

National Register of Historic Places Application for the Cline House in Angola, Indiana

An Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)

by

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael Doyle", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is written in black ink.

Ball State University

Muncie, Indiana

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Purpose of Thesis

This project serves as an application to submit to the National Register of Historic Places to request that a structure in Angola, Indiana be placed on the National Register. The application includes a thorough architectural description of the property, as well as narrative description of why this building would be eligible to be listed on the National Register. The application required extensive research of the history of the house, as well as the biographical backgrounds of the previous owners of the house.

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Cline, Cyrus and Jennie, House

other names/site number Osborn, Anna Morse, House

2. Location

street & number 313 East Maumee not for publication

city or town Angola vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Steuben code 151 zip code 46703

3. 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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State of 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 _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

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) _____

Cline House
Name of Property

Steuben County, Indiana
County and State

8. 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.

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Health/Medicine

Law

Architecture

Period of Significance

1891 - 1944

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cline, Cyrus

Cameron, Don Franklin
Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Gid Finch

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Carnegie Public Library

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Cline House, Steuben County, Indiana

The Cline House is a two and a half story weatherboard structure located in an old residential section of Angola, Indiana. It is an eclectic example of early Victorian Queen Anne style with many visible Stick influences. The house was completed in 1891, and has sustained several minor structural reconditionings since its completion. These include a new front porch which was built sometime in the early 1900's, a new roof which replaced the original wood shingles with asphalt in 1991, electrical rewiring in 1992, and several new coats of paint, including the latest painting project done in 1993.

The house is a balloon frame structure. It rests on a cut stone foundation, and is built of wood weatherboard siding. The weatherboard was repainted 1993. For this project, a local paint store was consulted to research and choose common paint colors of the time period when the house was built to preserve historic integrity (the original color is unknown). The roof is currently asphalt. This asphalt replaced the original wood shingles, which were in irreparable shape, in 1991. The roof is characterized by a cross gable common to the Queen Anne style. The single chimney is brick.

The house fronts Maumee street on the south side (photos 1, 2, and 3), and this remains the most ornamental side. There is an entrance on the east side of the first floor that has a wood panel door with a three quarter length glass pane and transom lights above. Directly west of this is the first level of a bay topped with a false gable. The first floor bay contains two double hung windows with fixed upper sashes on either side and one large fixed central window with patterned leaded glass panes above it. To the west of the bay window on the first floor is a fixed patterned leaded glass window with decorative wood detailing below it. The wall this window is located on is slightly recessed. To the far west of the first floor is a large double hung window with a fixed upper sash.

The first floor porch on the south side is not original, and was probably replaced sometime in the early 1900's. The original porch was very similar to the porch on the west side of the house (photo 4), and wrapped around the west side of the house with spindle supports and spindle work in the balustrade, both common features of the Queen Anne time period. Much of the original spindle work from the first porch was saved and is currently stored in the carriage house that is on the north side of the property. The current porch is a full length porch

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Cline House, Steuben County, Indiana

characterized by decorative wooden columns in groups of two and a triangular pediment at the entry which contains decorative patterned shingles. A porte-cochere extends from the east side of the porch.

The second floor of the south side has three fixed upper pane double hung windows in the bay on the east side. The false gable above these contains a fanlight and a wood cross-hatching that matches the pattern of the east gable. West of the bay is an inset porch with a round arch with graduated spindle work that is flush with the outside wall of the house. The entry has a panel wood door with a glass pane. There is a large double hung fixed upper pane sash on the far west side of the second story with decorative wood detailing framing the window. On the far east end of the south side is a fixed single pane window with a single row of five smaller panes lining the top of the window. The large gable is divided from the second floor by a band of patterned woodwork, including a vertical pattern with stick influences. The gable has several rows of patterned shingles at the bottom, and a large semi-circular window in the gable that has a central double hung window with a fixed upper sash containing 9 panes, and fixed pane on either side. The windows are surrounded by a decorative wood pattern. There is a triangular section at the top of the gable that is slightly extended forward and supported by brackets, another common detail of the Queen Anne era.

The windows and doors on the south side are all surrounded by vertical and horizontal wood strips that show the earlier Stick influence on the structure.

The west side of the house (photos 3, 4, and 5) has two entries, both on the first floor, and are accessed from the original first floor porch. The porch is a partial width porch with a triangular pediment at entry and spindle column supports. The balustrade contains spindle detailing, and there is additional spindle work along the top of the porch. The porch has two round arches on the west side, and one pointed arch on the end facing north. The door on the north side is a wood panel door with a single glass pane in the top half of the door. To the north of this door is a double hung window with a fixed upper pane. To the south of this door is a smaller double hung window with a fixed upper sash. The door on the south side of the porch is set into a one story bay window. It is a two panel wood door with a single glass pane. The bay contains two more windows on each side, each a double hung window with a fixed

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upper sash. The windows and doors on the porch and in the bay are all outlined with simple horizontal and vertical boards. To the far south of the first floor is a large double hung fixed upper sash window that is outlined with two slender vertical boards on either side and one horizontal board on both the top and the bottom. There is a center beadwork piece between the vertical boards on each side. This window detailing matches the window on the far west end of the south side of the structure.

The second story on the west side has a large double hung fixed upper sash window on the far south end that is identical to the window on the far west end of the south side. To the north of this is a slight overhang supported by four simple wooden brackets. The slightly extended cross gable on the west side contains three separate double hung fixed upper sash windows outlined with simple stickwork. The window in the gable is slightly inset into the gable with rounded sides and is two fixed panes with a double row of smaller square panes above. The gable contains three different wood shingle patterns. To the far north end of the west side of the second level is a double hung fixed upper sash window.

