

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SENT TO D.C.
10/15/02

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 Dement/Zinser House
other names/site number Zinser/Martini House

2. Location

street & number 105 Zinser Place not for publication
city or town Washington vicinity
state Illinois code IL county Tazewell code _____ zip code 61571

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.)

William G. ... 10/15/02
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
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)	_____	_____

Dement/Zinser House
Name of Property

Tazewell County, Illinois
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

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

N/A

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
Health Care: Medical Business/Office
Domestic - Secondary Structure (Garage)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick
Wood/Weatherboard
roof Built-Up/Shingle/Roll Roofing
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Dement/Zinser House

Name of Property

Tazewell County, 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.)

- Criteria A-D: Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. 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. 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:

- Criteria A-G: owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. removed from its original location. a birthplace or grave. a cemetery. a reconstructed building, object, or structure. a commemorative property. 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):

- Criteria: 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)

Health/Medicine - Bungalow (Criteria B)

Architecture - House (Criteria C)

Period of Significance

1905 - 1930 (Criteria B)

1858 (Criteria C)

Significant Dates

1858

1905

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Dr. Harley A. Zinser

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- Criteria: State Historic Preservation Office. Other State agency. Federal agency. Local government. University. Other.

Name of repository:

Washington Historical Society

Dement/Zinser House
Name of Property

Tazewell County, Illinois
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
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2	9	6	6	3	9
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4	5	0	8	7	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie H. Kenyon, Architect, and Amelia Ulrich, Associate
organization Kenyon & Associates Architects, Inc. date June 24, 2002
street & number 735 N. Knoxville Avenue telephone 309 674-7121
city or town Peoria state IL zip code 61602

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Washington Historical Society
street & number 105 Zinser Place telephone 309 444-4476
city or town Washington state IL zip code 61571

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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DEMENT | ZINSER HOUSE

DESCRIPTION

Setting:

Washington, Illinois, is in Tazewell County, ten miles east of Peoria, Illinois - a bedroom suburb in the Greater Peoria area.

The house is one block north of the Town Square which is the main shopping area of Washington. The street, Zinser Place, has at the corner a California Bungalow which the Washington Historical Society uses. The Dement/Zinser house is next door to the bungalow.

Richard C. Dement, a trader, riverboat owner, and postmaster of nearby Spring Bay, Illinois, built the house in 1858.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF HOUSE:

The Richard C. Dement house was built as a single family home with an office in the east parlor. Today the home faces Zinser Place and houses the Washington Historical Society office in the east room on the first floor and a small museum in one of the bedrooms on the second floor.

There is an outbuilding (garage) that is used for storage for the Society. The exterior of this building is wood. There is also a bungalow which is currently being prepared for use as museum space. The garage is non-contributing because it falls out of the period of significance and has been altered. The bungalow is considered contributing because it falls within the period of significance and was used as an office in the latter years of Dr. Zinser's practice.

The original house built in 1858 is rectangular in shape, approximately 37 feet wide by 16 feet deep. Shortly after the house was constructed, a dining room and library addition (approx. 36 feet wide by 13 feet deep) was added across the back of the house. In circ. 1880 a kitchen addition (approximately 21 feet wide by 11 feet deep) was added at the back of the dining room/library addition. In circ. 1905 a bathroom addition (approximately 6 feet wide by 11 feet deep) was added at the west end of the kitchen addition. In circ. 1915 a two-floor enclosed screened porch addition (approximately 9 feet wide and 16 feet deep) was added at the east side of the original house. The front entrance portico (approximately 8 feet wide by 3 feet deep) was added in 1920. A small one-story rear porch (approximately 10 feet wide by six feet deep) was added at an unknown time on the north elevation at the northeast corner of the kitchen addition. As a result of these additions, the current house footprint is an irregular floor plan.

The Greek Revival facade of this two-story brick house is emphasized in the gabled roof of low pitch, the cornice lines with a wide, divided band of trim, the single front door surrounded on sides and top by rectangular panes of glass held in a decorative frame.

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The house rests on a 16" brick foundation. On the first floor the masonry walls are 12" thick. There is a stone water table on the original house. There are stone lintels and stone sills at all the windows in the original house. There are wood lintels and wood sills at all the windows in the dining room/library addition. The front door has a large stone sill.

