

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 comments on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

Name of Property

Historic name Huhn-Harrison House

Other names/site number N/A

Location

Street & number 340 S. Lorimier Street [N/A] not for publication

City or town Cape Girardeau [N/A] vicinity

State Missouri code MO county Cape Girardeau code 031 zip code 63701

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).

Claire F. Blackwell 9 May 2002
Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/ Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
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 certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

John Harrison House
Name of Property

Cape Girardeau County, Missouri
County and State

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
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof ASBESTOS

other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1906

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.

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Schmidt, Albert J.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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: Cape Girardeau Planning Department; Regional History Collection and Archives, Southeast Missouri State University

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

Summary

Built in 1905-06, the Huhn-Harrison House, located at 340 S. Lorimier on the corner of Lorimier Street and Morgan Oak Street in Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, is a 1 ½ story brick Queen Anne style home with Free Classic detailing and German-American vernacular affinities. The house sits on a stone foundation and is sited on a well landscaped and tree shaded city lot. A modern one car garage is located at the northeast corner of the lot. The wrap-around porch has classical columns for porch supports, and the window openings have decorative white, glazed brick surrounds. The front façade has a projecting, cutaway bay, with patterned shingle work in the gable ends. With the exception of the tower roof, which was lowered and roofed to look like a dormer, the house retains all of its original features and is an excellent example of a vernacular Queen Anne cottage.

Elaboration

Front, or West facade:

A cutaway bay separates a small delivery porch to the north from a larger wrap-around porch to the south. The small delivery porch is located on the northwest corner and is recessed into the side of the house. There are six steps leading from the walkway to the porch. At the top of the steps, there is a Doric column on a square pedestal raised to the height of the porch railings. There are also two pilasters of the same design.

The porch railing consists of a simple handrail supported on plain, square cut balusters. A doorway at the east end of the porch leads directly into the dining room. This door consists of a simple frame and a single rectangular transom light above. The etching in the original glass window in the door depicts a wildlife scene.

The bay section extends from the front of the house, south of the delivery door, to the main entrance door located in the northeast corner of the large, wrap-around porch. The bay consists of five walls, the longest of which are on the north and south sides. The three walls on the northwest, west, and southwest are shorter. There are four windows on the bay section. These are situated at the same height above the ground and are located on all the external sides of the bay.

The windows are a plain, 1/1 double hung design, with white glazed brick window surrounds laid in a quoin-like design. Above the windows is a voussoir, or curved arch, made of the same white glazed brick. Located in the extreme southeast corner of the bay section is a door that enters into the bay from the wrap around porch. This door also consists of a plain frame with a single transom light without the decorative cut glass found in the delivery porch door.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

The wrap-around porch has six steps leading to it located immediately to the south of the bay. The formal entrance door for the house is located in the extreme northwest corner of the porch, directly adjacent to the bay section's south-facing door. This door has a large oval window with beveled glass. The window located on the west facade is also of the same design as those described in the bay section, including the white glazed brick decorative surround. A belt course consisting of two rows of white glazed brick is visible along the entire west facade and extending around the south to end at the southeast corner. There is no belt course on either the east or north facades.

The wrap-around porch extends to the south facade, ending about halfway between the west and east facades. There is a small walkway with six steps leading to the porch. There is one window and no doors on this side of the porch. There is also a window located along the extreme south wall between the end of the porch and the east facade. These windows are the same as those on the west facade, including the white glazed brick decorative surround. Along the entire outer edge of the porch are five columns and a pilaster, in the same style as those located on the delivery porch. The columns are raised on pedestals, and the railing has the same square cut balusters as the delivery porch.

East Facade:

The back, or east facade has little decorative detailing. Two windows are located in the southeast and northeast corners of the east facade and are of the same design as the other windows on the house, but without the white glazed brick detailing. There is a simple porch on the east facade with five steps on the south side and four on the north. The porch is supported by four masonry piers of red bricks, which are located directly under squared columns atop square pedestals. Located on the porch are two doors of the same design as the house's other exterior doors, the southernmost leading to the main hallway and the northernmost leading to the kitchen. Next to the hallway door is a small, plain window similar to the others located on the east facade.

