

Landmark Nomination Report

917 19th Street, Rock Island, IL

K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson House

Prepared by: Linda Anderson, representing Rock Island Preservation Society

Landmark Designation Approved by the Preservation Commission on April 24, 2013

Rock Island Landmark Application

K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson House

917 19th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

Legal Description: N ½ outlot 47 outlots 1N Sec 35 18N 2W

Nomination Criteria

The K. T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson House at 917 19th Street is worthy of landmark designation based on three criteria in the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.

Criteria 3: Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural...style inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity. *The K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson house is one of the most outstanding examples of the Colonial Revival style in Rock Island. Built ca 1901, the house remains remarkably intact. Special features include a stunning front porch; interesting Palladian style windows on the front façade and near the peaks of both the north and south gables; art glass windows at several points around the house; unique clapboard siding not known to exist elsewhere in Rock Island.*

Criteria 4: Notable work of a master builder, designer, architect or artist.

Architect: The Anderson house was designed by prominent Rock Island architect Olof Z. Cervin. Cervin, on his own and later in partnership with Benjamin Horn and William Stuhr, designed a broad portfolio of buildings including publication buildings, auto garages, apartment buildings, hotels, churches, theaters, municipal buildings, hospitals businesses, schools and homes. Recognizable buildings include the Safety Building, Argus Building, Fort Theater, Illinois Oil, Augustana Seminary and Broadway Presbyterian Church. His work with the U.S. Housing Corporation resulted in a project of national significance, a public, private partnership that resulted in the construction of 421 homes in Rock Island, Moline and East Moline to serve the influx of families moving here to work at the Rock Island Arsenal during World War 1.

Master Builder: Henry W. Horst immigrated to the United States from Germany when he was just 17 years if age. He built a construction company that would have offices both locally and in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and build projects as varied as his modest family home and million dollar subways. Locally many of his buildings stand today, contributing to our architectural fabric. A partial list of his many projects include Rock Island Arsenal buildings, Safety Building, Rock Island Argus Building, Washington Junior High, and the 421 homes built for Arsenal workers in conjunction with the U.S. Housing Corporation in 1918.

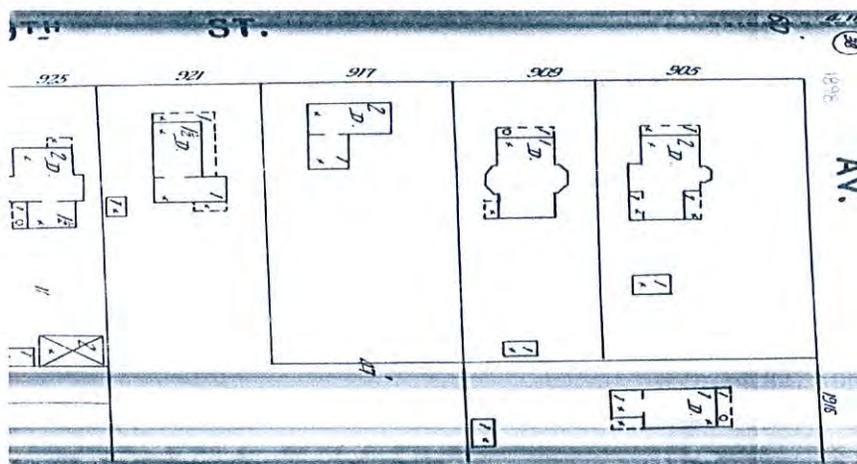
Criteria 2: Associated with an important person or event in national, state or local history. *While architecture is the primary criteria for designation, the role that Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson played in the maturing of Augustana College, her documentation of the contributions of pioneer women in our area and her broad support for the social safety net of her day, support the criteria of an important contributor to local history.*

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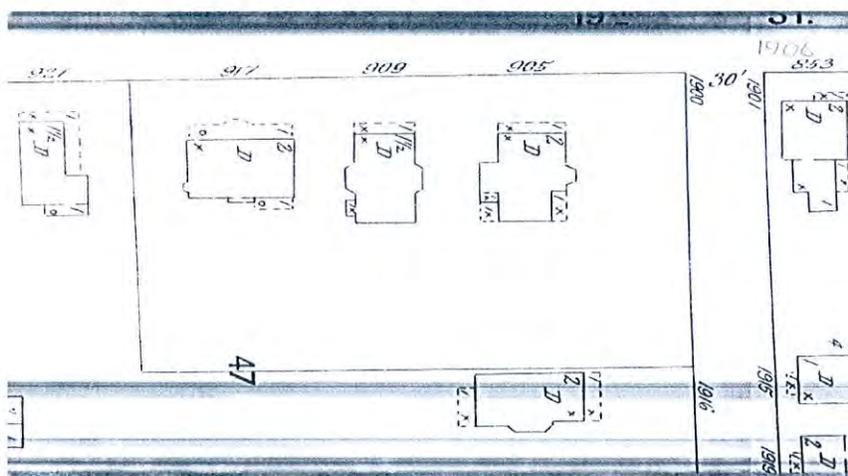
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Land History