The main upper roof has a gable running east and west. There are three chimneys. The original roof was standing seam metal which has been covered with asphalt shingles. The portico roof on the front or south side is asphalt shingles over a flat seam metal roof. The roofs on the dining room/library addition, the kitchen, and bathroom additions are all flat roofs with built-up roofing. The two-story porch addition has a sloping metal roof with standing seams. The rear porch has a low sloping roof with built-up roofing.

A distinctive architectural detail is the cornice of the roof overhang. A frieze board runs across the north and south side of the house, at the gable ends brackets spaced about 2 feet apart are found.

The eave returns at the corner of the house and is typical of the Greek Revival style.

The south elevation (front) has nine windows, four on the first floor and five on the second floor, each with six over six panes with plain surrounds, all with true muntins divided lights. The front entrance portico is centered on the south elevation with two sets of windows on either side. Three steps lead you to the platform which is level with the first floor. The canopy is a semi-circular vault that rests on two square columns in the front and two square pilasters in the rear. The exterior front door has a glazed panel in the upper half. The panel of glass has an etched design depicting a wreath. This exterior door, frame, and glazed surround are recessed behind the front wall.

The west elevation of the original house has four windows, two on the first floor and two on the second floor, each with six over six panes. The west elevation of the dining room/library addition has one window with six over six panes. There is a small window, with two over two panes, on the west elevation of the bathroom addition. The exterior walls of the bathroom addition are horizontal narrow wood siding.

The second floor north elevation of the original house has five windows, each with six over six panes. The north elevation of the bathroom addition contains one window, the kitchen addition contains one small double-hung window, and the rear porch addition with horizontal narrow wood exterior siding contains two small windows, each with three over three panes.

The east elevation of the rear porch addition contains one small single pane window. The east elevation of the kitchen addition and the dining room/library addition each contain two windows, each with six over six panes. Both additions are masonry. The two-story porch addition on the east elevation of the original house is screened from floor to ceiling on the north, east, and south elevations on the first floor and glazed in on the

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second floor with two windows each on the north and south elevations and four windows on the east elevation, each window three over three with true muntins. The corners of this porch addition are masonry and the exterior walls of the second floor under the windows are horizontal narrow wood siding.

The house has a first floor plan featuring the traditional central entry hall with twin parlors on either side. Access to the screened porch is through the parlor on the east side of the entry hall. The door has side lites on each side and transom lites. The door has an upper panel of glass, with two solid vertical panels below. The east parlor has a brick fireplace on the east wall installed in the 1920's. This room as well as the west parlor has panels under each window. The trim around the windows expands out at the window head.

Across the rear is the dining room and library addition. The dining room and library have plaster walls and ceilings with hardwood floors. Window and door trim is simple design door casing.

The kitchen addition is behind the dining room/library addition with the bathroom addition next to the kitchen on the west side. The kitchen has wood cabinets, plaster walls and ceiling. The floor is linoleum. The window and door trim is simple molding. An enclosed stairwell leads to the basement from the kitchen.

The basement contains five rooms and a cistern room. Basement floors are concrete. Under the original house are two large rooms directly under the parlors. These two rooms have what is commonly known as a Michigan shelf which is constructed of brick masonry up about four feet and then steps back to the original foundation of the house, which is also brick masonry, creating a shelf approximately 16 inches deep. The east room has a Michigan shelf on three sides and the west room has a shelf on four sides. Under the dining room and library are two more rooms, the one under the dining room has a Michigan shelf along its west wall. These Michigan shelves indicate a later attempt to deepen the basement. A cistern room is located under the kitchen addition.

A staircase leads from the entry hall to the second floor. There are two bedrooms, one on each side of the central hall, each with wide plank floors, plaster walls and ceilings. Each bedroom has six windows. The trim around the windows and doors is plain and flat. The doors are four-panel doors with white china knobs. A closet has been added to each bedroom. Each closet has a window. The east bedroom has an exterior door to the sleeping porch. The door has an upper glass panel and a transom window. The interior walls of the sleeping porch under the windows are tongue and groove wood beaded board.