The north side of the house has a partial width central porch with a hipped covering. The trellis work was added in the late 1980's, and the wooden steps lead to a wood panel door with a glass pane. To the east of the door is a sliding pane window.

The second level on the north side has two double hung fixed upper sash windows. The gable also contains one central double hung fixed pane window. The vertical wood weatherboard is broken up by three horizontal bands of stickwork that extend for the entire length of the north side.

The east side of the house (photo 2) includes the cross gable. To the far south of the east side on the first floor is a small rectangular patterned leaded glass window (photo 15). To the north of this are four double hung fixed upper sash windows. The windows are all framed with simple vertical and horizontal boards characteristic of the Stick styling. A horizontal board runs the length of the house and separates the first floor from the second floor. On the south end of the second floor on the west side of the house is a leaded glass window with two double hung vertical panes topped with a rosette-like rectangular patterned fixed pane (photo 13). Under this window is a square

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patterned wood detail. To the north of this window are three double hung fixed upper pane windows, two of which are placed together separated by a vertical board. The gable contains several various wood shingle patterns with wood cross hatching at the uppermost part of the gable. The window in the gable is a large fixed window with two rows of small patterned square windows above a single large pane. The horizontal boards separating the levels run the length of the house on the east side.

On the northeast corner of the property behind the house is an original carriage house (photo 8). The carriage house is wood weatherboard with an asphalt roof. The original building was extended with an addition on the west side in the early 1900's.

The foyer and reception rooms on the first floor of the south end of the house contain butternut columns and woodwork and paneling in the Jacobean style (photo 12). The staircase begins on the north end of the reception room and faces east, then turns south approximately half way up, and turns again to the west (photo 14). The staircase contains relief carvings in the pillars and capitols and heavy balusters.

The parlor on the west side of the structure contains a fireplace on the west wall whose marble tiles depict scenes from Romeo and Juliet (photo 9).

The dining room on the west wall is separated from the parlor by a large pantry. The dining room (photo 10) has Gothic style woodwork stained to match the woodwork in the pantry.

The kitchen in the northwest corner of the house was modernized in 1920 with built-in cupboards. To the east of the kitchen is a storage area which was divided to make room for an indoor bathroom sometime in the early 1900's. Originally the privy was in the carriage house, but was eventually replaced with the indoor bathroom. A staircase runs along the north wall to the second floor and the attic.

The second floor has two bedrooms on the east side of house separated by the landing of the staircase. In the southwest corner of the house is a small sitting room. North of that is the large master bedroom. To the north of the master bedroom is another adjoining sitting room.

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A door at the north end of the hall leads to an additional bedroom and bathroom. These originally served as the servant's quarters.

The interior of the house maintains much of its original integrity. A few changes were made to the kitchen and also to the storage areas when indoor plumbing was added.

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Cline House, Steuben County, Indiana

The Cyrus and Jennie Cline House, built in 1891, is significant because of its association with three important families in the history of Steuben County. It is also architecturally significant because of its distinctive and unique architectural style.

The first owner of the house was Anna L. Morse Osborn. It was one of three identical houses built in Angola at the time. The houses were built from money left in the will of her father, Orin Bradley Morse, for Anna and her two brothers. Orin was a prominent figure in early Angola history. He was the first to install electricity in town, and was also the foundry of Angola Engine and Foundry.

In 1905, Anna Morse sold the house to Cyrus Cline, who live there with his wife, Jennie, and his daughter, Carrie. Cyrus Cline was very prominent in early Angola history, and was probably the most famous and influential owner of the home. Cline served as superintendent of Angola Schools from 1877 to 1883. He was an attorney and practiced law in Angola from 1884 to 1932. He was a founder of the first National Bank of Angola in 1903 and served as the bank's first president. He remained a member of the board for this institution until his death.

Cyrus Cline also represented Angola in the 12th Indiana District in Congress from 1909 to 1970. During his four terms in the house, the Democrat became friendly with Tom Marshall, Woodrow Wilson's vice president from 1913 to 1920.

Cline's only child, Carrie, married Dr. Don Franklin Cameron in 1923. The couple moved into the Cline House at that time. Cameron was a prominent local surgeon and ultimately founded the Cameron Hospital in 1927 which remains in operation today and is located across the street from the Cline House. Dr. Cameron also founded a hospital in Bryan, Ohio.

Cameron was a member of the board of directors for the First National Bank of Angola, and was also a trustee for Tri-State University. He eventually became one of the largest contributors to the building program at Tri-State.

Carrie Cline died in 1972, and left her house to the historical society with the stipulation the her husband could remain there for the rest of his life. He passed away two years later.

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Cline House, Steuben County, Indiana

The house currently functions as a community museum and is open for public tours.

The house is also significant architecturally because of its distinctive style. It is a unique example of a combination of the Victorian Stick architecture and the later Queen Anne style. The house incorporates many features of both styles, including the trademark stick work surrounding the doors and windows, and running horizontally along the sides of the house that characterizes the stick style. The house also incorporates the intricate patterned wood shingle work of the Queen Anne period, and the common cross gable roof with a slightly extended upper portion on the front gable also typical of the Queen Anne period. The porches showcase the typical spindle work of the Queen Anne period.

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Bibliography

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McAlister, V. & L. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

Morley, R.V.W. History of Steuben County 1955. R.V.W. Morley Publisher, 1956.

Stevens, Orville. The History of Northeast Indiana: Lagrange, Steuben, Nobel, and Dekalb Counties. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1920.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The east half of lots numbered one (1) and thirteen (13) and the west half of lots numbered two (2) and twelve (12) in C.L. Morse's addition to the town, now city of Angola, Steuben County, Indiana

Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary.