

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Watson, David and Julia House

other names/site number _____

Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

street & number 103 N. Maple Avenue not for publication

city or town Polo, Illinois vicinity

state Illinois county Ogle zip code 61064

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B x C D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer _____ Date _____

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

 other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	1	buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic / single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN / Shingle Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone / limestone

walls: Wood / shingle

roof: Asphalt

other: _____

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

The David and Julia Watson House, built in 1900, is an excellent example of a Shingle Style house. It has many elements that define the style, including a wide and low building profile, long open porch in the front, and shingle-cladding. The varied exterior outline of the home retains its original appearance and many of the home's original details and materials remain intact. The nomination includes the house and one non-contributing building.

Narrative Description

The David and Julia Watson House is a two and a half story shingled home with gabled roof. It was built on a lot at the edge of the City's residential development at the corner of the main street, Mason Street, and Maple Avenue. A neighborhood of more modest but similar homes is located to the east and farmland to the west. The plot of land is level at the home and slopes down to the south and west from the home, giving the home a dramatic appearance from the Mason Street approach. A non-contributing garage is located behind the house on the edge of the property, facing Mason Street. It has a side-gabled roof, vertical wood siding, and a concrete foundation. There is one single and one double garage door on the south elevation; an access door is located on the north side of the east elevation.

The home has an asymmetrical appearance when viewed from the street. The front of the home faces Maple Ave. and is designed with a large single gabled roof that extends from one end of the home to the other, north to south. This roof is punctuated by two large "twin" gables facing the front of the home and set off-center, towards the north end of the home and a single smaller gable to the south. A massive porch extends across the front of the home at the first floor, parallel to the roof above, giving the home a distinct horizontal character. The windows are varied and do not all align from floor to floor. The main entry is through the porch, in an octagonal bay at the center of the home. The porch structure extends beyond the north face of the home, forming a porte-cochere. The end gables, on the north and south, have asymmetrically placed bays beneath them.

Each of the gables is designed with a unique overbuild with a recessed arch. These overbuilds appear to be supported by a pair of oversized brackets below each end and the soffit under each arch is clad in bead board. The recessed arches are pointed at the double-gable and side gables, and rounded at the dormer. The soffit below the arches and at the eaves were initially clad in tongue and groove bead board. This still exists at much of the eaves and at some of the dormers in the rear of the home. The eaves are aligned with the head of the second floor windows. The bottom of the eaves is trimmed with wood dentils.

The foundation of the home is a locally sourced limestone set in a regular coursed ashlar, with a rock-faced finish. It extends from the ground to the sills of the first floor windows. This elevation aligns with the stone coping on the front porch. This gives the home a clearly defined base. The foundation below the porch is punctuated with a series of round arches. Basement windows pierce the foundation at the body of the house. All of these openings are detailed with flat stone arches. The same stone is used on the columns above the base that support the front porch. All of the first and upper floor surfaces, and faces of the gables are clad in wood shingles hung in a regular coursed arrangement. A course of shingles outlines the edge of each gable.

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

The windows are cased in wood with decorative molding that frames the trim on all sides. The windows on the home are varied. The south parlor has a large Chicago style window with single-hung windows. The fixed sash of the window, at the top, has leaded glass in a square pattern and is smaller than the movable sash below. Above this, and slightly off-center to it, is a pair of leaded casement windows with the panes set in a square pattern. West of this, at the dining room, is a large bay with individual windows in each of the five facets of the bay. These are similar to the previously described windows but the upper sash has leaded glass with a row of vertically elongated hexagons. On the second floor of the bay are single hung windows with equal sized sashes. The upper sash of these has leaded glass set in a diamond pattern. The top of the bay is crowned with a balustrade that sits below the gable. There is a group of three windows in the gable, above the bay. There is a similar on the north side of the home, towards the east. This bay has three facets. The windows on the ground floor are single-hung, with an arrangement similar to the other ground floor windows. The windows on the second floor of the bay are paired casements with a leaded transom above. The transom has glass set in a diamond pattern. The main hall has a simply detailed group of three single-hung windows with beveled glass in a diamond pattern. These look onto the front porch. The north parlor has a series of windows that have similar single-hung windows with large panes of glass at the sash, with leaded transoms above.