Beginning in 1891, several families called this address home. But it is clear from the outlines of the structures documented on the 1898 and 1906 Sanborn maps, that the original house was replaced. Circa 1901 the current house was built by K.T. and Netta Anderson. The Andersons had 3 children, one dying in infancy. They lived in the family home for decades, retiring to Florida in 1950.



Sanborn Map 1898 – 19th Street



Sanborn Map 1906 – 19th Street

Ownership of the house in following decades is not entirely clear. According to city directories, the home was occupied by Rose Buder between 1959 and 1972 and it may have been used as a boarding house during that time. In the 1980s Tom and Rose Kuhn returned the home to single-family use. They lived here until at least 2005.

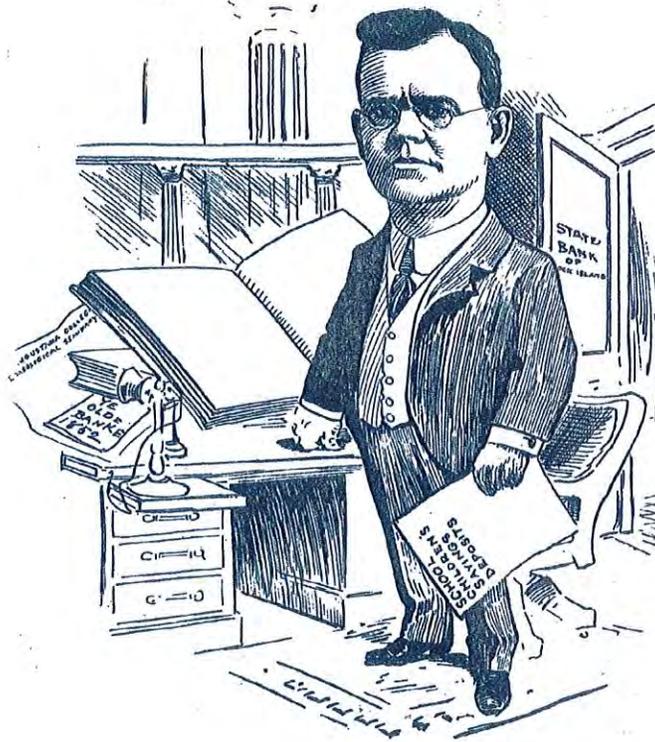
In 2011 the house was headed to foreclosure and was purchased by Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH), a non-profit economic development organization. Using funds from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program, the house has undergone extensive renovation.

The Bartholomew - Anderson Family

K.T. and Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson

Knute Theodore Anderson, always known as "K.T.", was born in Sweden in 1869. He became an American citizen in 1878. He worked as a banker at the State Bank of Rock Island. His name was featured in bank advertisements as the bank's cashier. The State Bank of Rock Island was the successor to Mitchell & Lynde Bank, carrying on a long banking tradition in our community. His caricature, included in *A Portfolio of Cartoons* published by The Rock Island Union in 1913, acknowledged his role as a prominent local businessman. K.T. was Rock Island City Clerk between 1899 and 1901.

K. T. ANDERSON.
Sing a song of savings,
And of children in the school.
Each youngster finds his bank book
A very useful tool.
Sing praises to "ye olde bank,"
And to ye brave cashier,
If "K. T." handles your account
You'll have no cause for fear.



A Portfolio of Cartoons as Published by The Rock Island Union 1913

Verses by W.B. McIntyre and Ralph C. Smedley

Netta C. Bartholomew was born on April 13, 1873, in Clark City, Missouri to parents Edward Fry (E.F.) and Catherine Bartholomew. She attended schools in Carthage, Illinois until her family relocated to Rock Island, when her father took a teaching job at Augustana College and Theological Seminary in 1888. In 1894, she was one of the first six women to graduate from Augustana College.