The bungalow, located on the southeast corner of the property, was built by Dr. Zinser and used as his office until he retired. The bungalow has never been used as a residence. The building contains a waiting room, Dr. Zinser's office, examination room, a storage room, and a restroom. The bungalow is constructed of wood with brick masonry foundation walls. A generous front porch has brick pier bases. The exterior is narrow wood siding. The bungalow

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has a gable roof covered with shingles and a generous overhang. The overhang has brackets about ten feet apart (Stick Style influences).

A typical bungalow had two gables facing the street, one over the main house and one over the porch. In this bungalow the porch roof is a short shed roof. A gable on the west side comes out of the main roof. Large windows, usually in groups of two, are found in the house.

The building, located at the rear northwest corner of the property, is a two stall garage with storage. It has a flat roof with horizontal wood siding. There are two garage doors, a walk-in door, and one small window each on the north, south, and west elevations.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dement/Zinser House is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and qualifies for Criterion B, as a property associated with the life of a prominent Washington doctor and for Criterion C, as an example of Greek Revival architecture. The period of significance for Criterion B is 1905 - 1930, the period from when Dr. Zinser began his practice in the east parlor of his house through the year of his retirement and circa 1858 when Richard C. Dement built the house for Criterion C.

The Dement/Zinser House and the bungalow (outbuilding) used as Dr. Zinser's office in later years are the properties most associated with Dr. Zinser. The garage (outbuilding) is non-contributing because it has been altered.

Architecture

The following history of Greek Revival architecture was taken from McAlester's, Virginia and Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 170-172, 180):

After the American Revolution, the young nation's builders began turning away from British models for buildings toward the inspiration of the ancient classic world of Greece and Rome. Anti-British feeling and the idealization of the classic world with its republic forms of government inspired this new direction taken by American leaders including Thomas Jefferson and George Washington. Builders and architects began using Roman and Greek models for the new nation's governmental buildings.

Soon statehouses and banks based on Roman designs sprang up throughout the country including Jefferson's designs for the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and the Virginia State Capitol at Richmond. A national sympathy for the Greek War of Independence and archaeological investigations of Greece in the early 1800s aroused interest in Greek architecture. Designs loosely based on Greek models began appearing in carpenter's guides and pattern books. Among them were Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* and *The Builder's Guide* and Minard Lafever's *The Modern Builders Guide* and *The*

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Beauties of Modern Architecture that spread the movement throughout the country.

Residential design at the time of the 1820s through the 1850s borrowed classical ideas and details from Greek and Roman models. These included classical inspired columns, porticos, symmetrical arrangements, low-pitched roofs, classical cornices and entablature and frieze, horizontal sills and lintels, and temple like forms. By the 1820s and 1830s this new American design became known as the Greek Revival style. Greek Revival design dominated America's architecture from the 1820s through the 1850s.

Prominent east coast architects such as Benjamin H. Latrobe, Robert Millsf, and William Strickland popularized the style. Greek Revival architecture was spread by settlers from the east as they came to the Midwest and also from the south coast as settlers moved further west into the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Local builders and craftsmen used Greek Revival details in simple vernacular designs for front gabled, double pile, I, pyramidal, and upright and wing houses seen throughout this area. These details could range from using simple Greek inspired forms to adding wide cornices with friezes and returns, six-over-six windows, horizontal sills and lintels, dentils, and elaborate doorways with transoms and sidelights. Oftentimes local builders incorporated a combination of pattern books and indigenous building materials to create highly eclectic interpretations of the Greek Revival style.

The principal areas of elaboration in Greek Revival houses are cornice lines, doorways, porch-support columns and windows. Elaborated door surrounds are a dominant feature of Greek Revival houses. The door itself is either single or paired and is most frequently divided into one, two, or four panels. The door is usually surrounded on sides and top by a narrow band of rectangular panels of glass held in a delicate, decorative enframingent of wood or masonry. Not uncommonly door and glass are recessed behind the front wall, thus creating complex three-dimensional effects.

Greek Revival window sashes most commonly had six-pane glazing. Window surrounds were generally far less elaborate than doorways.

The style moved with the settlers from the older states as they crossed into Kentucky, Tennessee, and the Old Northwest Territory (today's Midwest)... Not surprisingly, the largest surviving concentrations of Greek Revival houses are found today in those states with the largest population growth during the period from 1820-1860.