The interior of the home also has several elements that are characteristic of the Shingle Style. The main entry of the home is through a large foyer located in an octagonal room. The front door has a large beveled glass light and substantial brass hardware with a Gothic tracery motif. This opens directly to the first floor hall. The hall has an inglenook, on-center with the front door. A gracious curved stair is set to the north of this hall and opens to it. The primary living spaces on both floors are arranged around central halls. On the ground floor, two main rooms open on the north and south of the hall. The dining room is accessed from the south parlor. The north parlor is a single large room that extends across most of the north side of the home. The kitchen and other service areas are located behind the inglenook and connect the west ends of the north parlor and dining room. On the second floor, the stair landing opens to a large hall. It opens to a small alcove that looks out onto the roof of the front porch to the east with bedrooms opening directly onto it north and south. Additional bedrooms are located to the west, accessed by a short hallway.

The ground floor hall has an inglenook, directly on axis with the main entry of the home. The inglenook has a fireplace with built-in seating on each side. The seats are terminated with wood scrolled arm rests that frame the fireplace. There are arched niches above each seat. The seat to the right continues around the north wall, below the adjacent stair. The fireplace has a tile and carved oak mantel. The oak finish is light and has been restored. The tile is thin and set in a common bond pattern. It has a glazed finish with an uneven earth tone coloring. Fluted pilasters support a mantel shelf with egg and dart molding at the edge. The frieze below is decorated with wood carved festoons.

The dining room has a beamed ceiling, fireplace, and plate rail. The plate rail is composed of intricate beaded and crown molding and wraps around all sides of the room. The fireplace has a blue tile surround, set in a common bond pattern. Round columns with ornamented squat capitals support a thick squared mantel. The frieze is ornamented with a carved wood urn and scroll motif. A low overmantel aligns with the plate rail and is framed in lambs tongue trim. The finish is dark and appears to be original.

The north parlor feature simple wood window trim, base and crown molding. The north parlor has a fireplace with common brick and no carved mantel or tile. The south parlor has no crown molding and a simple base and window trim. The service area, at the rear of the house, contains a renovated kitchen and eating area, den and modern bathroom and laundry room.

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

The stair is made of oak, with carved balusters and newels ornamented with carved wood festoons and laurels. The newel at the bottom of the stair is elaborate, with an octagon plan. The top of it is accented with rows of Classical style molding framing carved Gothic arch reveals. The top of the stairs opens to the second floor hall and an ornate balustrade surrounds it, continuing this Classical detailing.

The bedrooms each have simple wood door casing, base and crown molding. The southeast bedroom/den features a closet with built-in dresser and drawers. The south middle bedroom has a private modern bathroom. A public modern bathroom is also located off the main hall, to the north. The north bedroom has a bay window with built-in window seat.

Condition / Integrity:

The exterior of the home retains a high degree of historic integrity. No additions have been made to the home so it retains its original outline and character. Original shingles still exist on the north and west sides of the home. Shingles on the south and west sides have been replaced with shingles matching the size, character, and configuration of those from the original construction. The variety of window type and configuration are key elements to the building's character. Most of these exist in their original location and configuration and are in excellent condition. The window directly south of the main entry has an enclosure in the bottom sash that holds a through-wall air conditioner. This is concealed from view on the exterior by the shape of the entry/closet. The original shingle roof has been replaced with a modern asphalt one.

Some details, like the porch columns and balustrade that once ran across the top of the porch have been removed. The bead board has been removed from some of the gable and some of the eave soffits and replaced with plain flat boards. Though these details are gone, much of the exterior detailing remains. The moldings and window trim as well as the dentil moldings at the eaves are all original. The original brackets at the eaves also remain. A historic balustrade still exist at the top of the bay window on the south side of the home.

The original room arrangement and plan exists with a high degree of integrity. No new door openings or enclosure of historic ones appears to have taken place. All of the original plaster wall surfaces exist in the north parlor and dining room. Some of the wall surfaces at the ground floor have been altered with drywall and plaster build-outs that conceal some of the original trim and alter the character of the door openings. This treatment appears to be confined to a small area of the south side of the hall and south parlor. It is not known when these alterations took place. Despite this subtle detail, the overall character of the space is not compromised.

Updated kitchen, bathrooms, and laundry room have been incorporated into the home. These appear to have been altered after 1960. These updates have been done within existing rooms and do not alter the character of the primary spaces in the home. Though no original fixtures or fittings exist, the kitchen renovation was done in such a way so that the original pantry and kitchen spaces are still discernable.

It appears that most of the original woodwork remains in place. A traditional varnished wood finish has been restored at the inglenook fireplace and newel on the main staircase but much of the remaining woodwork is painted. The fireplace in the north parlor, with its exposed brick, does not appear to be in its original configuration. The fireplace in the dining room appears to have its original configuration and finish, as does the beamed ceiling in that room. The staircase provides much of the character in the first and second floor halls. Its configuration is original as are all of the balusters, newels and trim. The balusters are painted but the newel post has a restored clear varnished finish.