K.T. and Netta were married on June 16, 1897, at the home of Netta's parents. A newspaper clipping described the evening wedding as "performed by the bride's father...in the presence of a small group of family and friends". The next morning "with the early morning train...the bride and groom departed on a wedding tour to Chicago and other various points on the lakes". A reception for friends was planned upon their return. (Ref 1)

In 1901 they moved into their new home at 917 19th Street and the home quickly became a hub of family activity. Both K.T and Netta were very active in the community and they entertained frequently. Newspaper articles clipped and saved by Netta, describe dinner parties for friends such as this one where "covers were laid for fourteen. The table was tastily decorated in smilax and red cyclamen. The place cards were miniature telegrams with a special message to each guest." An article from an undated society column recounts a mystery party hosted at the home by daughter Margaret for sixteen of her young friends that started with everyone gathering at a designated location and then following clues from address to address until they arrived at the Anderson house. And an article from the Augustana Observer describes a New Year's Eve party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. K.T. Anderson where guests included students from the college who were not able to go home for the holidays. "The students came in masse...They were given little bits of lacerated post cards, which they were to so combine as to make sense, form and beauty of them....In the second wee hour of 1916 they took themselves to their respective homes, happy at having been entertained by so delightful a hostess and host." (Ref 1)

In 1950, K.T. and Netta sold the family home and retired to Florida.

Netta Bartholomew Anderson, the Feminist

A deeper look into the life of Netta Bartholomew Anderson reveals one of honoring the role of women in pioneer history and challenging the restrictions imposed on women of her day.

When Netta enrolled at Augustana College, she soon realized that the institution was coeducational in name only.

"...We were frankly told that while (male students) loved us as girls, they did not care for us as students...I very much resented this male assumption of superiority, and this accounts for some of the willful forwardness that made me somewhat of a "problem child"... (Ref 2)



Netta Bartholomew Anderson

Netta found this sexism infuriating and set about changing the culture at Augustana College. Her first target was the all-male Adelpic Literary Society. On a dare, she walked into an evening meeting of the society at Old Main. The president made his way to her side and quietly told her that it was customary that new members give a three minute extemporaneous speech. Netta recounts the event:

"...(N)o one can know what agonies of apprehension I suffered before my turn came...(M)y knees turned to jelly as I pulled myself out of my chair, the one lone girl in that room, went to the front and faced what seemed like a limitless sea of boys' faces all grinning expectantly at me. There wasn't a vacant seat in that old history room and even standing room was...taken, for all who could crowd in had come to see the fun, a girl really trying to make a speech!" (Ref 2)

But make the speech she did, and thus she earned her place as the first woman in the Adelpic. And she followed this by becoming the first woman to speak from the platform in the college chapel by winning an oratorical contest. She was a member of the first gymnastic class and a member of the first ladies singing group at the college. After graduation, Netta became the first female member of the Augustana College Board of Directors and the first president of the "tri-cities" alumni association. She was a life-long supporter of Augustana College, all the while advocating for equal educational opportunities for and full colligate involvement for women. Although living in Florida at the time, Netta was here in Rock Island attending a homecoming banquet on the Augustana College campus on October 24, 1960 when she suffered a massive heart attack and died.

Netta Bartholomew Anderson, the Community Leader and Historian

When Netta graduated from college she was faced with the challenge of what to do with her life. The job market for educated women was limited. Instead, Netta threw her energies into supporting a variety of civic organizations, including Bethany Homes, the Red Cross, Royal Neighbors of America, the Ladies' Aid Society of Grace Lutheran Church, the Rock Island Choral Society, and the Rock Island Women's Club. And in all her endeavors, she continued to work to open doors for women.

In 1912, Netta became the first woman to serve as an officer of the Rock Island County Historical Society. The Society was originally organized in 1905 with the mission to study and learn, to collect and preserve, and to disseminate the history of Rock Island County. Members would meet in various locations to present papers on the history of the county. But for a variety of reasons, membership in the Society did not grow. The term "society" held the connotation of a social club for men. And in fact the Society at the time did not admit women as members. In 1912, twenty-one people, including Netta and K.T., signed a new constitution reorganizing the Society and opening its membership to women. From this reorganization, and with the support of many women, the Society has grown to the museum, research library and repository of Rock Island County History we know today.

Speaking at a public meeting of the Rock Island County Board on March 10, 1915, Netta demonstrated her commitment to community involvement. The site of a new jail building was being discussed. While many supported building near the Court House, Netta argued that the jail should be constructed away from the city. And she suggested that a workhouse should be built as part of the project. (Ref 3)

Continuing her community involvement, in 1918, Netta assumed chairmanship of the recently established City Welfare Department of the Rock Island Women's Club. The department, or committee as we would refer to it today, had the goal of improving the welfare and living conditions of the citizens of Rock Island and to make Rock Island a clean, healthful and beautiful city. Netta's remarks made as she accepted the chairmanship were published in a local paper and she challenged the members to be "women of more than one idea at a time...for

there is a long time coming after the war is over and it is just as important to keep the home fires burning as it is to do the more spectacular duties that the stress of war creates." (Ref 1)

Organizations such as the Rock Island Women's Club, Bethany Home, Red Cross and the Ladies' Aid Societies of various churches played a very important role in providing the social safety net of the day. The financial support and the volunteer work of civic minded men and women who supported these organizations cannot be overstated.

