29	1902	"B.E. Sweet, F.P. Hagemann and P.M. Smock are improving their residences with new cement walks, on Jefferson and Aspen streets."	WR p5
6/17	1902	P. Monroe Smock sells Lot 9 of Blk 63 to E.J. Kaufman.	Trans. Book

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6/19	1902	"E.J. Kaufmann has bought two lots in the LeValley addition from P.M. Smock, consideration \$965. Mr. Kaufmann will put up a fine new residence on the lots. This property is situated on Jefferson street between the residences of Mr. Smock and Mr. B.E. Sweet."	WR
6/26	1902	"Supt. Smock moved into his new residence this week."	WR
12/11	1902	"Supt. P. Monroe Smock and wife opened wide the doors of their beautiful new home in this city to Mrs. B.J. Glattly's Sunday School class Tuesday evening. A large number of the young people were present and a most enjoyable time was passed. Mr. and Mrs. Smock are royal entertainers and the young people are always given a warm welcome to their home."	WR
2/6	1903	"P. Monroe Smock of Waverly, over whom the Baptist church of which he was pastor has split, has organized a new society there and will establish a new church. Many of the Baptists have gone over with him."	Davenport Daily Rep.
2/28	1903	"This morning Superintendent P. Monroe Smock received offer of \$10,000 for library bldg. from Andrew Carnegie. To be presented to the city council."	Davenport Daily Rep.
4/30	1903	"Supt. Smock has bought the John Hazlett house of the C.G.W, and will move it from its present location to one of his lots north of his residence on the west side."	WR
6/11	1903	Burglary of watch from Smock home while family downtown.	WR
10/22	1903	P. Monroe Smock sells Lots 1, 2 and 8 of Blk 63 to Dr. L.C. Kern.	Trans. Book

9. Sources

Atlas of Bremer County, Iowa. Waverly, Iowa: Waverly Publishing Company, 1917.

Atlases of Bremer County. Microfilm copies of atlases for 1875, 1894 and 1927, Waverly Public Library.

Bremer County History Book Committee. *Bremer County History, 1985.* Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing, 1985.

Grawe, Joseph F. *History of Bremer County, Iowa, Volumes I and II.* Chicago: S.J. Clarke Company, 1914.

History of Butler and Bremer Counties, Iowa. Springfield, Illinois: Union Publishing, 1883.

Sanborn Company Maps. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1885, 1892, 1897, 1905, 1915, 1927, and 1927 updated to 1943.

Vertical file collection, Waverly Public Library.

Waverly building histories, miscellaneous bound volumes in reference collection, Waverly Public Library.

Waverly Business News Index (database) for Dr. Kern, Waverly Public Library.

- 1898 Moved to Waverly. Dec 29
- 1899 Opened over Schaffer's grocery in Lashbrook block - Feb 2. & *Bremer County Independent* Feb 9 p8c4
- 1900 Article about him and twin brother. Dr. Kern pretended to be lawyer brother *Bremer County Independent* May 10 p8c7
- 1901 Moved to front rooms; 2nd floor in new Broadie bldg - Jan 10. 122 1/2 E. Bremer
- 1903 Performed a skin graft *Bremer County Independent* Oct 29 p8c4
- 1935 phone book still there
- 1955 Article, active at 84 *Waverly Democrat* March 9 p 82
- 1961 Closed office March 31 (*Bremer County Independent* 3-29)
- 1967 Died March 3 (*Bremer County Independent* March 6)

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Waverly city directories, 1899 and 1913.

Waverly Heritage Days historical walking tour brochures for 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Waverly Historic Photo Collection, Waverly Public Library.

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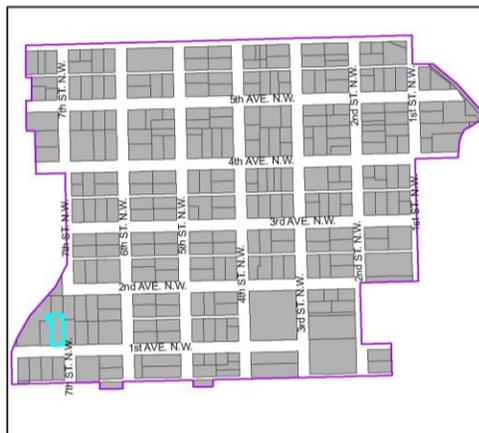
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Name of Property
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Site Map: Bremer County GIS Department, 12/2011.

**702 1st Ave NW
PIN 09-03-241-011**



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Photographs: 702 1st Ave NW, looking northeast and north northwest, Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc., photographer, 11/3/2011.



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Photographs: 702 1st Ave NW, gable, window and porch details, looking north, Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc., photographer, 11/3/2011.



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Bremer

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County

702 1st Ave NW

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Photographs: 702 1st Ave NW, looking north and northwest; nonextant carriage barn in the rear in bottom photo, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/24/2009.



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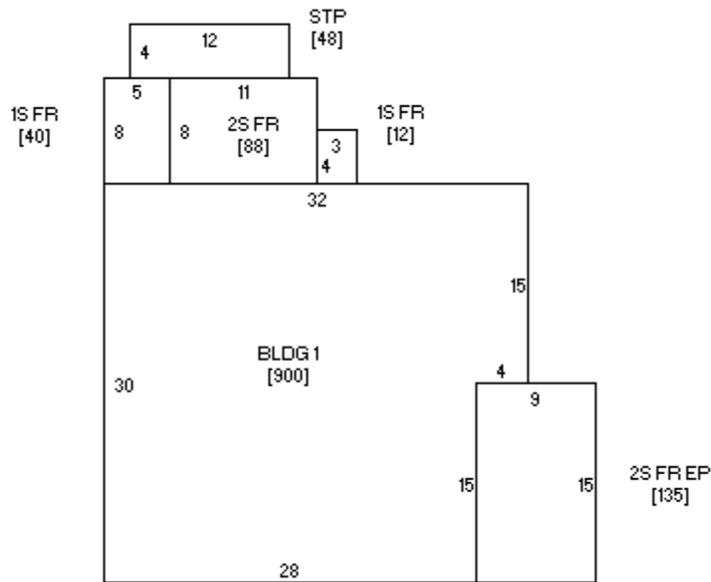
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Additional Information:

Floor plan, 702 1st Ave NW, Bremer County Assessor website; available at <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/PhotoEngine/Sketch.aspx?appid=330&keyvalue=0903241011&index=0&size=0>; accessed 10/12/2012.



Sketch by www.camavision.com