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1900

Significant Dates

1900

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

Edward F. Dowling

Patton, Fisher & Miller

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The David and Julia Watson House is a substantial Shingle Style structure that is of unique design and craftsmanship. Inside and out, the home exhibits many elements that define the style, including a wide and low building profile, long open porch in the front, shingle-cladding, a central hall with inglenook, and fine woodworking throughout. As such, it meets Criterion C as an excellent local example of Shingle Style architecture.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Shingle Style developed in New England in the early 1880s. It is a uniquely American style of architecture that used colonial shingle-clad structures as its inspiration. The name, "Shingle Style", was first penned by historian Vincent Scully in his 1955 book on the subject.¹ It categorized the style as a subset of Queen Anne architecture that featured shingle cladding. The style was initially popular in seaside resorts in New England. In addition to its Colonial references, the style had a wide variety of influences, including Norman, Japanese, and folk architecture. Many of these elements were made popular in England as architects were choosing motifs from a pre-industrial hand crafted age as a reaction to the industrial revolution. Though the Shingle Style had an expressions that varied over time and geography, its single defining feature, a continuous wall surface, clad in wood shingles, became ubiquitous in upper class suburban America and in resort and vacation communities throughout America in the 1880s and 90s.

Some architects associated with developing the style in the Northeast include Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-1886) and William Ralph Emerson (1833-1917) of Boston, and the firm, McKim, Meade & White in New York City. Richardson was considered the most important architect of his time and his work influenced generations of architects. His William Watts Sherman House (1875) is considered a seminal work of Shingle Style architecture.² The home has a cladding of shingles that was novel at its time, with half-timbering, sweeping roof line, bracketing and ornament that were evocative of English architecture of the period. His Stoughton House (1882-83) was a more simplified home devoid of European-inspired detailing. Like much of Richardson's work, it was widely published and became a significant influence on trends in American architectural design.

Emerson designed many seaside homes in the Shingle Style that incorporated Colonial decorative motifs. Redwood (1879), his home for C. J. Morrill at Mount Desert, Maine, was widely published in architectural journals and was influential in the development of the style.³ McKim Meade & White were directly influenced by Richardson as two of the firm partners, Charles McKim (1847-1909) and Stanford White (1853-1906), worked in his office. Among many other large public works and mansions, they are known for their Shingle Style residences in affluent resort communities like Newport, Rhode Island. Their Isaac Bell House (1882-83), at Newport, with its generous porches and varied massing, is an outstanding example of Shingle Style architecture and their William Low House (1887) at Bristol, Rhode Island, with its simple form and long low roof, was considered, by Scully, to be the pinnacle of the style.⁴

By the mid 1880s, the Shingle Style had gained popularity in the Midwest. Architectural trends had spread through the architectural press but also through New Englanders migrating west. MIT graduate, Normand Patton (1852-1915), came to Chicago in 1874 and designed many homes in Oak Park in the Shingle Style. His firm's Pilgrim Congregational Church

¹ Scully, Vincent Jr. *The Shingle Style and the Stick Style: Architectural Theory and Design from Downing to the Origins of Wright*; Revised Edition. 2nd Revised ed. Edition, Yale Publications in the History of Art. 1971.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

(1889) is an excellent example of his work of the period in that style.⁵ Another MIT graduate, Henry Ives Cobb (1855-1931), relocated to Chicago and designed many Richardson-inspired structures in the area. His firm, Cobb & Frost was responsible for the design of several homes, train stations and the remarkable Lake Forest Presbyterian Church (1886-87), all in the Shingle Style.⁶ The style became popular with local non-New England architects as well; as can be seen in Georgia born John Wellborn Root's (1850-1891) Lake View Presbyterian Church (1887-88) and Chicago native Frederick Schock's homes in Chicago's Austin neighborhood designed in the mid 1880s.⁷

One notable proponent of the Shingle Style in Chicago was architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee (1846-1913). A native of Massachusetts and former employee of William Ralph Emerson, he is sometimes given credit for transporting the style from the Northeast to the Chicago region. His Edgewater suburban development, consisting of over 35 buildings built in 1886, was designed almost exclusively in that style. It is through working in Silsbee's office, on the Edgewater homes, that architects George Washington Maher and Frank Lloyd Wright gained intimate experience with the Shingle Style.⁸