North Facade:

The north facade consists of three full size windows with no decorations, and one small, single casement window that the Harrison's used to hold food that needed to cool. There is a basement entranceway centered in the north elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

Roofs:

Typical of Queen Anne design, the roof is a steeply pitched, hip roof with asymmetrically placed lower cross gables. There are two hipped dormers, one on the north and one on the east. These dormers each have two small double hung windows.

In one of the few alterations to the house since its construction, a square tower on the southwest corner of the roof was lowered slightly in 1982 and its pyramidal roof was replaced with a gabled roof. The tower now resembles a dormer similar to the other dormers, and the alteration does not detract significantly from the overall architectural effect of the house (See Figure 1 and Photograph No. 4). In order to maintain the historic look and feel of the house, the owner used replacement roofing shingles composed of a reproduction roof material that matched the original color and look of the asbestos slate roof. The original windows on the tower were replaced with casement windows when the tower was lowered. The only other alteration to the exterior of the house involved the addition of storm windows and doors, but these additions are not obtrusive and do not negatively affect the integrity of the house's design.

The roof is covered with asbestos slate shingles with copper ridge seals, and on the end of each gable there are decorative finials. The copper ridge seal extends along the roof of the tower dormer, culminating in a decorative finial, thus effectively tying this feature into the overall roof design.

The gable ends are decorated with fish scale shingles and decorative wood detailing. There are two chimneys located on the north side of the roof. The first is for the bay section and is located above the delivery porch. The other chimney is for the kitchen and is located in the northeast corner of the house. Both chimneys have a band of white glazed brick located about two thirds of the way to the top and are capped with decorative brick corbelling.

Both porches have flat roofs with decorative entablatures above and below the cornice. Both entablatures are decorated with fish scale shingles. The higher entablature is set back slightly further than the lower entablature and seems to have been designed to disguise the roof guttering. A similarly decorated entablature wraps around the entire house immediately below the cornice line.

Foundation:

The foundation of the house is laid in an irregular pattern and consists of rough face ashlar stone. There are several small windows located near the top of the foundation, so as to provide light for the basement. These windows have stone sides but are topped with a brick arch.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

Setting:

The property is bounded on the north, west, and south by a low cut stone wall which varies between eighteen and twenty-four inches high. The east side of the property is marked by a series of irregularly cut and placed stones. The west and south sides of the house are shaded by a large number of trees and bushes. According to oral tradition, the magnolia tree was propagated from the first magnolia tree brought to Cape Girardeau, as, apparently were all the old magnolia trees in Cape Girardeau.

The east side of the yard has a small flower garden on the edge of the property, and various flowers and plants surround the back porch. Also, the remnants of a grape arbor can be seen on the porch and the ground. The north side of the property is the most exposed, and although there are many shrubs and bushes along the north facade of the house, there are very few trees and bushes in the north yard itself.

A driveway consisting of two concrete strips leads from Lorimier Street to a small metal garage located in the northeast corner of the property. Although the garage is noncontributing, it does not detract significantly from the house or its setting.

The Huhn-Harrison house has been altered very little since its construction in 1905-06, and is an outstanding example of a vernacular Queen Anne cottage with Free Classic details and German vernacular affinities.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