History and the role of women in that history, was a life-long area of interest for Netta. And it led her to collect oral histories from a wide variety of women. An article in the *Daily Union* on September 27, 1908 describes "an old fashioned tea party...(with) guests relating many interesting reminiscences of earlier days...As all these guests were over 76 years of age many interesting facts were told of the early local history." Netta combined the oral histories she collected into a paper entitled. "Some Reminiscences of Pioneer Rock Island Women" which was presented at a meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society in 1912. (Ref 4)

In her own words as written in the paper, "I thrill with admiration for those who dared to leave behind home, friends and the comforts of civilization and strike out into the pathless wilds. To me there is nothing more interesting than to dwell on the stories of early times, especially those as told to me personally by some of the earliest settlers of our county. Many of these accounts are in a sense similar and yet each individual has looked back upon the life and viewed it from a different angle, so that each one's story has a value of its own." (Ref 4)

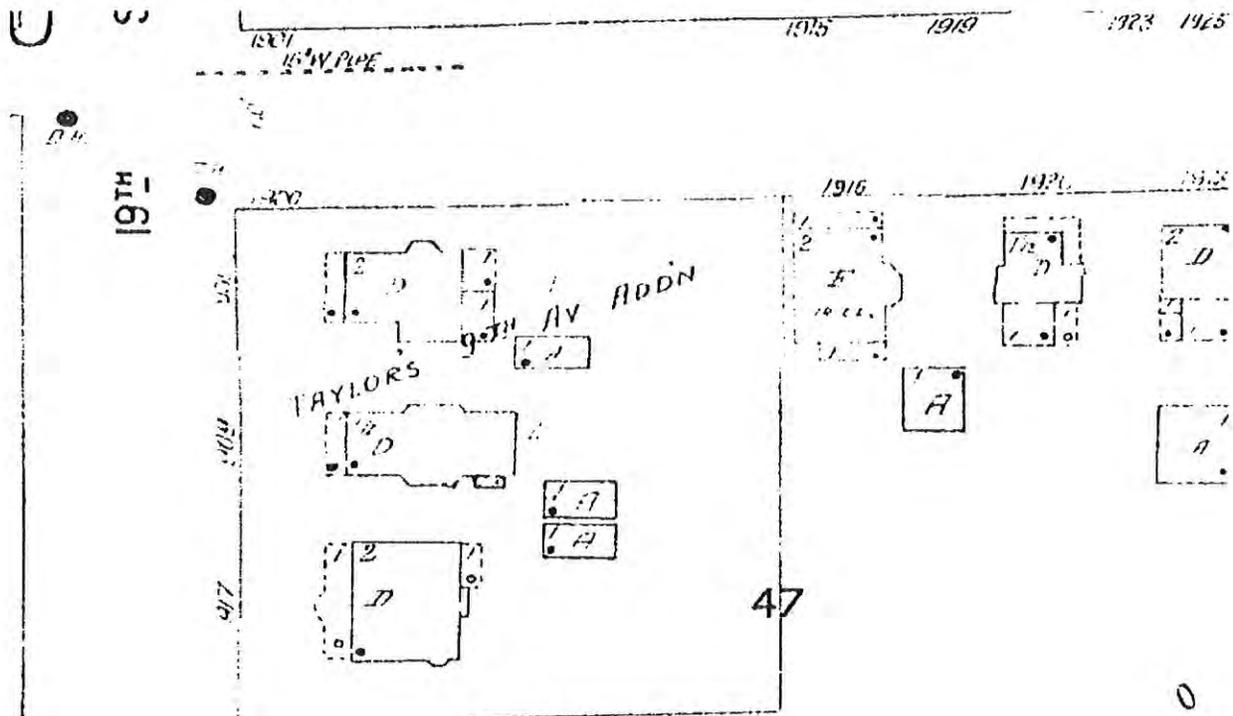
Netta's writings about local history were numerous and varied. Titles include The Story of Fort Armstrong; Mastodon and Mammoth Remains in Illinois and Iowa; Notes on Rock Island History, 1908; The Confederate Cemetery on Rock Island. (Ref 1)

Towards the end of "Reminiscences", words written by Netta herself, describe how she appears to have lived her life as an advocate for women, for social well being, and her home town, Rock Island. "The Indian has long since departed; the wigwam and the log cabin with its primitive equipment have given place to the comfortable modern home; the ox team and prairie schooner have disappeared. And it is for us of the present generation with our far greater advantages, to leave an impress upon our times as noble and worthy of being perpetuated as did the generation before us".