Wright and Maher would go on to design their own homes, Maher in Kenilworth (1893) and Wright in Oak Park (1889), in the Shingle Style. The character of this work, with its horizontal expression and relation to the site and landscape, direct use of natural materials, and open floor plan would continue to inform later work by these architects as they matured and developed their own individual expressions of Prairie Style architecture.⁹

When David and Julia Watson begin work on their home in Polo, in 1900, the Shingle Style was not as popular as it was two decades earlier. Polo's local architecture developed with the trends of the time, particularly those of nearby Chicago. The earliest homes from the mid-1800s were folk homes and Italianate structures. Through the 1860s, 70s and 80s, substantial homes were built in the prevailing Second Empire and Queen Anne styles. In the 1890s, several large Classical Revival homes were built and this style remained popular through the early 1900s. The other home that was designed by the Watson's architect in Polo this year was also Classical Revival. To build a Shingle Style home in 1900 would seem to be somewhat out of step with the times.

One reason for the choice of this particular style may have been due to Julia Watson. Prior to moving to Polo, Julia was a native of Redfield, Massachusetts and spent some time with her family in Boston.¹⁰ This style of home would likely have been familiar to her and perhaps more evocative of "home" than the Classical Revival structures that were being built at the time. Regardless of the stylistic choice, the appearance of the Watson House exhibits a high quality of design and intricate detailing, inside and out.

The exterior of the Watson House exhibits many characteristics of the Shingle Style with a high degree of original integrity. The overall building form, asymmetrically organized, with a distinct horizontal character and long open front porch make it a good example of the style. The exterior materials, shingle cladding with a rock-faced stone foundation are also typical of structures in this style. On the outside, it is detailed with both Classical Revival and Gothic motifs, with Gothic-arched dormers and dentil molding, exemplifying the eclectic nature of the style.

The interior of the home also contains many elements that characterize the style. Again, both Gothic and Classical motifs are repeated in the woodwork of the staircase and fireplace surround as well as details like the door hardware

⁵ Historic Resources of Oak Park. <https://www.ruskinarc.com/oakpark/oakpark>. Village of Oak Park. 2016

⁶ Digital Publications>Architects Websites> Henry Ives Cobb. <http://www.artic.edu/research/henry-ives-cobb>. Ryerson and Burnham Library, Art Institute of Chicago.

⁷ Roth, Leland M. *Shingle Styles, Innovation and Tradition in American Architecture 1874 to 1982*. Harry M. Abrams, New York, 1999.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Brooks, H. Allen. *The Prairie School, Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries*. W. W. Norton Company, New York. 1972.

¹⁰ Ancestry.com. *Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915 [database on-line]*. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013.

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

and leaded windows. The central hall and inglenook with a large stair opening to it, found in this home, is typical of the Shingle Style interior. The rooms are placed around this feature, in a somewhat pinwheel-like arrangement, and open directly to it, creating a series of relatively open connected spaces.

Similar homes like this exist in Polo and the surrounding communities but none are on this grand of a scale. A shingle and clapboard clad home at 105 North Cherry Avenue, in Polo, shares the appearance of the Watson House, with overbuilt dormers with Gothic arches supported by brackets. This same features is also seen on a home in nearby Oregon, Illinois at 501 South Sixth Street. Another nearby example of Shingle Style architecture in the region is the Judge James Shaw Residence, designed by architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee, in the Mount Carroll Historic District, in Mount Carroll, Illinois.¹¹

The Architect

According to the local papers, in the fall of 1899, "E. F. Dowling, Rockford architect, was in town Wednesday on business. He is now working on plans for two fine houses in Polo, one for Dr. D. S. Watson, and the other for Milton Snyder."¹² Edward F. Dowling, born in 1864, was a native of Wisconsin.¹³ He does not appear to have had any formal architectural training and census records indicate that his highest level of education was the 8th grade. In 1885, he is listed in the Racine city directory as being a draftsman for local architect, James Gilbert Chandler.¹⁴ By 1889, he had established his own firm in Rockford, Illinois.¹⁵

In 1897, Dowling formed a partnership with architect Grant C. Miller, in Rockford, under the firm name of "Dowling & Miller".¹⁶ Miller was born in Rockford, Illinois in 1870, and his family moved to Mount Vernon, Iowa when he was 13. He attended Cornell College, in Mount Vernon, and received his degree in architecture from the University of Illinois in 1894. His partnership with Dowling lasted just over a year and in 1898, he moved to Chicago and became partners with Normand Patton and Reynolds Fisher, previously of Patton & Fisher, forming the firm "Patton, Fisher & Miller". Normand Patton was born on July 10, 1852, in Hartford, Connecticut. He studied at Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts and then Massachusetts Institute Technology (MIT), receiving his degree in architecture from MIT in 1874. That same year, he established his first architectural firm in Chicago.¹⁷

