FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received APR 1 6 1982
date entered MAY 1 3 1982

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Anderson House

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 227 Oakland Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Rock Hill N/A vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state South Carolina code 045 county York code 091

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	N/A in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	N/A being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Alice Anderson Gill

street & number 227 Oakland Avenue

city, town Rock Hill N/A vicinity of state South Carolina 29730

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. York County Courthouse

street & number South Congress Street

city, town York state South Carolina 29745

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date 1975 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Anderson House was built in 1898, on Oakland Avenue in Rock Hill, South Carolina.[1] According to tradition, John Gary Anderson had the house built according to a design published by George F. Barber, an architect from Tennessee who propagated his work in numerous architectural pattern books. It is believed to have been constructed by A. D. Holler, a Rock Hill builder. The house is a noteworthy specimen of Queen Anne architecture.

The Anderson House is a two-and-one-half-story frame building with a three-story turret on the north corner of the facade. A one-story porch wraps around the turret and spans the facade, with an attached gazebo at the south (left) end. The house has a tall hip roof with gable extensions on the northeast and southeast sides, and a conical roof on the turret. The roof is of slate, with metal crestings. Two brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise above the roof.

The facade (northeast elevation) is composed of the three-story turret, the two-story main block of the house, and a projecting two-and-one-half-story bay, with a porch on its second story, and a Palladian window in its attic gable-end. A one-story porch, which spans the breadth of the facade, has turned posts with sawn brackets, a balustrade with turned balusters, and a spindle frieze beneath a dentil cornice. A broad pediment marks the entrance. The roof of the porch is of slate. The facade is sheathed in weatherboard. The double doors feature frosted glass panels with the initials "A" in each side. These doors are in the first level of the projecting two-and-one-half-story bay, which rises behind the one-story porch. The second-story porch, within this bay, has a spindle frieze; the porch is flanked by an elliptical window. The windows of the body of the house are one-over-one sash. The turret, on the north (right) side of the facade, is circular in plan. It has a pent roof between the second and third stories, sheathed in fish-scale slate. The third story of the turret is sheathed in imbricated shingles and features square windows with stained-glass inserts. A tall, slate-sheathed conical roof crowns the turret.

The side elevations of the Anderson House are marked by projecting two-and-one-half story bays with gable roofs. The original open porch which extended across the southeast elevation was partially enclosed as a sleeping porch by the present owner of the house.

The southwest elevation of the house features two projecting bays, with a porch at the base of one bay, and a brick chimney at the other bay. The central portion of the southwest elevation, between the two projecting bays, features a dormer window with a pedimented cornice and gable roof.

Interior:

The interior of the Anderson House was reportedly finished in heart pine, executed by the craftsmen of the Rock Hill Buggy Company (John Gary Anderson's own firm.) The central stairhall features a triple-run staircase with carved newel posts and turned balusters. Diagonal beaded boards form a herringbone pattern on the underside of the staircase. A double parlor on the first floor is divided by sliding pocket doors. Beaded wainscoting, chairrails, and baseboards appear in most rooms. Six wooden mantelpieces with overmantel mirrors embellish the interior. The original brass hardware is

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	X agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	X industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1898 **Builder/Architect** A.D. Holler/ reputedly George Barber

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Anderson House is located on Oakland Avenue in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The house is significant for its association with John Gary Anderson, a key figure in the development of Rock Hill and the co-founder and president of the Anderson Motor Company, one of the few automobile manufacturing companies in the South during the early days of the automotive industry. Anderson was also significant in the field of agriculture for his creation of the Rock Hill Plan for reducing cotton acreage. In addition the Anderson House is significant for its elaborate Queen Anne design. According to tradition, the house was built in 1898 by A. D. Holler, the foremost builder in Rock Hill at the time, for Mr. Anderson from a design by George Barber, a nationally recognized architect.

Additional Information:

John Gary Anderson, born in 1861 and orphaned early in life, married Alice Louetta Holler of Rock Hill in 1884 and shortly thereafter went into business with his father-in-law to form the Holler and Anderson Buggy Company, later to become Anderson Motor Company.[2] Anderson became sole owner of the company in 1905 and directed it until 1925 when competition from Detroit forced Anderson to close down production.[3]

In addition to his involvement in the automotive industry, Anderson was a key figure in the development of Rock Hill and the region. Around 1888, he installed the city's first telephone exchange which eventually became the Rock Hill Telephone Company.[4] As the founder and first president of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce, Anderson initiated plans to pave the city's streets and sidewalks.[5] Due to his lobbying efforts, Rock Hill got its first post office building in the 1890s and eventually obtained a U.S. District Court for the city.[6] Anderson was a member of the Winthrop Board of Trustees and served in that capacity until his death in 1937.[7] In 1911 Anderson formulated the Rock Hill Plan to reduce cotton acreage, averting a financial crisis in the cotton belt.[8]

Industry:

