

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Fessler-Secongost House  
other names/site number 0-08

### 2. Location

street & number 119 West Morgan Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Boonville N/A vicinity  
state Missouri code MO county Cooper code 053 zip code 65233

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Boonville, Mo.  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

*G. Tracy Mehan III*  
Signature of certifying official G. Tracy Mehan III, Director Date 3 Aug 1985  
Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls Brick

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roof Asphaltother Wood

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.****FESSLER-SECONGOST HOUSE**

**SUMMARY:** The Fessler-Secongost House, located at 119 West Morgan Street, Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri, is a vernacular brick building with a centered cross gable. In its present form, the brick house presents a two-thirds plan, Gothic Revival facade with an undistinguished brick ell. The house is sheathed with composition shingles and imposingly sited on a hill which slopes steeply down on three sides. Despite minor alterations, the Fessler-Secongost House retains sufficient physical characteristics to convey integrity of workmanship, materials, and design, in addition to its integrity of location and setting.

**ELABORATION:** The facade, or south elevation, is one-and-one-half stories and constructed on a two-thirds plan. A centered, cross gable typical of the Gothic Revival style dominates the facade. A single, two-over-two, double hung window with arched, rowlock brick lintel is centered in the gable on the upper level. The gable lacks the decorated vergeboards often associated with Gothic Revival architecture, but decorative brackets adorn the eaves of the remainder of the facade and may reflect Italianate influence. The three first floor bays are asymmetrically arranged. The fading Greek Revival style is also suggested by sidelights which flank and a transom which surmounts the door set in the easternmost bay. A flat roofed porch with heavy entablature and plain posts and balustrade projects from the entrance bay. The remaining two bays are filled by identical two-over-two, double hung sash with arched, rowlock brick lintels.

On the gable end of the west elevation, identical two-over-two, double hung windows with arched, rowlock brick lintels are centered on each level. A break in the eave indicates a finial or similar decoration is missing. A brick ell extends north along this elevation and may represent an earlier house, which the abstract indicates could have existed about 1855, or a later addition. The two room ell resembles vernacular dwellings constructed in Boonville by residents of German origin. The roof pitch is markedly more shallow, and variations in the brick work at the south end of the ell indicates an alteration or renovation. A chimney also pierces the ridge line of the ell's roof. The chimney is set against the interior wall of the ell's southernmost room and may have originally been an interior end chimney, if the ell was an earlier dwelling. The ell is divided into three bays. The center

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Continuation Sheet**

Fessler-Secongost House

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bay is a door with an arched lintel identical to those over all the visible windows, and the two flanking bays contain six-over-six, double hung sash.

The gable end of the east elevation only contains a single window identical to those on the facade and centered under the gable. A broken decoration which may have been the lower end of a finial remains in the eave on this gable end. A shed roofed porch which extended the length of the ell on the west elevation was enclosed with weatherboard in 1966, and a smaller porch was added. On the northern half of the enclosure are two modern, aluminum, one-over-one, double hung windows. The added porch covers the south half of the enclosure and has also been partially enclosed. A storage room with a sliding aluminum window in the east elevation occupies the north end of the porch. The remainder of the elevation of the porch is comprised of two bays which originally contained sash. The porch's south elevation contains bays for a door and a window, but both are empty. Within the porch, a door and modern window are set in the earlier enclosed porch. A modern brick chimney has also been added to the enclosed porch. A door is set in the porch's north elevation.

The gable end of the brick ell completes the rear, or north, elevation of the house. A six-over-six, double hung sash fills the single bay which is set on the east side of the elevation. Cellar bulkhead doors are set at the foot of the elevation.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Circa 1862

Significant Dates

Circa 1862

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SUMMARY: The Fessler-Secongost House, 119 West Morgan Street, is significant under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. Its austere planar surfaces, brick construction, and arched window headers exemplify the Vernacular Brick Buildings property type (see "Historic Resources of Boonville, Missouri: Additional Architectural Contexts"). Constructed circa 1862 on a two-thirds plan, the Fessler-Secongost House also utilized steeply pitched roof and centered cross gable characteristic of the Gothic Revival style. This vernacular amalgam also retains a Greek Revival style entry and brackets at the eaves which suggest Italianate influence. Of the Vernacular Brick Buildings located outside of historic districts, the Fessler-Secongost House most strongly reveals the varied influences of style and tradition which affected vernacular construction in Boonville.

ELABORATION: The Gothic Revival portion of the Fessler-Secongost House was apparently constructed circa 1862 by John Fessler, who operated a restaurant in the Commercial Hotel in Boonville. Fessler resided in the house until 1872, when he defaulted on a number of mortgages. In 1878, after a number of absentee owners, B.E. Secongost, a hotel proprietor, bought the property and may have constructed the rear ell. After 1897, the house changed hands frequently but has remained a single family dwelling until the present.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Boonville City Directory, 1869-1870. n.p., n.d.

Levens, Henry C., and Drake, Nathaniel M. A History of Cooper County, Missouri.  
St. Louis: Perrin and Smith, 1876; reprint ed., n.p., n.d.

Property Abstract.

See continuation sheet

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	5
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5	2	1	6	0	0
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4	3	1	3	8	7	5
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property lies within Lot #275 of West Boonville Addition in the city of Boonville, Missouri.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the single parcel of land that is occupied by the property and its immediate surroundings. The legally recorded lot lines that have been historically associated with the property retain integrity and form the limits of the boundary.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Preservation Planning Section  
organization Missouri Historic Preservation Program date May 5, 1989  
street & number P. O. Box 176 telephone 314/751-5365  
city or town Jefferson City state Missouri zip code 65102

**Photo Log:**

Name of Property: **Fessler – Secongost House**

City or Vicinity: **Boonville**

County: **Cooper County** State: **MO**

Photographer: **S. Mitchell**

Date

Photographed: **December 1988**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 6. View from S
- 2 of 6. View from S, window and eave detail
- 3 of 6. View from SE
- 4 of 6. View from NW
- 5 of 6. View from NE
- 6 of 6. View from SW