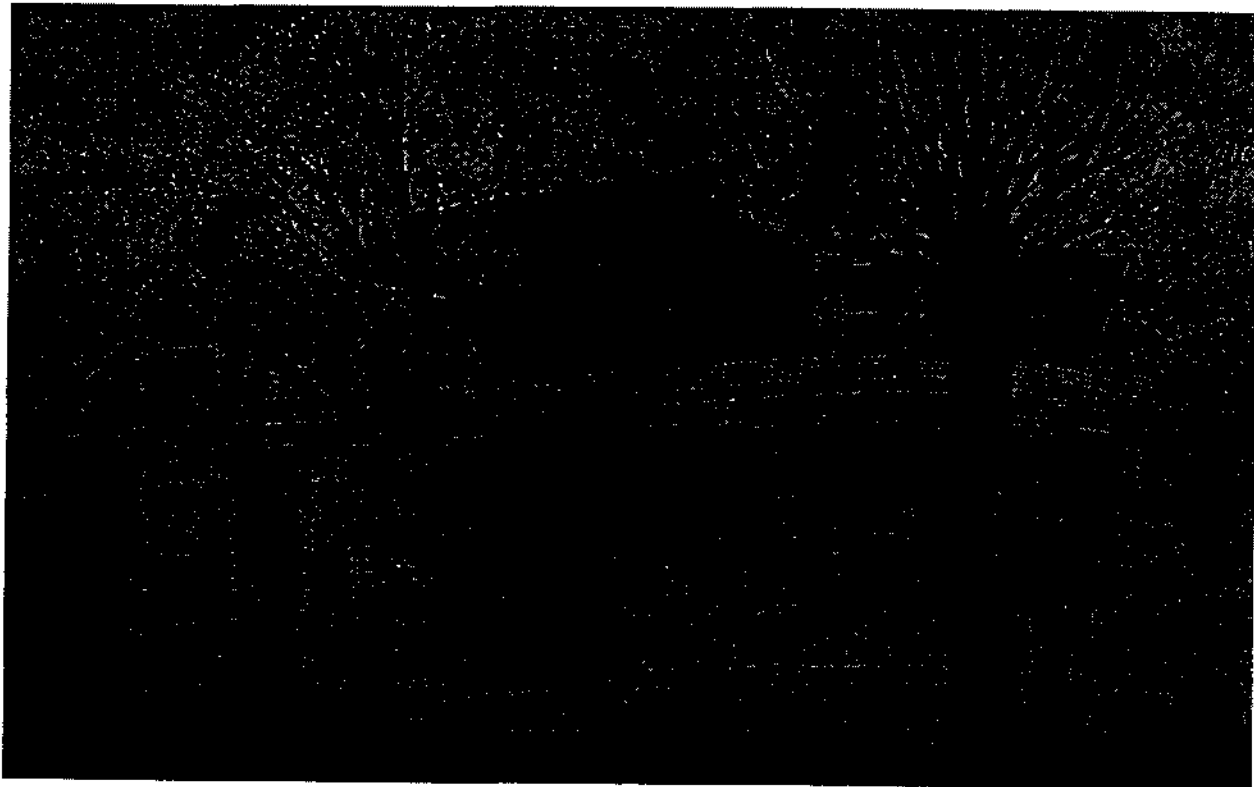


Figure 1: Sketch of Huhn-Harrison as it appeared in 1906.

(Original drawing by Mark Fanner, reproduction courtesy of Mr. B.W. Harrison.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