The Rock Hill Buggy Company, owned, directed, and managed by John Gary Anderson, considered automobile production first in about 1907 and again in 1910; however, it was not until 1916 that the first successful Anderson car was put on the market.[9] The hallmark of Anderson Motor Company was the luxury car assembled from the finest parts available, the body and interior superbly handcrafted.[10] One of the few automobile production companies in the South, the slogan of the Anderson Company was, "A Little Bit Higher in Price, But ... Made in Dixie."[11] Unfortunately made in Dixie was not enough incentive to potential customers to pay the approximately $1,500.00 price tag of an Anderson. The high price in comparision to cars such as the Ford Model T, competition from Detroit, and a shipment of faulty cylinder blocks forced the Anderson Motor Company to close in 1924.[12]

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 1

Quadrangle name Rock Hill

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

Latitude: 34° 55' 54"

Longitude: 81° 1' 34"

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Anderson House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying York County Tax Map 627-22, which is drawn at a scale of 60 feet to the inch. This boundary includes the historic house and its immediate wooded environs, while excluding adjacent non-historic property.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne Pickens Wylie, John Wells
Cathy Campbell, Winthrop College Intern
Pamela L. Zagaroli, Preservation Planner
Catawba Regional Planning Council

organization S. C. Department of Archives and History date

street & number 1430 Senate Street telephone 803-758-5816

city or town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Charles E. Lee (CZF) 3/26/82

title Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 5/18/82

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

intact through most of the house.

Surroundings:

The original wrought iron fence defines the property, which is landscaped with boxwoods, fir trees, willow oaks, magnolias, dogwoods, and azaleas. The Anderson House is located in the center of an older residential district that is becoming commercial.

Agriculture:

In 1911, the South's cotton farmers suffered financial distress due to a surplus of cotton which forced prices down to less than five cents per pound. Anderson devised the Rock Hill Plan which prevented certain economic tragedy in the South's cotton belt.[13] The plan involved reducing cotton acreage, which forced cotton producers to buy the cotton on hand, thereby increasing prices.[14] Anderson successfully toured the South to promote his plan, which several states adopted. Among these states were Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, and South Carolina.[15]

Architecture:

The Anderson House is representative of Queen Anne design at its finest. Irregularity of plan, massing, and texture characterize the style. The Anderson House has a dramatic, picturesque, asymmetrical composition with a polygonal three-story turret, a steep slate roof, and two tall brick chimneys dominating the profile. Multiple materials and textures are employed: patterned slate, weatherboard, spindle friezes, metal crestings and finials, and sawn brackets. A multi-faceted porch, wrapping around the first story, enriches the composition; a one-story gazebo, attached to this porch, is a counterpart to the three-story turret. Several cross-gables extend from the main mass of the hip roof. The design for the Anderson House is believed to have been adapted from one of the published designs of George F. Barber, an architect from Knoxville, Tennessee, who published his work in numerous books and magazines.

Bibliography

Anderson, John Gary. Autobiography. Rock Hill, S.C.: n.p., 1936.

The Constitution (Atlanta, Ga.), 1 January 1912.

Evening Herald (Rock Hill, S.C.), Centennial Edition, 1952.

Evening Herald (Rock Hill, S.C.), 7 December 1949.

Gilbert, Percy R. "A Little Bit Higher in Price, but Made in Dixie." Antique Automobile 38 (July-August 1974).

Moore, John Hammond. "South Carolina's Wonderful Anderson Car." The Smithsonian Journal of History 1 (Summer 1966).

New York Times, 18 January 1915.

FOOTNOTES

[1] John Gary Anderson, Autobiography (Rock Hill, S.C.: n.p., 1936), p. 364.

[2] Percy R. Gilbert, "A Little Bit Higher in Price, but Made in Dixie!" Antique Automobile 38 (July-August 1974): 33-34; John Hammond Moore, "South Carolina's Wonderful Anderson Car," The Smithsonian Journal of History 1 (Summer 1966): 53; Anderson, pp. 838-840; 846-852.

[3] Anderson, pp. 851, 583-586; Moore, pp. 65-66; Gilbert, p. 38-39.

[4] Anderson, pp. 195-197; Evening Herald (Rock Hill, SC), 7 December 1949, p. 2; Evening Herald, Centennial Edition, 1952, p. 17.

[5] Anderson, pp. 175-179.

[6] Anderson, pp. 175, 858.

[7] Anderson, p. 858; Evening Herald, 18 December 1937.

[8] The Constitution (Atlanta, Ga.), 1 January 1912, p. 1; Anderson, pp. 180-194; New York Times, 18 January 1915, p. 14.

[9] Moore, p. 53; Gilbert, pp. 35-36; Anderson, pp. 505, 516.

[10] Moore, pp. 60-61, 66; Gilbert, pp. 36-37, 39.

[11] Gilbert, p. 38; Moore, p. 55.

[12] Moore, pp. 66-67; Gilbert, pp. 38-39.

[13] Anderson, p. 180-194; The Constitution (Atlanta, Ga.), 1 January 1912, p.1.

[14] Ibid.

[15] Ibid.