

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

State Inventory No. 09-00673

New  Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 09-00621

Relationship:  Contributing  Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply)  Listed  De-listed  NHL  DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Extant (enter year) \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Mether, Linda and Charles, House

other names/site number Thoms, Henry F. and Anna, House

**2. Location**

street & number 502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW

city or town Waverly  vicinity, county Bremer

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

(If Urban) Subdivision Harmon & LeValley Add. Block(s) Fr. 2 Lot(s) S 66' Lots 8 & 9

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

**4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]**

**5. Classification**

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

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

Title

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

Waverly's NW & SE Neighborhoods Historical & Architectural Survey

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)

09A09 Cross-Gabled Roof

foundation 04 Stone

05D Queen Anne

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

roof 08A Asphalt/Shingle

other \_\_\_\_\_

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Bremer  
City Waverly

Address 502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW

Site Number 09-00673  
District Number 09-00621

**Criteria Considerations**

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B Removed from its original location.
- C A birthplace or grave.
- D A cemetery.
- E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F A commemorative property.
- G Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

02 ARCHITECTURE

**Significant Dates**

Construction date  
1900  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation  
1930 - garage

**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 9/2013  
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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Mether, Linda and Charles, House	Bremer
Name of Property	County
502 2 <sup>nd</sup> St NW	Waverly
Address	City

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## 7. Description

This single-family house is estimated to have been built in 1898 according to Bremer County Assessor records. The house form and style are consistent with houses in Waverly built during the 1890s and early 1900s. Property transfer records show Linda Mether acquiring the parcel in March 1900 from David Morey, a real estate dealer in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward who lived next door. She sold it with her husband, Charles Mether, in 1903. Newspaper accounts in 1900 suggest that the house was built during their ownership dating the house to ca. 1900.

This 2-story frame house is an example of a Queen Anne Style, Cross-Gable Roof house form. The plan is nearly identical to other houses in the neighborhood including the house at 515 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW suggesting the possible use of a similar patternbook plan. The house has a stone block foundation with narrow wood clapboard siding, corner board trim and belt courses on the walls. A moderate-pitched cross-gable roof has pent-gable ends clad in wood octagonal-cut wood shingles. Moderate-width eaves have a wide cornice and an egg and dart pattern molding. The house has two porches including a front porch tucked in the right-hand ell with a turned porch roof support at the outer corner, a flat roof, and balustrades on both levels containing turned spindles. The rear porch has a hipped roof and wraps the rear wing on three sides. It has matching turned posts, closely spaced spindles, and a continuous band of closely spaced vertical slats for the porch skirting. It is likely that the posts, spindles and skirting are replacements as are the spindles and posts on the front porch. The 1927 Sanborn Map shows porches in the same locations.

Fenestration throughout the house includes single 1/1 double-hung windows of various sizes and a large number of feature windows. Traditionally sized cottage windows with leaded and beveled glass patternwork in the upper horizontal sash are on the front façade, first floor and on the south façade, first floor. Narrower cottage windows with similar patternwork are on the north façade, first floor, and in the south wing's west façade, first floor. Other feature windows include a tall and narrow window set between levels on the south wing with leaded and beveled glass patternwork. A smaller window with similar patternwork is on the south sidewall of the entrance hall. It has a horizontal form and the wood panel above it features a decorative molded design. Each of the gables has a square fixed sash with a grid of stained glass lights around the perimeter. Elsewhere on the first and second levels, large 1/1 double-hung units are widely spaced.

A detached frame 1-story garage is located at the rear of the property east of the house. It has a moderate pitched hipped roof and a wide entrance bay that opens onto broad front gable roof, double-bay overhead door, beaded weatherboard siding and corner board trim. It appears that when the front opening was widened, the cladding was replaced with synthetic siding with a vertical pattern. The building was constructed in 1930 according to Assessor records but the 1927 Sanborn map includes the garage. The garage is considered noncontributing because of the resizing of the garage bay and new overhead door.

Alterations: front and rear porch changes (undated).

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8. Significance

The Linda and Charles Mether House at 502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW that was built in ca. 1900 is an example of a Queen Anne Style, Cross-Gable Roof 2-story house form. The plan is nearly identical to other houses in the neighborhood suggesting the possible use of a similar patternbook plan. The house qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the historic district under Criterion C and the garage is considered noncontributing.