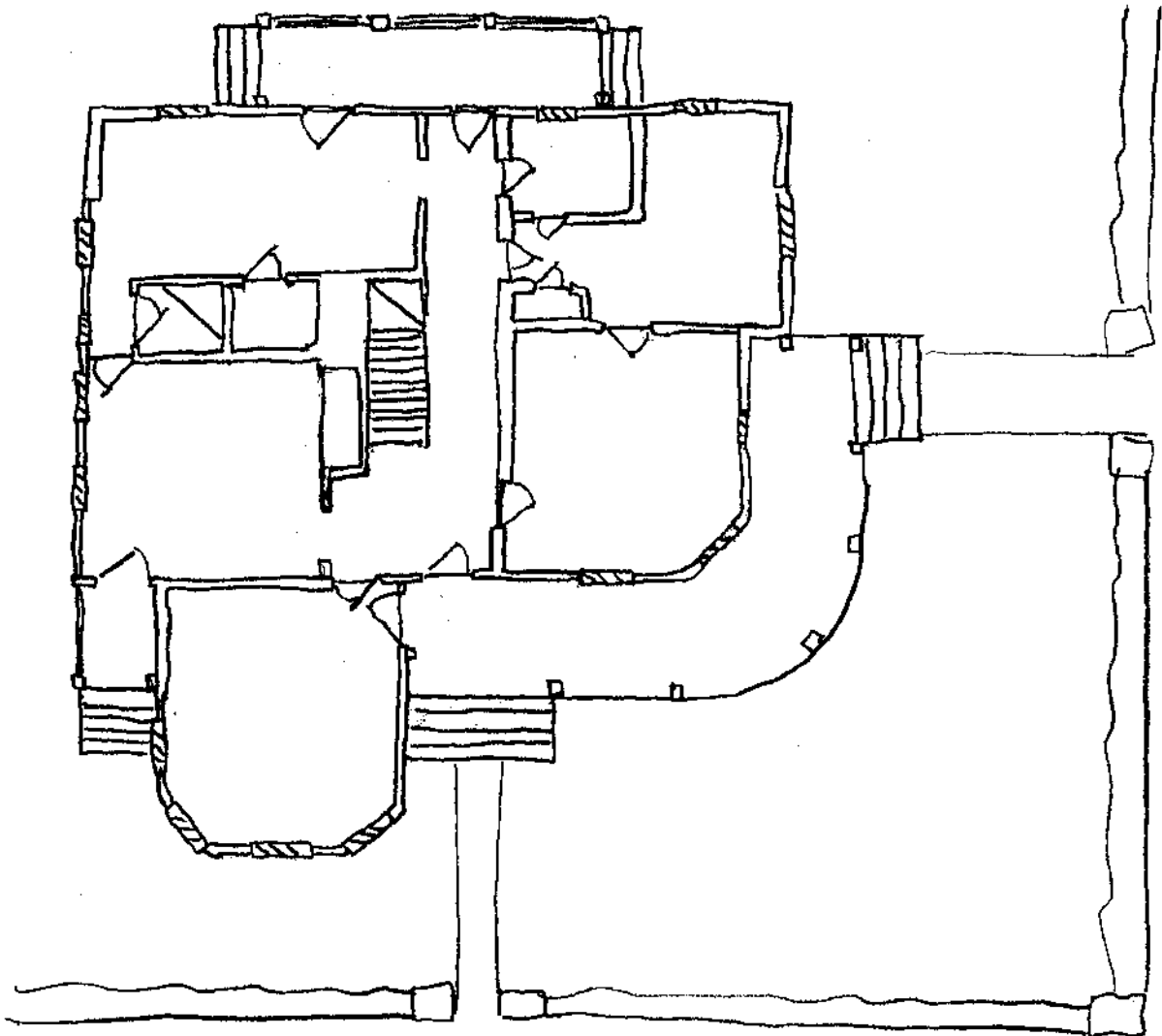


Figure 2: Sketch Floor Plan, Huhn-Harrison House, First Floor

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

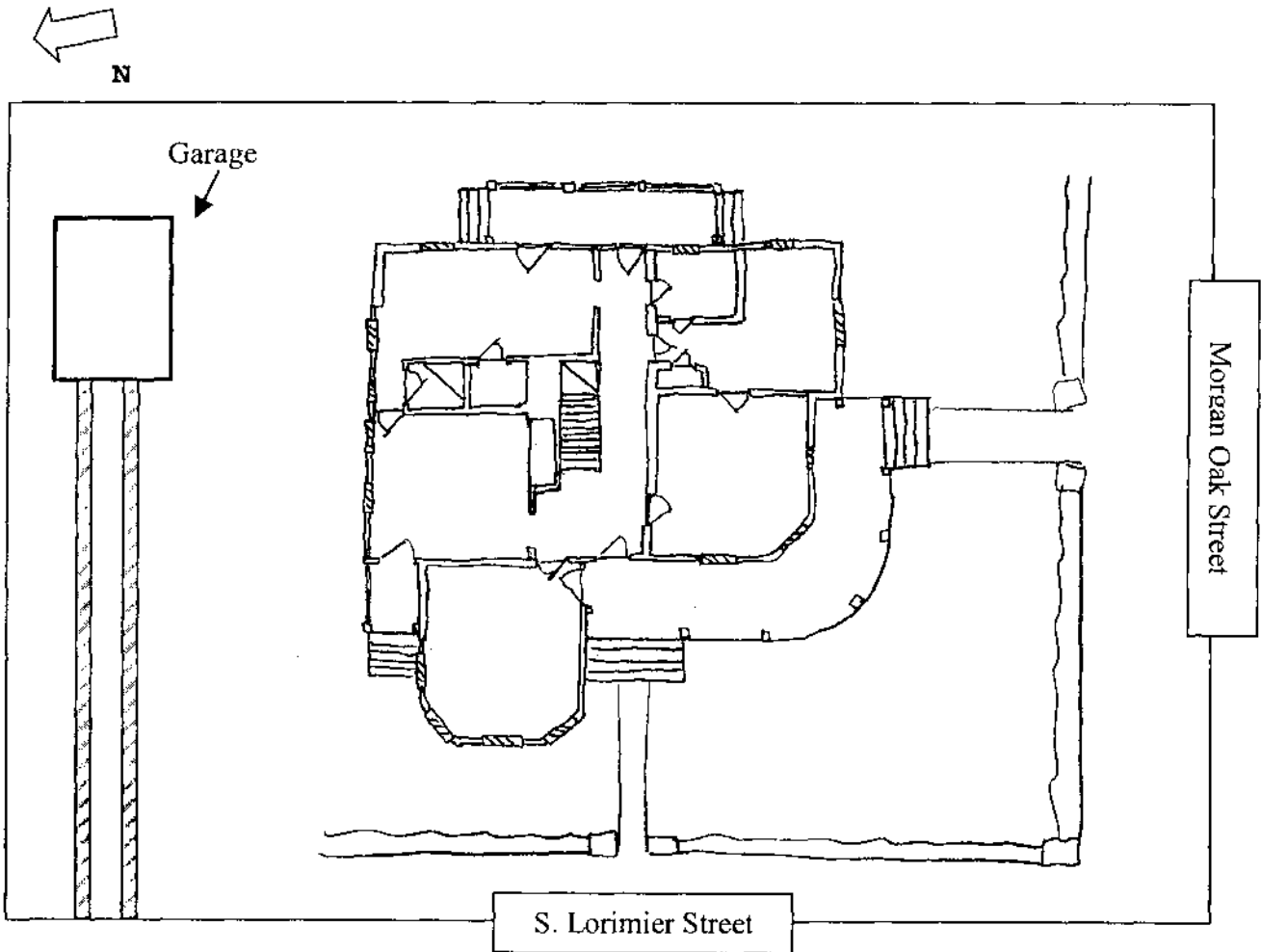


Figure 3: Sketch Map of 341 S. Lorimier

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

Summary

The Huhn-Harrison House in Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri is locally significant under Criterion C, in the area of ARCHITECTURE. This house is an example of the Queen Anne style with German-American vernacular affinities. Rudolph Huhn began construction of the house, located at 340 S. Lorimier Street, in 1905. Completed in 1906, the Huhn-Harrison house has the major defining characteristics of a typical Queen Anne cottage with Free Classic detailing, such as the steeply pitched hipped roof with asymmetrically placed cross gables and classical columns as supports on the wrap-around porch. At the same time, however, the house exhibits details associated with its German-American vernacular builders, such as its brick construction, distinctive arched windows and ashlar stone foundation. The house's period of significance corresponds with its construction completion date of 1906. Despite the lowering of the small tower roof to look like a dormer, the house retains almost all of its original features and exhibits a high degree of integrity.