By the spring of 1900, when ground was broken on the Watson House, Dowling was living in Chicago and was working for Patton, Fisher & Miller.¹⁸ In 1901 Reynolds Fisher left Chicago for Seattle to work with his brother at the Pontiac Brick & Tile Company.¹⁹ In 1902, the firm became known as "Patton & Miller". Though Patton & Fisher, Patton, Fisher & Miller, and Patton & Miller designed many different building types, they were best known for their educational structures. They designed many schools and were responsible for over 100 Carnegie Library designs across the country. Their work was characteristic of educational designs of the period, executed in an array of styles including Prairie, Classical Revival, Tudor Revival, and Gothic Revival.²⁰

¹¹ Wagner, Robert. Mount Carroll Historic District National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form. 1980

¹² Ogle County Press, December 2, 1899.

¹³ 1870; Census Place: Racine Ward 6, Racine, Wisconsin; Roll: M593_1733; Page: 457B; Image: 101138; Family History Library Film: 553232

¹⁴ 1940; Census Place: Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Roll: T627_4556; Page: 12B; Enumeration District: 72-361

¹⁵ Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

¹⁶ Engineering Record, Building Record and Sanitary Engineer. Vol. 34. 1896. Page 478.

¹⁷ Schnel, Karen E. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation: Illinois Carnegie Libraries. 1993.

¹⁸ 1900; Census Place: Chicago Ward 34, Cook, Illinois; Roll: 289; Page: 8B; Enumeration District: 1090; FHL microfilm: 1240289

¹⁹ Inland Architect and News Record, vol. 37-38. May, 1901. Page 31.

²⁰ Schnel. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation: Illinois Carnegie Libraries.

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

In 1908, Patton & Miller dissolved, with Normand Patton forming a new partnership, "Patton, Holmes & Flinn".²¹ Miller began to practice on his own. Dowling maintained employment with Normand Patton until 1914. Patton died in 1915. Upon leaving Patton's office, Dowling re-partnered with Grant Miller in a new firm, with Arthur Fullenwider, called "Miller, Fullenwider & Dowling".²² Both Patton, Holmes & Flinn; and Miller, Fullenwider & Dowling continued in the same line of work, completing many library, high school, and collegiate building designs across the Midwest. Dowling remained with Miller, Fullenwider & Dowling until at least 1935. By 1939, he was living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and in these later years is listed as a "designer" and as an "architect", working for himself.²³

There are no existing drawings for the Watson House but given the timing of the commission, it appears to have been designed by Edward Dowling and completed under the firm of Patton, Fisher & Miller. The quality of design in this home and another Polo home completed by Dowling the same year, indicate that he had matured as very capable architect by the time he left Rockford. Patton, Fisher & Miller and its successor firms were prolific and created prominent designs for public architecture across the country. The circumstances of this commission and other evidence of Dowling's continued employment with both Patton and Miller suggest that he was a contributing factor to the design success of those firms.

Edward Dowling; Patton, Fisher & Miller; and Patton & Miller are responsible for several other structures in Polo, Illinois. Two brick Classical Revival homes for banker Bryant Barber were completed at 607 and 611 West Mason Street in 1899 by Patton, Fisher & Miller.²⁴ A Classical Revival home for Milton Snyder at 411 Congress Street was completed to Edward Dowling's plans in the spring of 1900.²⁵ The Buffalo Township Public Library, a Classical Revival Carnegie Library at 302 West Mason Street, was completed in 1905 by Patton & Miller. The library is listed as part of a Multiple Property Listing on the National Register of Historic Places.²⁶

The Homeowners

In the early 1830s, many of the pioneers from the eastern states were traveling to Galena to work in the lead mines. Many abandoned their original destination to settle in the area they called "Buffalo Grove". These settlers found large quantities of buffalo bones but they did not see any buffalo.²⁷

The Illinois Central Railroad proposed a railroad for the Buffalo Grove area. The residents objected to the proposal. Zenas Aplington, who arrived in Buffalo Grove at age 22, offered the Illinois Central Railroad his farmland a mile northeast of Buffalo Grove. In 1852, the railroad relocated through Aplington's farm, where the present city of Polo was founded.²⁸

Dr. David S. Watson came to Polo in 1897 to be in charge of the dental office of Dr. R. L. Walker, who was away. When Dr. Walker returned, he sold his dental office to Dr. Watson and he left for Peoria. Dr. Watson was a graduate of the Dental College of the University of Pennsylvania, class of 1890. He practiced for two years in Rome, Italy, and later in the United States. He is a native of Freeport, Illinois. Dr. Watson set up his practice in the Barber Bank Building.²⁹

²¹ The Construction News. Volume 34. July 13, 1912. Page 12.

