

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only
received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic John Janecek House CX06-4
and/or common Jerry Janecek House

2. Location

street & number 805 E. 8th Street N/A not for publication
city, town Schuyler N/A vicinity of congressional district First
state Nebraska code 31 county Colfax code 037

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Larry and Pamela Karel
street & number 805 E. 8th Street
city, town Schuyler N/A vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Colfax County Courthouse
street & number N/A
city, town Schuyler state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Building Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date On-going federal state county local
depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society
city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Janecek house and outbuildings are situated on an entire city block in southeast Schuyler (1970 pop. 3,600). The house is a simplified two and one half story vernacular Queen Anne product which has its basic rectangular shape broken by two, two-story bay windows. Constructed of frame in 1885-86, the house was stuccoed in 1927. At this time, the Eastlake porches were enclosed. Decorative features include the imbricated gables and a small third story porch situated atop the north bay.

The interior of the house features basically a four over four room plan with the remaining space taken up by the front and back stairwells. An operable dumbwaiter is located between the kitchen and the second floor hallway. Two marbelized slate fireplaces enhance the decor of the house.

The exterior of the house will be preserved in its present 1927 state, while the interior is being meticulously restored by the owners to the mid-1880's period with the exception of tasteful modernizations in the kitchen and bathrooms.

The grounds surrounding the Janecek House provide space for a garage, chicken house and woodshed. The garage was constructed in the early 20th century, however the chicken house and woodshed appear to be of an earlier period. All of the structures were stuccoed in 1927 to match the house. Also found on the grounds are a stone fountain and birdbath, concrete benches and pillars, and pathways which lead to various sections of the garden.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1885-86 **Builder/Architect** Henry Voss

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John Janecek house is significant locally in the areas of architecture and social-humanitarianism.

John Janecek was born in Bohemia in 1851. He immigrated to the United States in 1870 and settled in Colfax County, Nebraska in 1873. Janecek pursued a farming career for a short time and later opened a saloon in Schuyler. He was best known in Schuyler as the builder and proprietor of the Janecek Opera House which became the hub of social activity in the county between 1895 and 1930. Much of Schuyler's entertainment took place in the opera house and besides the locally produced plays, traveling road shows and movies which were booked, the house was the location of wedding dances, high school graduations, and other community functions. The Janecek family sold the opera house in 1920 and the building was razed in 1963. John Janecek died unexpectedly in 1895 soon after the completion of the Opera house. His son Jaroslav (Jerry) took over his late father's business affairs and also resided in the Janecek house until his death in 1956.

In the area of social-humanitarianism, the Janecek house is significant because of its association with John and Jerry Janecek. The Janecek Opera House provided Schuyler and Colfax County with a place for the social interaction so representative of small town living.

Architecturally, the Janecek house stands as a locally significant example of one of the last remaining Victorian homes (and the best preserved) in Schuyler. Schuyler's residential architecture is presently primarily 20th century bungalows and ranch-style house types. Constructed during Nebraska's building boom years of the 1880's, this house displays Queen Anne features so popular in this state during that era. Adding to its architectural significance is the fact that it was designed by one of Nebraska's finest architects, German-born Henry Voss. Voss studied in Germany and Switzerland before coming to Omaha, Nebraska in 1872. He enjoyed a very successful architectural career which included the designing of many commercial structures in Omaha - among those being the Metz and Storz Brewing Companies' buildings and the Anheuser-Busch Beer Depot (NRHP--Douglas County).

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.6 acres

Quadrangle name Schuyler, Nebr.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>4</u>	<u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>10</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>10</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

This property is located on all of Block 16, South Schuyler, including all of the historically associated property.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
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state		code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet Jeffries Spencer, Cultural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date October, 1980

street & number 1500 R Street telephone 402/471-3850

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national 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 Marian D. Fennell 6/3/82

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Colfax County, Nebraska land records

History of Colfax County, Nebraska Centennial Year, Schuyler, Nebraska, 1967.

The Schuyler Herald, August 29, 1895.

The Schuyler Sun, October 15, 1885 and June 21, 1979.

Schuyler, Nebraska Centennial, 1870-1970, committee, Schuyler, Nebraska, 1970.



Photo 1 of 7 – N façade. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:15)



Photo 2 of 7 – W façade. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:17)



Photo 3 of 7 – S and E facades. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:22)



Photo 4 of 7 – E façade. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:19)



Photo 5 of 7 – grounds and outbuildings, looking E. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:18)



Photo 6 of 7 – detail of grounds, looking E. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:20)



Photo 7 of 7 – detail of grounds, looking S. Photo by Janet Jeffries Spencer, 1980, NSHS (8007/41:23)