A distinctive Greek Revival architectural detail found in the Dement/Zinser House is the cornice of the roof overhang. A frieze board runs across the north and south sides of the house. At the gable ends brackets are spaced about 2 feet apart.

The eave returns at the corner of the house and is also typical of the Greek Revival style.

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DEMENT|ZINSER HOUSE

Comparisons

There are no other Greek Revival style houses in the city of Washington. The Dement/Zinser house is possibly the oldest house in Washington.

History - Washington, Illinois

The first settlement of the town of Washington, or in its vicinity, of which there is any account, was made in the spring of 1825, by William Holland, Sr., who came to the area from Peoria (then Fort Clark). In 1834 William Holland, Sr. laid out the original town of Washington, defining an area of one square mile with a public square in the middle and extending one-half mile in each direction.

With the platting, lots were laid out and sold as people were attracted to the community. Growth created demand for services and goods. The arrival of the railroad in 1857 stimulated additional commercial growth.

In 1838 a Town Board of Trustees was formed. In 1857 the Village of Washington was incorporated as a city. The Board of Trustees continued as the governing body until 1878 when a city council was organized and the first mayor, Peter Fifer, was elected.

Washington citizens had the opportunity to meet and talk with Abraham Lincoln for he was often in the community during the 1850's, sometimes stumping as a Senatorial candidate or at other times traveling the judicial circuit. Stephen Douglas also visited Washington during his campaign for the United States Senate.

Significant economic developments in the last half of the nineteenth century included a canning company, dry goods stores, a pharmacy, grocery, woolen mill, large saw mill, manufacturer of wagons and plows, harness maker, and a cigar maker, among others.

Electric power was brought to Washington in 1900 and in the same year a telephone company began operation.

The city began moving away from an economy rooted in agriculture to opportunities in small businesses and industry. By 1913 businesses around the square included an automobile garage, electrical supply company, hardware store, tailor shop, jewelry store, pastry shop, two groceries, and two blacksmith shops.

Washington fared better than most Tazewell County Townships during The Great Depression and by 1933 the effect of the depression was diminishing. Various subdivisions were platted and the area experienced new population growth. The end of World War II found Illinois firmly established as an industrial state and nearby Peoria, a flourishing industrial city, offering employment opportunities for Washington citizens. Washington became a very attractive

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place to live and the city began to grow at a very fast rate. By 1950 there were 4,285 residents and by 1960 the population reached 5,916.

The city boundaries expanded to the west, north, and south, with the population increasing by 52% between 1970 and 1980. By the year 2000 census, the population was approximately 14,000.

Today, Washington is an attractive community within the Peoria/Pekin metropolitan area in northern Tazewell County. It is located five miles from Peoria and about 30 miles from Bloomington/Normal. It is served by two weekly newspapers, a full-time police force and a fire department. Often characterized as a bedroom community, it has, nevertheless, been able to attract small, environmentally clean industry to the area. It continues to attract new residents on a daily basis.

History - Dement/Zinser House

This Greek Revival style two-story masonry home, located at 105 Zinser Place in Washington, Illinois, was built by Richard C. Dement. Mr. Dement was a trader, riverboat owner, and postmaster at Spring Bay, Illinois, with business interests in Washington, Illinois. He built the house for his wife, Mary Ann Catherine Hornish, who was not happy living in Spring Bay and longed to reside in her hometown of Washington to be near her family. Richard Dement was appointed Village Clerk by Washington's four Village Trustees in 1857. It is not known if there was an architect retained for the design of the house.

Dement purchased Lots 1, 2, and 25 feet of Lot 3 in Block Two of the Dorsay Addition for \$600. Construction began in 1858 and was completed near the end of the year. However, before he could move his wife into the house, she died in childbirth in Spring Bay on January 21, 1859, at the age of 33 years. She and the baby were buried in the old Glendale Cemetery in Washington next to her father, Martin B. Hornish, who had died just four days prior to her death. She was the oldest sister of Gideon R. Hornish, a later owner of the Zinser House.