Architecture

History

The K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson house looks very much as it did when it was constructed circa 1901. The 1906 Sanborn map shows the footprint of the house, a two-story clapboard dwelling with a full width one-story front porch, including the semi-circular curve at its center. There is a curved one story bay on the rear third of the south side of the house and a bump out 1 story porch on the back of the house covering the back door. All these features remain today. There were no garage or out buildings on the property in 1906, but a 1957 updated Sanborn map shows side by side driveways and a one car garage behind both 909 and 917 19th Street. Today there is no garage on the property. The driveway remains, as does a garage at 909 that is probably similar to what was on 917.



Style

The K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson house is one of the most outstanding examples of the Colonial Revival style in Rock Island. The style became very popular after the 1880s as people's tastes began to turn away from the "excesses" of the ornate Queen Anne style to the simple classical lines of the Colonial Revival. Inspired by the Georgian and Adams housing styles of our country's earliest days, the Colonial Revival marked a return to historic styling complimented by modern materials.

Colonial Revival homes are distinguished by a balanced front façade and an accentuated front door. Decorative elements include pediments, door crowns, sidelights, fanlights and porticoes. Windows are often double hung with multiple panes in one or both sashes. In contrast to the historic Georgian and Adams styles, bay windows, paired windows or decorative feature windows are often included. Wood siding was used on early vernacular houses and is the predominant siding seen on Colonial Revivals in Rock Island. But nationwide, as veneering techniques became more widespread in the 1920s, masonry construction predominated.

Exterior



West facade

The main façade of Bartholomew Anderson house faces west. It is symmetrical with a prominent central triangular pediment. While the front door is not centered in the house, its placement next to a rectangular feature window gives it center prominence. There is an art glass window in the sidelight panel just to the left of the door. The rectangular window to the left of the door is clear glass, but is very similar in size and design, opening casement style, to a leaded glass window on the north side of the house.



West Façade – Front door and side light

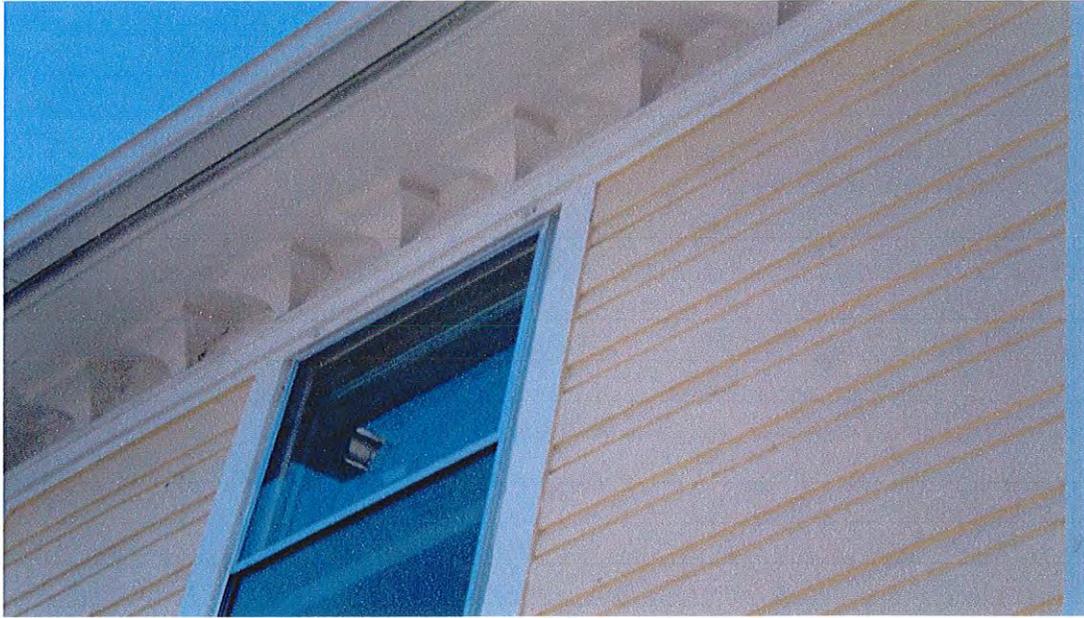
On the second floor, an elaborate three section window is decorated with Tuscan pilasters, modillions and dentils. Centered in the prominent pediment above, is an unusual and intact “spider” window. Dentil molding accentuates the raking cornice. Dormers pierce the roofline on either side of the pediment. They too are highly decorated with Tuscan columns sitting below roof returns and intricate arched glass windows topped with keystones.