Elaboration

The Queen Anne style of architecture originated in the work of British architect Richard Norman Shaw during the early 1870s. To capture the mood of an industrial society undergoing intense transformation, Shaw turned for inspiration to the transitional architecture of England during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. During this period, architects freely combined Medieval and Classical ideas without rigidly following the rules of either. Shaw's revival style was erroneously called Queen Anne, because the transition to Classical and Baroque forms was complete by the time of Queen Anne's early eighteenth century reign. Nonetheless, the style caught the imagination of British and American architects reacting against the very rigid and symmetrical design idiom of earlier styles, such as Federal and Greek Revival, and it was quickly copied. (Gelernter, pp. 177-178).

Shaw's Queen Anne style, and another revival style of his based on even earlier English sources—and appropriately enough named “Old English”—was popularized through publication in a number of new American architectural journals, such as the *American Architect and Building News* as well as in the British journals *Building News* and *The Builder*. (Gelernter, p. 178). Most American architects paid little heed to the distinctions between the two styles and lumped them both together under the label Queen Anne. The style was enormously popular, becoming the dominant American house style between 1880 and 1910, and details of the style can be found on countless examples ranging from high style to common vernacular. In fact, as architectural historian Mark Gelernter indicates, the “flexibility and popularity [of the style] meant it took so many different forms that its common characteristics are sometimes difficult to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

detect." (Gelernter, p. 178). This is especially true the further builders strayed from the English masonry and half-timbered originals designed by Shaw to incorporate the American traditions of balloon framing, attached porches, and wooden detailing applied to the wall surfaces. (Gelernter, p. 178).

Despite the variety of features associated with the style, certain common characteristics can be used to identify Queen Anne houses. Queen Anne houses generally have irregularly shaped, steeply pitched roofs, cutaway bay windows, patterned shingles, and asymmetrical facades with partial or full width front porches which are one story high and wrap along one or both side walls. In *A Field Guide to American Houses*, the McAlesters identify two overlapping sets of subtypes, one based on shape and the second based on patterns of decorative detailing. (McAlester, p. 263). The Huhn-Harrison house clearly falls into the shape subtype classified as "hipped roof with lower cross gables." This subtype represents over half of all Queen Anne houses built, including the Huhn-Harrison house.

The house at 340 S. Lorimier has a steeply pitched, hipped roof with two lower cross gables. The cross gables are located on the front and side facades, and are asymmetrically placed. According to the McAlesters' this roof shape is the most distinctive characteristic of the Queen Anne style (McAlester, p. 263). The one story partial width front porch wraps around the south facade, and the dominant front gable is a cutaway bay window.

Queen Anne houses typically use wall surfaces as a "primary decorative element," (McAlester, p. 264) and this is achieved on the Huhn-Harrison house through the use of fish scale shingles in the gable ends, and along the decorated entablatures surrounding the house and above and below the cornice line of the porch roof. In addition, the use of glazed white bricks as decorative surrounds for the window openings furthers this effect by providing both a visual and textural change along what would be a potentially homogenous brick wall surface.

The porch details place the Huhn-Harrison house in the "Free Classic" decorative detailing subtype. Free Classic detailing involves the use of classical columns and plain balusters as porch supports rather than delicately turned posts and balusters with spindlework detailing evident on about fifty percent of all Queen Anne houses. These classical columns can either be full height porch supports or be raised on a pedestal to the level of the porch railing. Often, other classical details, such as cornice-line dentils or Palladian windows are also evident (McAlester, p. 264).

The wrap-around porch of the Huhn-Harrison house has five Doric columns on pedestals raised to the level of the porch railing. The balusters are plain, square cut rails, and are not the more delicately turned balusters associated with the spindle work subtype. The delivery porch, on the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

northwest corner of the west façade, likewise has Doric columns on raised pedestals, completing the classical detailing evident on the house. The McAlesters' indicate that approximately thirty-five percent of Queen Anne houses use classical columns as their porch supports instead of the more common turned posts with spindle work detailing, and that this subtype became more common after 1890 (McAlester, p. 264). This corresponds well with a 1905 beginning date for construction.