²² Construction News. Vol. 37. 1914. Page 6.

²³ 1940; Census Place: Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Roll: T627 4556.

²⁴ Architects plans possessed by the homeowners.

²⁵ Ogle County Press, December 2, 1899.

²⁶ Schnel. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation: Illinois Carnegie Libraries.

²⁷ Phalen, Catherine, Heckman, John, and Weaver, Lester. Voice of the Prairie 1857-1957 A Brief History of Polo, Illinois. 1957. Page

3

²⁸ Ibid, page7.

²⁹ Polo Semi-Weekly Visitor Nov. 24, 1897.

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

On June 8, 1898, Dr. Watson married Julie Sanborn of Redfield, Massachusetts. The 1899, Ogle County press reported that E.F. Dowling, Rockford architect was in Polo working on plans for Dr. Watson's house. The Watsons began to construct their new home on Maple Avenue in May, 1900. Dr. Watson moved into his new home on 103 North Maple Avenue in Polo on October 27, 1900.

On February 23, 1904, The Tri-County Press stated that Dr. Watson had been compelled to give up his dental business. Dr. Watson began working in real estate development with local businessman, William Fraser. Dr. Watson relocated his family to California in 1904. He became a fruit farmer and land developer with Julie's brother, Edward Sanborn. In 1904, the Watson house was purchased by William Fraser. William Fraser was a native of Polo. He lived in the home on North Maple with his wife, Nellie Clark, and son, Robert. Fraser was avid businessman. In addition to owning the Truesdell Syrup Company, he was a real estate developer, and founder of the Polo Electric Light and Power Company.³⁰

William Fraser died in 1920, His wife, Nellie, lives alone in the house. She loves to entertain her garden club at their large home on Maple Avenue. Her son, Robert, lives in Chicago.

In 1928, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Mulnix bought the home. Homer was a farmer. However, they found it too big for their needs and beyond their means to keep it up. They sold the house to Gifford Clark Terry in 1932.

Gifford Clark Terry or G.C. Terry attended Iowa State University. He was commissioned by a Chicago based newspaper syndicate to make a survey of weekly newspapers in northern Illinois. The idea was to form a chain of weekly newspapers. He made a survey of Tri- County Press weekly newspaper published by C.H. Hemingway and thought they should buy it. However, the syndicate felt otherwise, and said it was not worth the price. After surveying forty other towns, they chose to buy the Farmer City Journal. G. C Terry was put in as editor in chief.³¹

G.C. Terry still thought that Polo was the best town he had seen in his travels through the northern half of Illinois, going, via rail from town to town. He returned to Polo in 1926 and had a conference with Mr. Hemingway. The conference ended with Mr. Hemingway employing him as editor of the Polo Tri -county Press. Four months later, he and John Wagner purchased the Polo- Tri- County Press.

G.C. Terry and his wife, Ramona, and their three sons came to live in Polo in 1926. They rented a home on West Cordon Street. In 1932, they purchased the large ten room house at 103 North Maple Ave. from Mr. and Mrs. Homer Mulnix who found it too big for their needs.

From the very beginning, G.C. or Dick Terry was interested in preserving the history of the area. First, he worked with Governor Lowden to make the majestic stand of White Pines, unusual for this far south, to become the White Pines State Park.

G.C. Terry also helped to document Abraham Lincoln's two day visit to Polo in 1865 when Lincoln stayed with the Aplington Family. Finally, he had a part in saving the home of the founder of Polo, Zenas Aplington from becoming another parking lot. The Aplington House Museum is a result of this last effort.

G.C. Terry and his wife sold their home on Maple Avenue to their son Dan in 1965. After Dan's death, his wife sold the home to Brad and Marlene Ford in 2005. The Fords have carefully restored the inside and outside of the house. They have also beautifully landscaped the outside.

³⁰ Tri- County Press, Feb. 23, 1904

³¹ Terry, Jack Richard, Saturday's Child: Gifford Clark Terry. 1989.

