

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

**State Inventory No. 09-00855**  New  Supplemental  
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 09-00962  
 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 Gross, Dr. J.M. and Marie, House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 425 1<sup>st</sup> St SE

city or town Waverly  vicinity, county Bremer

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

(If Urban) Subdivision Jacob Hess's Addition Block(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Lot(s) N 1/2 Lots 1 and 2

**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)	Number of Resources within Property		
	If Non-Eligible Property Enter number of:	If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	_____ buildings	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ sites	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____ structures	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____ objects	_____	_____ objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____ 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 MPD 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)

09A01 Front-Gabled Roof, 2-Story foundation 04 Stone

\_\_\_\_\_ walls (visible material) 15B Vinyl

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 425 1<sup>st</sup> St SE

Site Number 09-00855  
District Number 09-00962

**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  
1880  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation

**Significant Person**

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

**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 9/2012  
 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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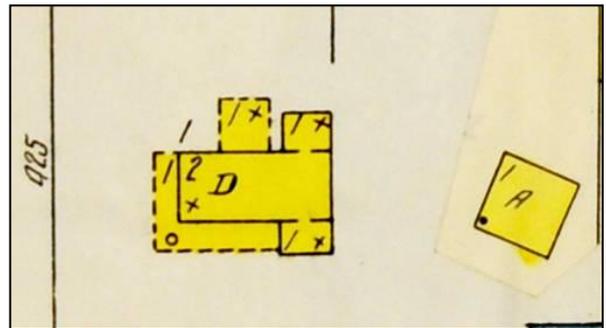
Gross, Dr. J.M. and Marie, House	Bremer
Name of Property	County
425 1 <sup>st</sup> St SE	Waverly
Address	City

## 7. Description

This 2-story single-family house is estimated to have been built in 1880 according to Bremer County Assessor records. Though this date is consistent with the design and form of the house, other information about the neighboring house to the south suggests that the Gross House may have been built at a later date.

This Gross House is an example of a vernacular 2-story Front-Gable house form. It has a moderate-pitched front-gable roof with narrow eaves and a flat-roof porch roof extending along the front and a continuing roof and deck along the south façade.

On the south side, the porch has a deck ends in a shed roofed room addition. A smaller hipped roof porch is set back along the north façade along the entrance drive. The original porch arrangement appears on the 1927 Sanborn Map (right) showing the shallower dimension of the porch on the front but noting that the porch actually had a wraparound design. The porch now has a roof line only on the front with a section projecting forward slightly over the entrance steps that are centered on the front.



The deck has been removed and replaced with a concrete slab on the front and south façade. The deck remains on the north porch with the skirting panels replaced by plastic lattice panels and new wood columns, square spindles and turned spindles replacing the original elements.

The house has a stone foundation with a parged finish and medium width clapboard-style vinyl siding on the walls. The original front entrance has been replaced by a window on the right side and the concrete steps abandoned. This was done in ca. 2009 with the new front entrance now via the side porch. Screen panels on that porch have been removed since 2009. Fenestration includes multi-light double-hung replacement sash with 9/9 windows on the first floor, front; 6/6 windows on the second floor; and smaller 6/6 sash elsewhere. A semi-circular window (now covered) was in the gable peak. A former entrance onto the south porch wing has also been abandoned. The house has a detached 1-story twin-bay garage with a broad, low-pitched front-gable roof and matching vinyl siding. According to Bremer County Assessor records, the garage was erected in 1998.

Alterations: porch decking and roofing changes (undated); vinyl siding (undated); and window changes.

## 8. Significance

The Gross House at 425 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE is an example of a vernacular 2-story Front-Gable house form that most likely had either Italianate or Queen Anne ornamentation when original constructed. The house was part of the main wave of homebuilding in the neighborhood that extended from the 1880s through the post-World War I years. The house qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places as contributing resource to the historic district under Criterion C and the garage is considered noncontributing.