The rest of the windows on the front faced are double hung and topped with simple hoods. A series of interesting molding blocks accentuate the cornice. An element of special interest is the pattern of the clapboard siding. It is a unique cut, one not documented elsewhere in Rock Island. Wide bands of siding with narrow beveling across their top surface, alternate with narrow bands that are further accented by wide beveling on the top of the board.

The half round front porch of the house is stunning. What we see today is an accurate restoration of what was nearly lost forever. Ionic columns and pilasters support the porch roof. The porch floor extends across the entire front façade and is accented with a balustrade of intricately turned balusters. Inset paneled posts anchor the corners. The balustrade curves and continues down the front stairs terminating in square newel posts. Atop the porch a similar balustrade follows the half round curve of the roof line adding grandeur to the porch. The porch floor is supported by decorative block posts. A simple, wooden skirting compliments the Colonial style.



Clapboard Siding Detail



Front Façade – Cornice Detail

The north side of the house features a gabled roof line with dentil molding and significant returns. Centered in



North Façade -Note: art glass window on the 1st floor, west side was out and being repaired when picture was taken

the gable is a beautiful three part window. The arched central portion is identical to the window in the front dormers. It is flanked by two glass panes that feature Tuscan columns and ornate hoods. On the first floor, the west window is casement in style and features art glass similar to the other art glass windows in the house. All are similar in style, but unique in design.



North Façade – Art Glass Window

The back of the house faces east. The primary feature is the back bump out and connecting back porch. The porch is simple and features Tuscan columns and a simple railing. The windows on this façade reflect the function of the interior of the house. A single dormer with a simple and double-hung window pierces the roofline. The second floor window below the dormer is positioned to be at the landing of the center staircase. .



East Façade

There is another rectangular art glass window on the first floor placed and sized to sit above a sideboard in the dining room.



West Façade – Dining Room Window

In the back yard, the concrete outline of the garage that once stood at the end of the driveway is still visible. It appears that garages were built at 909 and 917 at the same time. The garage at 909 remains so a picture is included to shed light on what the garage might have looked like.



Garage at 909 19th Street and Foundation Remnants of Garage That Once Stood at 917 19th Street

The south side of the house features a gable window that matches the one on the north, with one exception. Currently the glass in the two side panels has been replaced with wood. As on the north side of the house, dentil molding accentuates the roofline. On the first floor, there is a one story bay window of simple design. The rusticated block foundation is clearly visible on this side of the house. As is the flared decorative trim at the base of the siding and the corner trim that runs from the roof line to base trim at the front corners of the house.



South Façade



South Façade – Gable Window

Architect – Olof Z. Cervin

A full page advertisement in The Rock Island Argus on December 31, 1925 documents the work of Cervin and Horn, Architects. Dozens of buildings are listed in categories of Publication Buildings, Garages, Apartments and Hotels, Churches, Clubs and Fraternities, Theaters and Auditoriums, Municipal Buildings, Hospitals and Homes, Businesses and Schools. And listed in the Residences category is the home of “Anderson, K.T., Rock Island”. (Ref 6)

Son of an ordained minister and Augustana College professor, Olof Z. Cervin was born in 1868 in Paxton, Illinois. When he was six years old, Augustana College moved to Rock Island and the Cervin family followed. Olof learned to draw and developed an appreciation for art from his aunt who was a trained artist and teacher. He was also interested in science and graduated from Augustana College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1887. At this point he moved to New York where he worked in an architect’s office and attended graduate school at Columbia University. Upon receiving a degree in architecture in 1894 he worked for a time in Chicago and then opened his own firm in Moline, Illinois in 1896. In 1908 he moved his office into the newly completed Safety Building in downtown Rock Island, a building he had designed and that he owned in partnership with L.S. McCabe. In 1918 Ben Horn became a partner in the business and in 1929 William Stuhr joined the firm. Over the years it has often become difficult to identify exactly which architect designed which building. The portfolio of the firm is impressive.

Over the years, Olof Cervin became known for his architectural “firsts”. He was the first in the area to use reinforced concrete when he designed the Safety Building. Grant School was the first fireproof school in the area. And Washington Junior High was the first school in the mid-west to have each room heated separately by a blower system.

Downtown Rock Island buildings of note include the Safety Building at 1800-04 3rd Avenue. When it was completed in 1908 a cost on \$125,000.00 it was the tallest building in Rock Island, but it was designed so as not to overwhelm its neighbors. The building was home to the Rock Island Safety Deposit Company on the first floor, thus the building’s name, and offices occupied the upper stories. Other downtown buildings designed by Cervin and his firm include, the London Building at 1902 2nd Avenue, the Mosenfelder Building at 1706 2nd Avenue, the Masonic Temple (Skellington Manor) at 420 18th Street, the Fort Theater (Circa 21) (original design by Ben Horn) at 1826 3rd Avenue, and Illinois Oil Company (Jackson Square) at 24th Street and 4th Avenue. The mosaic work in these latter two buildings has been attributed to draftsman and later architect Rudolph Sandburg who was working with the Cervin firm at the time.