Property transfer records show Linda Mether, wife of Charles Mether, acquiring the parcel in March 1900 from David Morey, a real estate dealer in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward who lived nearby. Newspaper accounts show Charles Mether erecting a house in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward for a cost of \$2,200 in 1900 from prior to June 1900 to September 1900 with the family moving in on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Brief accounts from the *Bremer Co. Independent* trace its construction.

—Chas. Mether has the cellar dug preparatory to building a fine residence on his lots in the Second ward lately purchased of Christ. Haas. The house will be 28x30 and 14x20, two stories.

11/30/1899 – *Bremer Co. Independent*

—The frame for C. H. Mether's fine new house in the Second ward is up and will soon be enclosed.

6/14/1900 – *Bremer Co. Independent*

—C. H. Mether and family will move into their new house Saturday, Sept. 15.

9/13/1900 – *Bremer Co. Independent*

C. H. Mether, house..... 2,200

12/27/1900 – *Bremer Co. Independent*

The Methers held the property briefly selling it in 1903 to a William Oltrogge, a Bremer County farmer. Oltrogge is not known to have resided here. In 1913 city directory lists show W.W. Getts, a commercial traveler, and his wife Matilda, residing here. It is unclear from property transfer records who held ownership of the building until 1926 when Anna Thoms and later her husband Henry F. Thoms acquired it. The telephone directories for 1926 and 1931 show the Thoms family living here. In 1944, the Thoms sold the house to T.M. and Esther Buehrer. T.M. Buehrer & Son Grocery Store on West Bremer Avenue was operated by Buehrer during the 1950s when the couple continued to reside here.

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.

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

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

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

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

Vertical file collection, Waverly Public Library.

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

Waverly Business News Index (database), 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 County Independent* - 12/27/1900, p1c1; 9/13/1900, p8c1; 6/14/1900, p9c2; 11/30/1899, p8c3.

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502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW  
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Site Map: Bremer County GIS Department, 12/2011.

**502 2nd St NW  
PIN 09-02-103-003**





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, looking east and northeast, Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc., photographer, 11/15/2011.





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, looking south & window details, Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc., photographer, 11/15/2011.





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, Gable and molding detail, looking north; garage, looking northeast, Marlys Svendsen, Svendsen Tyler, Inc., photographer, 11/15/2011.





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, looking southeast and northeast, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/23/2009.





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, looking east and north, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/23/2009.





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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, looking northwest and west, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/23/2009.





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**Photograph:** 502 2nd St NW, garage, looking northeast, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 4/23/2009.



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502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW

Waverly

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**Photographs:** 502 2nd St NW, winter views, looking southeast, northeast, northwest and garage, looking northeast, Justine Zimmer, IHSEMD, photographer, 1/24/2009.





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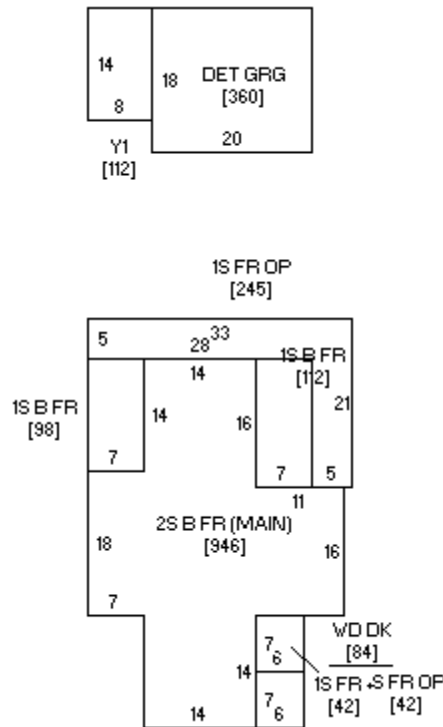
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Additional Information:

Floor plan, 502 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW, Bremer County Assessor website; available at <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/PhotoEngine/Sketch.aspx?appid=330&keyvalue=0902103003&index=0&size=0>; accessed 11/26/2012.



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