It is not known if Richard Dement lived in the house the next few years but at the age of some 50 years, he married a Miss Heath, age 18 of Lexington, Illinois, and they moved to Spring Bay. Asa Danforth bought the house on August 17, 1861, for \$3000.00, who in turn sold the house to Peter Fifer for \$4000.00 in 1864.

Peter Fifer was born in Rockingham Co., Virginia, on January 21, 1821, and emigrated to Illinois in the Spring of 1842 where he farmed on rented land from 1842 to 1846. In 1846 he moved into Washington and engaged in teaming and buying grain and other produce, which he hauled with several teams to the Illinois River to either sell to speculators or ship to market. By 1856 he was very well to do. In the fall of 1856, Peter Fifer joined with Rupert, Allen and Martin Co. in the general mercantile and grain business in Washington. This firm failed one year later. So Peter went to work for R. C. Dement as a clerk and salesman during 1858 (the year the house was being

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built). He then went exclusively in the grain and stock business opening the grain house of Fifer and Co., in 1866 in Peoria, Illinois.

Peter Fifer had met and married Mary J. Curtiss in 1843. She was the daughter of Nathan Curtiss, the first resident Methodist minister who came to Washington in 1831. Peter Fifer was elected the first Mayor in March 1877 when Washington was incorporated as a city.

In 1882, Peter Fifer purchased a home in Peoria to be closer to his successful grain commission business and sold his Washington residence on February 10, 1883, to Gideon Hornish (brother of Mary Ann Catherine Dement) for \$3500.00. He owned a grocery store on North Main. He was born in Wayne County, Indiana (Centerville) in 1839. He came to Washington in 1857, when he was a salesman for J. W. Dougherty grocery. He worked there the next eight years, then opened his own grocery store. He married Mary E. Grady on April 1, 1861. She was born in Versailles, Woodford County, Illinois, and came to Washington the same time as Gideon.

Gideon Hornish had a lingering illness and filed a Quit Claim deed in 1889 deeding the home to his wife, Mary E. Hornish. Gideon passed away September 8, 1895. In the same year Mary Hornish's sister, then wife of Solomon Zinser passed away. Mary E. Hornish then married her brother-in-law, Solomon L. Zinser, three years later on November 26, 1898.

When Solomon died, Mary ran a boarding house in the residence and then sold to a nephew by the name of Dr. Harley Zinser.

Dr. Harley Zinser, a prominent Washington physician, and his wife, Harriet (Heiple) Zinser, bought the house in 1905 from his aunt, Mary (Grady) Hornish Zinser. Harriet and Harley had two children, Caroline, born in the house in 1905, and Eugene, born in 1909.

Across the street from the house lived a young man named August Martini and on December 26, 1925, Augie and Cal (as Caroline Zinser was called) were married in the parlor. By 1938, the Martinis had moved into the house to care for Dr. and Mrs. Zinser. Augie and Cal purchased the house in 1939 and the house remained in their family until Cal's death in 1994.

The house was purchased in 1994 by The Washington Historical Society and has been used as an office and museum since that time.

The bungalow, located next to the original house, is considered contributing because it falls within the period of significance and was used as an office in the latter years of Dr. Zinser's practice. The Washington Historical Society plans to use the bungalow as a Village Doctor's Museum to show how Dr. Zinser's office would have looked when he had his practice in the building. The building still contains much of Dr. Zinser's original furnishings and his medical instruments and equipment.

The Medical Profession During the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries

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The medical profession experienced dramatic changes during the late 19th century through the early 20th century. Up until that time, not much was known about medicine, and there were few opportunities for training in the Midwest. Illinois did not have a medical college until 1843. Pioneer doctors relied on past successes and failures for their understanding of medicine (Beier 1996: 239). In the 1905 *History of Tazewell County*, Dr. W.E. Shenck gave the following account of the life of the doctor on the Illinois frontier:

The history of pioneer doctors in any county in Illinois, with allowance for difference in names and personal peculiarities, would be a tolerably correct history of the profession all over the State. I mean to say that the work and experience of the early doctors were very similar in all communities. The pioneer doctor was not educated in his profession as the modern physician has been. He was scholastic, often polished, but many things are now in common that were unknown in his day...He was often compelled to make long rides in all kinds of weather and on all conditions of roads: was often detained for many hours where his only compensation was the gratitude of a suffering patient, and not always even that." (Bateman, 1905: 880-881).