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

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Tri- County Press, Feb. 23, 1904

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Polo Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.98653 N</u> Latitude	<u>89.58559 W</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude	4	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lot 16 S 150' of E 140' N of Mason & W Pleasant St of Lot 4 NW4 BK-01-100 in the former Town, now City of Polo, Ogle County, Illinois.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The described property contains the original home described in this nomination.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christopher Payne date 11/13/16
organization _____ telephone (708) 475 3410
street & number 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. email topherpay@gmail.com
city or town Oak Park state IL zip code 60302

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House
City or Vicinity: Polo
County: Ogle
State: IL
Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne
Date of Photographs: September 2014
Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302
Photo #1 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0001)
South and east elevations, camera facing northwest

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House
City or Vicinity: Polo
County: Ogle
State: IL
Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne
Date of Photographs: September 2014
Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302
Photo #2 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0002)
South elevation, camera facing northwest

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House
City or Vicinity: Polo
County: Ogle
State: IL
Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne
Date of Photographs: September 2014
Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302
Photo #3 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0003)
West elevation, camera facing east

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House
City or Vicinity: Polo
County: Ogle
State: IL
Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne
Date of Photographs: September 2014
Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302
Photo #4 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0004)
North elevation, camera facing south

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #5 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0005)

East elevation, camera facing west

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #6 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0006)

Inglenook, camera facing west

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #7 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0007)

Stair and newel, camera facing southwest

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #8 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0008)

Dining room, camera facing southwest

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #9 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0009)

Dining room fireplace, camera facing northeast

Watson, David and Julia, House

Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois

County and State

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #10 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0010)

North parlor bay window, camera facing north

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #11 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0011)

Front door hardware, camera facing west

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #12 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0012)

Second floor stair and stair hall, camera facing north

Name of Property: David and Julia Watson House

City or Vicinity: Polo

County: Ogle

State: IL

Name of Photographer: Christopher Payne

Date of Photographs: September 2014

Location of Original Digital Files: 810 N. Ridgeland Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

Photo #13 of 13 (IL_Ogle County_David and Julia Watson House_0013)

North bedroom bay window, camera facing north

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

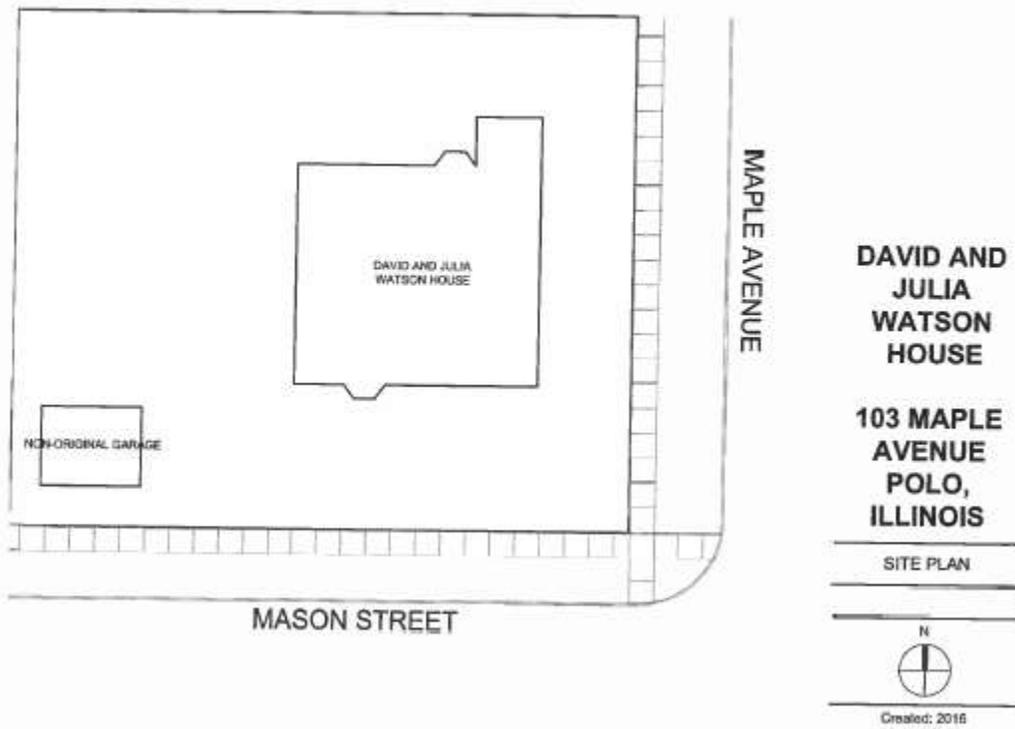
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