As a successful businessman, Rudolph Huhn had his new home constructed in a style that had long been associated with success and achievement, and one that would communicate his success to his neighbors. Although by 1905 the Queen Anne style nationally was losing its dominance and was beginning to be eclipsed by the Colonial Revival and other styles, more conservative areas, like Cape Girardeau, were slower to embrace change and the style still reigned supreme (McAlester, pp. 266-268).

In addition to building his home in a current style guaranteed to communicate success, however, Rudolph Huhn, intentionally or not, embraced another, older building tradition present in the Cape Girardeau community. As a result of Huhn's selection of contractor and craftsmen, the Huhn-Harrison house also reflects the building tradition of Cape Girardeau's strong German immigrant community.

During the 1850s, Cape Girardeau experienced a large influx of German-speaking immigrants. By 1870, over 12% of Cape Girardeau County's population had been born in the German States, and many of these immigrants settled in the bustling river city of Cape Girardeau (US Census). This large immigrant community influenced not only the culture of the Cape Girardeau but its built environment as well. According to one study of the German immigrant community, the 1860 Census listed 63 artisans engaged in the building trades, including a large number of carpenters, brick layers, brick makers and masons (Cross, "Early German Vernacular Cottages", p. 6). Rudolph Huhn's father, Henry Huhn, immigrated to the United States in 1852, and moved from St. Louis to the German-American community of Cape Girardeau in 1854 (*Daily Republican*, 13 July 1910, p. 1). Rudolph Huhn was born into this community in 1869, and when it came time to build his own house, he turned to his fellow German-Americans to get the job done (*Southeast Missourian*, 1 July 1929, p. 1). According to an expense log from 1905, Huhn engaged A.J. Schmidt, a contractor from Cape Girardeau's German-American community, to build his family's new home (Huhn family expense log, 8/11/1905; 1906 Cape Girardeau City Directory).

The Huhn-Harrison house is an excellent example of the persistence of Missouri German brick domestic architectural traditions in Cape Girardeau. Missouri Germans characteristically utilized

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

brick in home construction, which they were accustomed to manufacturing. Other German characteristics included the cut stone foundation and solid brick walls, the one-and-one-half stories of the house and the white glazed brick articulation found on the arched window openings. According to Charles van Ravenway, a leading expert on Missouri German architecture, German arches typically consist of a series of stretcher bricks which extend the length of one brick and point toward the roof, although variations on this design were also used (van Ravenway, pp. 229-231). This typical effect can easily be seen on the front facade of the Huhn-Harrison House where white glazed brick surround the window openings. This use of the white glazed brick for the window and door surrounds is a distinctive and striking feature of this house, and although this is not typically characteristic of German-American building, the use of colored glazed bricks as a decorative motif is a construction feature sometimes associated with German domestic architecture (Touart, p. 76). In addition, the foundation is made of rough face ashlar stone and laid in an irregular pattern. According to van Ravenway, the use of the stone foundation is characteristic of Missouri German architecture (van Ravenway, p. 226).

Although the German vernacular influence is not so strong someone would confuse the house as a "German vernacular" cottage, the influence of German vernacular building traditions on the Queen Anne architecture of the Huhn-Harrison home is readily evident.

Huhn-Harrison family

After construction of the house was completed, Mr. Huhn, in December of 1906, transferred ownership of the house to his wife Cecilia. The house was later transferred to his daughter Hazel and her husband B.W. Harrison, who is the current owner and resident of the property.