Physicians were not always highly regarded or even deemed as necessary, which might have been due to the lack of medical knowledge back then. This perception, however, might also have been attributed to the fact that there were many so-called doctors who offered snake-oil remedies and other false cures to their patients:

Until late in the 19th century there was little demand for physicians, who often needed a second livelihood to survive. Prior to the industrial age, families and lay practitioners cared for the ill and injured in their homes. It was an era in which numerous quacks competed with legitimate physicians. Even a diploma from a reputable school did not guarantee a successful career. The means to success were social connections via family, influential patients, and increasingly, membership in a medical society. Society membership was not required to practice medicine but it did help define physicians as 'gentlemen of learning and intellect.' (Wrigley, 2001: 9)

But innovations in medicine and changes in its practice brought about improvements within the medical profession. Advances were being made in medicine, surgery, and medical knowledge. Medical societies, which allowed for doctors to exchange ideas and knowledge, were being formed on national, state, and local levels. Societies in the later half of the 19th century were not only helpful in promoting the exchange of medical information, but also in obtaining the respect of doctors in the community. In Illinois, societies such as the Sangamon County Medical Society and the McLean County Medical Society were formed in order to obtain a level of professionalism and make higher standards for physicians (Wrigley, 2001:8; Beier, 1996: 239). In addition, reforms were being made in medical education. Medical schools

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underwent changes in requirements, which resulted in higher costs, thus making it harder to obtain a medical degree. There became fewer applicants to medical schools, and the status of the profession increased. Reforms were also made due to the Flexner Report of 1910, in which Abraham Flexner, a teacher commissioned by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, investigated medical schools across the country and made recommendations for changes (Beier, 1996:154-155).

As standards for the medical profession increased, physicians became more highly regarded by their patients. Other technological advances were being made which changed the way physicians treated their patients:

The first half of the twentieth century witnessed dramatic changes in the environment of care. While continuing to make house calls, physicians began to encourage patients to visit their offices. With increasing urbanization, development of public transportation systems, and introduction of the automobile, it became less difficult for town-dwellers in particular to 'go to the doctor's.' With the introduction of new medical technology, such as x-ray machines and laboratory equipment used for diagnostic tests, physicians could offer a wider range of services in their offices. Furthermore, office care was more efficient and less stressful for the doctor, who could see more patients in less time and earn more money than was possible when delivering care to sufferers' homes (Beier 1996: 237-238).

The professional nature of office visits, the increase in medical knowledge, and the rigorous training that was required of doctors certainly contributed to the elevation of their status in communities in the early 20th century.

Even in an era when home care was the rule, families developed long-standing relationships with local doctors. Richard Finfgeld, who lived in Lexington [Illinois] during the 1910s and 1920s, remembered that, although people virtually never went to hospitals, they did consult the four doctors then serving the community of approximately 1,500. Most of the doctors mentioned by respondents [in a survey of McLean County residents] were general practitioners who delivered babies, set bones, did minor surgery and dealt with a variety of internal ailments. They were not expected to solve all health problems, but rather to use their comparatively limited resources to combat disease to the best of their abilities. The doctor-patient relationship was built on trust which, in many cases, withstood even the implication that something was wrong about the doctors methods (Beier 1996: 208-209).

Despite the fact that improvements were made in the medical profession, there were still many advances yet to be made. There were few specialists, so most doctors in communities did everything. Doctors continued to deliver babies in the patients' homes until the 1920s and did not have regular check-ups with women throughout their pregnancy until sometime between the 1920s and 1940s.

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It was around that time when hospital delivery was being advocated as safer for mothers and their babies (Beier, 1996: 214, 217).

At the turn of the twentieth century, almost all doctors were general practitioners. But as more advances were made in medicine and the number of hospitals increased, more and more doctors were becoming specialists. By the middle of the twentieth century, hospital medical staffs consisted largely of specialists. While specialists offered patients their expertise and knowledge, their relationships with patients were less personal more clinical (Beier 1996: 240 - 241). The old general practitioners of the early twentieth century might not have had as much medical knowledge as their successors, but apparently had better rapport with their patients.