Gross, Dr. J.M. and Marie, House	Bremer
Name of Property	County
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By 1912, this property was owned by Dr. James N. Gross. Dr. Gross was a dentist who had practiced in Waverly since sometime 1871 making him one of the earliest practicing dentists in Iowa when he died in 1919. An early biography appears below:

Dr. J. N. GROSS, dentist, is a native of Brighton, Canada West, and was born Aug 21st, 1837. He is a son of Pitkin and Rebecca (CORY) GROSS. The Doctor received his preparatory education at his home, and in 1862 began reading medicine with his father, who was a graduate of Dartmouth College, N.H. During the winter of 1862-3 he attended lectures at the Buffalo Medical College and graduated from that institution in 1865. The same year he began practicing at Brighton and there remained for nearly two years. In October of 1866 he located in Charles City, Iowa. Abandoning the practice of medicine, he entered the office of Dr. A H. Marsh, a brother-in-law, and began practicing dentistry. During the spring of 1869, Mr. GROSS removed from Charles City to Osage, Mitchell County, where he remained about two years, and thence to Waverly, Bremer County, where he now resides, and is the oldest established dentist in the city. In 1872, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. SMITH, daughter of John SMITH, who is a pioneer of Bremer County. The Doctor is a member of Masonic fraternity - the Blue Lodge and Chapter. (*History of Bremer County, Iowa*, 1883, page 878)

Cemetery records indicate that he was married to Marie Smith Gross rather than Mary and that his middle initial was "M" rather than "N." The brief biography below describes his professional career and appeared after his death in the *Iowa Dental Bulletin*, Volume V, April 1919, p. 8.

**Dr. J. M. Gross of Waverly, one of the oldest practicing dentists in the state, died the latter part of February. He began practice of dentistry at Waverly in 1871. From 1883 until 1889, he occupied the chair of dental pathology and therapeutics at the Western Dental College at Kansas City. In 1899 Dr. Gross returned to Waverly and continued in active practice until his health began to fail him last September.**

### 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.

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Continuation Sheet**

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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.

Obituary, *Iowa Dental Bulletin*, Volume V, April 1919, p. 8

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 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.

Waverly Newspapers: *Bremer Independent*, June 10, 1921, p. 7, column 3.

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



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Photographs: 425 1<sup>st</sup> St. SE, looking east and northeast, Marlys Svendsen, photographer, 11/3/2011.



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Photographs: looking southeast and garage, looking east, Marlys Svendsen, photographer, 11/3/2011.



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County  
Waverly  
City

Photographs: looking east, northeast, and southeast, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/23/2009.



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Continuation Sheet**

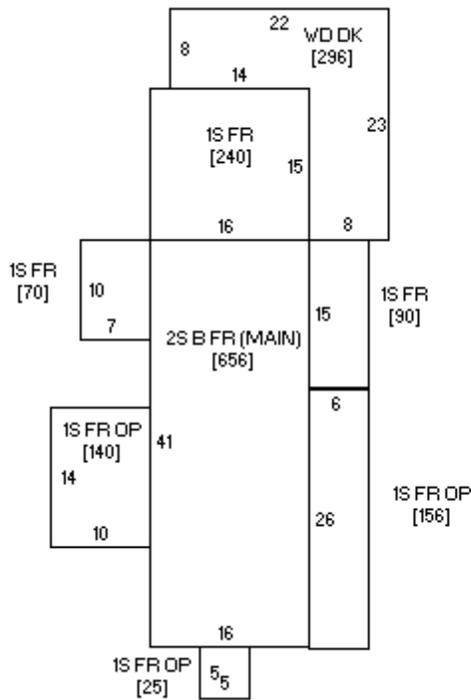
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Additional Information:

Floor plan, 425 1<sup>st</sup> St. SE, Bremer County Assessor website; available at <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/PhotoEngine/Sketch.aspx?appid=330&keyvalue=0902327001&index=0&size=0>; accessed 1/16/2012.



Sketch by [www.camavision.com](http://www.camavision.com)