Throughout the twentieth century, Huhn family members were community leaders in Cape Girardeau, playing an important role in the commercial, religious, educational and philanthropic life of the city. For many years the Huhn's owned and operated a large hotel, the Prescott House, which was located in Cape Girardeau's riverfront district at 34 N. Main Street. Originally purchased by Henry Huhn, Rudolph operated the hotel for several years prior to its closing in 1907. The Huhn's provided food, drink and lodging to the riverboat salesmen who displayed and sold their goods in the hotel lobby, and they had a saloon that sold locally brewed beer. The building was torn down and a replacement building was constructed circa 1930 (*Daily Republican*, 13 July 1910, p. 1; *Southeast Missourian*, 1 July 1929, p. 1; and Jeremy Wells, unpublished research, Southeast Missouri State University).

The family was also involved in the religious life of the community. Mrs. Huhn and her daughter Hazel did the washing and ironing for the priests at St. Vincent's Church, and on Sundays they

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

prepared the church for Mass. For seventeen years, Hazel was the organist at St. Vincent's Church.

As an elementary teacher at May Greene School, Hazel introduced the children of Cape Girardeau to music and art. After Hazel's marriage to B.W. Harrison, the couple encouraged and sponsored the education of countless Cape Girardeau youth. They provided many with the funds to attend college.

The Harrisons believed strongly in preserving the heritage of Cape Girardeau, becoming founding members of the Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau. They opposed the demolition of St. Vincent's Church when many in the community wanted it torn down. Their donations provided labor for the historical restoration of the church, now a local landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

After Hazel's death, Mr. Harrison continued his philanthropic efforts in the community on behalf of education and the arts by donating nearly \$1 million to Southeast Missouri State University to purchase Old St. Vincent's Seminary, located immediately across Morgan Oak Street from the Huhn-Harrison home. The university has announced plans to turn the 150-year-old property into a performing arts campus.

The Huhn-Harrison house is locally significant as an excellent example of a vernacular Queen Anne cottage with Free Classic details and German vernacular affinities. Altered very little since its construction in 1905-06, the Huhn-Harrison house retains most of its original features and exhibits a high degree of integrity. On December 6, 1995, the City of Cape Girardeau, through its Historic Preservation Commission, recognized the significance of the Huhn-Harrison house by listing it as a Local Historic Landmark exemplifying the social and historical heritage of the community.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 13

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau, MO

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 14

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau, MO

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 15

Huhn-Harrison House
Cape Girardeau, MO

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Huhn-Harrison house is located on the SE corner of Lorimier Street and Morgan Oak Street, City of Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. The legal description reads as follows: SW Pt Lot 20 and W80 Lot 19 Range H, in Deed Book 282, p. 775, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary encompasses the original building lot and contains all of the property historically associated with the Huhn-Harrison house during its period of significance.

Photographs:

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Huhn-Harrison House
2. Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri
3. Photographed by Steven Hoffman
4. December 19, 2001
5. Negatives submitted to Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Section

Photograph No. 1: Northwest elevation, facing southeast.

Photograph No. 2: West façade and north elevation, facing east/southeast.

Photograph No. 3: Close-up of porch, north elevation, facing southeast.

Photograph No. 4: West façade, facing east.

Photograph No. 5: West façade, facing east, showing more detail.

Photograph No. 6: Close-up of main entryway, west façade, facing east/northeast.

Photograph No. 7: Close-up of window surround, west façade, facing northeast.

Photograph No. 8: Close-up of wrap-around porch, south elevation, facing north/northeast.

Photograph No. 9: South elevation, facing north/northeast.

Photograph No. 10: East elevation, facing north.



MISSISSIPPI

CAPE GIRARDEAU CORP BDY MISSOURI ILLINOIS

RIVER

EAST CAPE GIRARDEAU CORP

Hahn-Harrison House
 Cape Girardeau Co. Mo.
 17' 30"

4129

4130

4131

4132

BM 346

Sewage Disposal

Gauging Station



CAPE GIRARDEAU

SHAWNEE PARK

Giboney Island

BM 346

WT

17' 30"

Hahn-Harrison House
 Cape Girardeau Co. Mo.
 17' 30"

