List of Figures

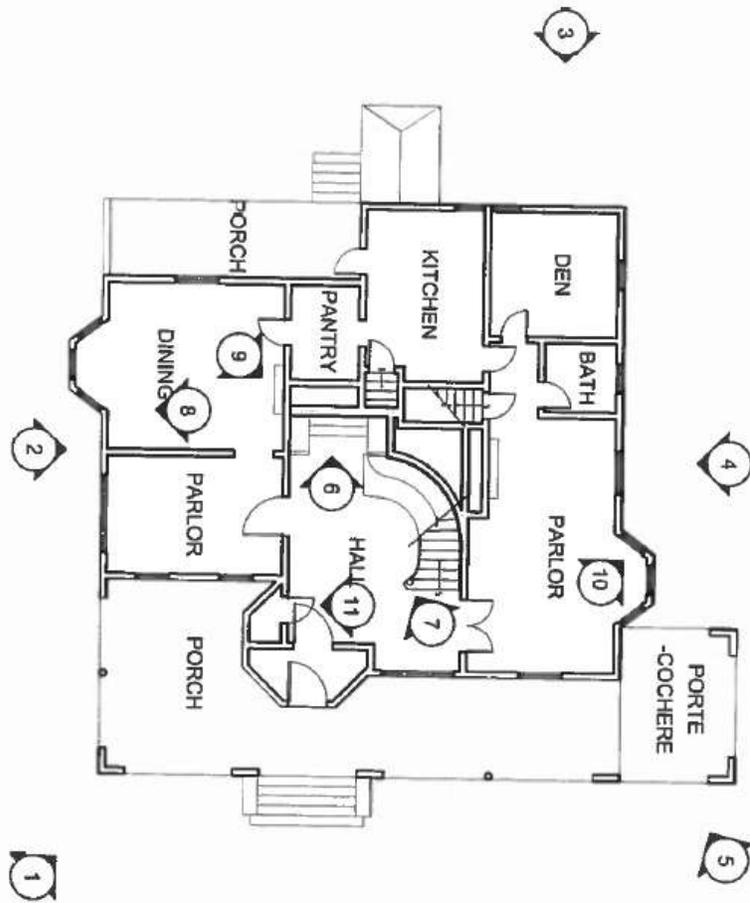
(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.



Photograph of non-contributing garage

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State



DENOTES
PHOTO
VIEWPOINT

**DAVID AND
JULIA
WATSON
HOUSE**

**103 MAPLE
AVENUE
POLO,
ILLINOIS**

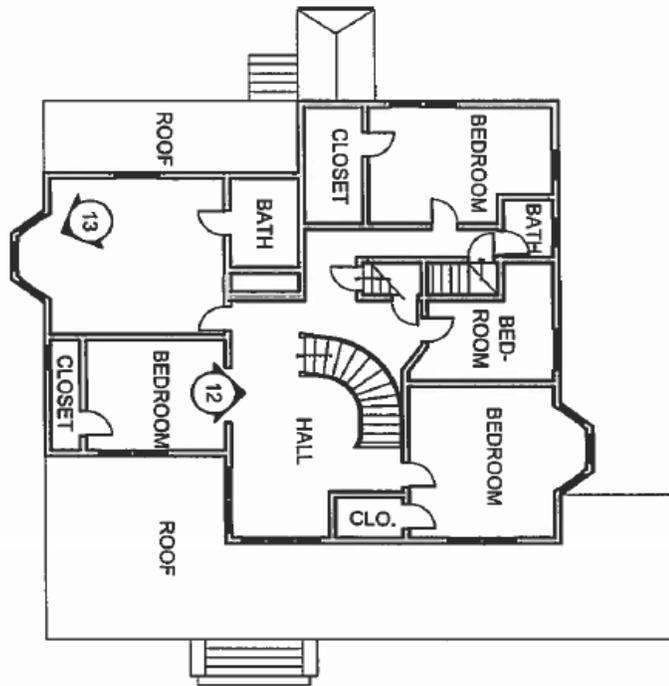
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



Created: 2016

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State

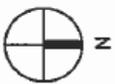


DENOTES
PHOTO
VIEWPOINT

**DAVID AND
JULIA
WATSON
HOUSE**

**103 MAPLE
AVENUE
POLO,
ILLINOIS**

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



Created: 2016

Watson, David and Julia, House
Name of Property

Ogle, Illinois
County and State



David and Julia Watson House
103 N. Maple Avenue
Polo, Ogle County, IL

41°59'11.49"N

89°35'8.00"W