Cervin and his firm designed factories including Servus Rubber (1136 2nd Avenue) ,churches including Broadway Presbyterian (710 23rd Street), South Park Presbyterian (1501 30th Street) and St John’s Lutheran (4501 7th Avenue) and schools including Edison (42nd Avenue & 9th Street), Grant (11th Avenue and 6th Street), Washington Junior High (18th Avenue & 33rd Street) and Rocky Stadium (17th Street & 24th Avenue). And he designed buildings for his alma mater, Augustana College including the Augustana Seminary, a complex of two gothic style buildings joined by an arched walkway and housing the Ascension Chapel (1923) which remains a campus landmark.

Public use structures were only a portion of Cervin designs. His home, built in 1914 in the Craftsman style, is located at 3400 10th Avenue nestled in a beautiful wooded area overlooking a ravine. The screened living, dining and sleeping porches melded the home to its surroundings. Original floor plans of the house show it to contain a living room, dining room, kitchen, study, 3 bedrooms, trunk room, large second floor studio spacious enough a pool table and a piano. The living room had space reserved for a baby grand piano. Construction cost at the time was \$7,500.00.

At the age of 80, Cervin retired from active practice, but continued to work as a consultant until his death on December 2, 1949 from injuries received in a traffic accident. His firm, now Scholtz, Gowery, Gere, Marolf, Architects & Interior Designers, continues to this day with offices in the Safety Building.

Based on the date of construction of the K.T. [Bartholomew] Anderson House (ca 1901) and the fact that Benjamin Horn did not join the firm until 1918, we can be certain the Olof Z. Cervin was the architect. Based on the quality, the breadth of his work and his commitment to the idea of quality housing for everyone, there can be no doubt that Olof Z. Cervin is one of the most influential architects in Rock Island.

Builder – Henry W. Horst

Henry W. Horst was born in Rendsberg, Germany, May 3, 1864, where he later apprenticed as a carpenter. At the age of 17 he came to the United States, lived with an uncle in Davenport, Iowa and worked at Mathias Schnell's carpenter shop. He married Mollie Empke in 1884 and for seven years they homesteaded in Kansas. They returned to Rock Island and after a short partnership with another contractor named Peterson, Henry started his own business in 1900. He built his own home at 1049 17th Street and despite the success of his construction company, lived there until he died in 1949.

Henry and Mollie had eight children, four sons and four daughters. Anton E. studied engineering at the University of Illinois, and then followed Henry into the construction business. In 1914 there was a formal announcement of the partnership between Henry, Anton and L.F. Wendt (Henry's son-in-law) under the name of Henry W. Horst Company, General Contractors. A thirty-five page commemorative booklet was produced at the time documenting the wide variety of buildings built by Horst. (Ref 7)

HENRY W. HORST CO.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS



GENERAL OFFICE HORST BLDG. ROCK-ISLAND, ILL.

R.
690.
Hor
c. 2

A partial list of his many projects include Rock Island Arsenal buildings, Safety Building, Rock Island Argus Building, Washington Junior High, John Deere Harvester Plant, East Moline, Crescent Macaroni and Cracker Factory, Davenport, 461 homes for Rock Island Arsenal workers in a joint project with the U.S. Housing Corporation in 1918 and a large number of private homes including the K.T. Anderson house which is prominently featured in the center of one of the first pages of the booklet.



Anton opened a branch office of Henry W. Horst Company in Philadelphia in 1927. This branch worked on many government contracts, built a \$3 million subway in Philadelphia, and served as contractor for the Walnut Lane Bridge, the first prestressed concrete bridge in America, which spawned the multi-billion dollar precast/prestressed concrete industry. The bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Here in Rock Island, Henry continued to make a name for himself not only as a contractor, but also as a community leader. In memory of his daughter, Helen, who drowned in the Rock River in 1912, Henry and Mollie built a wading pool with dressing rooms and fountains in Long View Park. That same year, Henry with his second oldest son, Henry T Horst and M.E. Strieter formed the Horst & Streiter Ford dealership that was located on 2nd Avenue and 15th Street.

Henry was particularly modest about the church construction he did, charging half of the true cost of the of the contract specifications. In 1943, he told George Wickstrom that he was not a rich man, partly because large contracts required large risk and partly out of his desire to give back to churches and his adopted country. He was a member of the board of directors of the Missouri Synod of Lutheran Churches from 1917 to 1944, where he advised and evaluated all the buildings of the synod. He was one of six men appointed in 1931 by the American Engineering Council and the Associated General Contractors of America to investigate and report on Hoover Dam. Henry W. Horst died in 1949. During his lifetime his name became synonymous with honesty and integrity. (Ref 8)

Significance

The K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson House meets three criteria for significance according to the Preservation Ordinance: Important person – Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson; Architecture – Colonial Revival Style; Notable work of a master builder...architect - designed by a significant local architect, Olof Z. Cervin and built by master local builder, Henry W. Horst.

Important Person – Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson

By many measures, Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson led an ordinary life. But her interest in the lives of women who came before her, her advocacy for opportunities for women of her era, and her decades - long commitment to the welfare of all residents of Rock Island, left a lasting impact on our community.

Augustana College came to Rock Island in 1874 and has played an important role in the city ever since. Netta, one of the first female students at Augustana College, encountered a culture where women could attend classes, but could not participate fully in the educational process. She challenged these conventions and today her efforts are credited with breaking down barriers and setting the college on a path for equal educational opportunities for women. (Ref 5) Her involvement with the Alumni Association and her appointment to the Augustana Board of Directors ensured equal opportunity for all.

In 1908, when Netta was gathering her reminiscences of earlier days, Rock Island was 65 years old. Netta realized that first and secondhand accounts of the early settlers would soon be gone. Committing these stories to writing and sharing them with others through speeches and publication ensured that the history would not be lost. As did her work with reorganizing and strengthening the Rock Island County Historical Society.

Civic organizations and churches provided public welfare services and were responsible for many community improvement projects in the years prior to the great depression and the advent of a public social safety net. Netta made tireless contributions to many civic organizations. Under Netta's chairmanship, The Rock Island Women's Club with its Welfare Division (or committee) worked to meet the social service needs of the community. By appreciating the lessons of our past, while working to broaden opportunities for all moving forward, Netta Bartholomew made a positive impact on our city.

Architecture – Colonial Revival Style

The K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson house is one of the most outstanding examples of the Colonial Revival style in Rock Island and it remains remarkably intact. The stunning front porch, intricate feature Palladian style windows, art glass accent windows and unusual clapboard siding transform what could be ordinary to the distinctive show piece.

Architect – Olof Z. Cervin

The Anderson house was designed by one of Rock Island's premiere architects, Olof Z Cervin. Cervin and his firm are responsible for many structures we all recognize as contributing to the fabric of our community: The Safety Building, Argus Building, Masonic Temple, Fort Theater, Illinois Oil, Augustana Seminary, Broadway Presbyterian, South Park Presbyterian, St John's Lutheran, Edison Elementary, Washington Junior High and Rocky Stadium, and a variety of family homes including from the elaborate to the simple. Olof Cervin's commitment to quality housing for everyone is exemplified by his work with the U.S. Housing Corporation in 1918. His designs exemplify his belief that every building regardless of its size or function should from its foundation to its exterior be of quality design and construction and have true character.

Builder – Henry W. Horst

The Anderson house was built by Henry W. Horst whose work and community involvement have left a lasting impact on Rock Island. A partial list of his many projects include Rock Island Arsenal buildings, Safety Building, Rock Island Argus Building, Washington Junior High, dozens of Lutheran Churches across the mid-west and the 200 homes built in Rock Island for Rock Island Arsenal workers in conjunction with the U.S Housing Corporation. His reputation for honesty and integrity was well deserved and resulted in quality construction of the 1918 housing, despite time and financial pressures. All of the homes remain standing today.

The K.T. Anderson house has a connection to several other significant structures in Rock Island.

E.F. Bartholomew House – 731 34th Street. This was the home of Netta's parents, E.F. and Catherine Bartholomew. Paul Bartholomew, E.F.'s son designed and built the home. At the time this house was constructed, Paul was employed by John Volk & Co., one of the largest builders in the area. He constructed a large, one and a half story carpentry shop at the rear of the property. From there, Paul designed and built the grand Foursquare house. When Paul died in 1974 at age 90, his heirs sold the house and carpentry shop intact to the next owners, George and Zen Henning. Inside the carpentry shop was an incredible collection of old tools, homemade storage containers made from cigar boxes, wooden pulleys, brass door knobs and other evidence that nothing was ever wasted. The shop remains intact to this day.

Olof Z. and Ruth Cervin Home – 2400 10th Avenue

Henry W. and Mollie Horst Home – 1049 17th Street

References

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6. Rock Island Argus, December 31, 1925
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8. City of Rock Island website www.rigov.org Historic Preservation, Historic Structures, Henry W. Horst