Dr. Harley A. Zinser

Dr. Harley A. Zinser was born in Washington on August 6, 1871. He went to local schools until he left Washington to attend pre-medical school at Lake Forest University. Following his tenure there, Zinser attended Rush Medical College in Chicago, the first medical school in Illinois. After he graduated from Rush in 1895, Zinser worked in Roanoke, a small community located approximately fifteen miles northeast of Washington, until 1905, when he returned to his home town and began his practice in his house (Tazewell County Reporter, 1942:1).

Zinser and his wife Harriet Heiple, also of Washington, purchased the house in 1905 from his aunt, Mary Grady Hornish Zinser. The Zinsers two children, Carolyn and Eugene, were both born in the house, in 1905 and 1909, respectively. The Zinsers have had a strong association with the house since they first occupied it. Dr. Zinser lived in the house for almost fifty years and his daughter and son in-law, August Martini, moved in with him and his wife in 1938 to care for them. The Martinis purchased the house from the Dr. Zinser in 1939, the year Harriet Zinser passed away. Dr. Zinser died in his sleep in the house in 1942. Prior to his death, his house had become a place where older men in the community would congregate (Tazewell County Reporter, 1942: 1). The house remained in the Martini family until Carolyn's death in 1994. Residents of Washington still refer to the house as the "Zinser-Martini House."

There is not a lot of information on the early doctors in Washington. The first doctor, Dr. D. T. Goodwin, came in 1832. Other early doctors included Dr. G.P. Wood (1835) from Vermont and Dr. Burton (1838) from Kentucky. In 1905, prior to Harley Zinser's arrival, there were four doctors in Washington (Bateman, 1905: 881). While only one of those doctors was still in practice, as indicated in the 1910 Illinois Census of Tazewell County, the census indicated that there were three other doctors in the city besides Harley Zinser (1910 Illinois Census: Tazewell County, City of Washington). Zinser was the only one of the doctors to have an office in his home; the rest had offices outside of their homes for their practices. In the 1922 Illinois Medical Blue Book, Zinser was listed as one of three doctors in the community. It is interesting to note that the three doctors were all listed with (R) after their name, which meant that they were regular doctors. Other

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categories in the Blue Book were (H) for Homeopathic, (E) for Eclectic, and (P) for Physio-Medical (McDonough & Co. 1922: 24, 576).

From 1905 - 1916, Zinser used the first floor parlor on the northeast corner of his house as his waiting room and the attached library as his examination room. He was a highly respected physician in the community and personified the perception of a "village doctor." His practice took him on daily rounds of house calls. He was on call day and night, tending to those too infirm to come to his office. He also assisted in the home delivery of babies; many people living in Washington today were brought into the world by Dr. Zinser. Operations and care given routinely in hospitals today were often taken care of on his operating table. It was also not uncommon for farmers with large animals that were ill to seek his advice, which today would be referred to the veterinarian. In addition to his medical career in Washington, he also served as a lieutenant in the medical corps during World War I (Tazewell County Reporter, 1942:1). Zinser belonged to the following professional organizations: the American Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the Mississippi Valley Medical Society (Illinois Medical Blue Book, 1922: 19, 576). He also was a member of the Taylor Lodge of Masons, the American Legion, the Peoria Consistory, Commandery and the Shrine (Tazewell County Reporter, 1942: 1).

When Dr. Zinser died on February 15, 1942, his obituary was printed on the front page of the Tazewell County Reporter. Zinser was referred to as a "prominent retired physician" and was remembered fondly by Washington residents:

Dr. Zinser was known and loved by everyone with whom he came into contact. He knew everyone in the community and remembered the characteristics of people who have lived here in the past. He had a "pet" name for nearly everyone and nearly all of his acquaintances likewise had a "pet" name for him. Always of a pleasant disposition, it is no wonder that his work as a physician was successful and that he brought hope and cheer to those whom he visited in his work (Tazewell County Reporter, 1942: 1).

Zinser fit the role of the general practitioner of his day. He became a doctor at a time when medical advances and reform were transforming the medical profession. While he may have made some house calls, he treated patients in his home office, and then later in an office next door. Unlike the specialists of the next generation, Dr. Zinser treated and performed a variety of medical tasks, including delivering babies, which was also not uncommon. Like most doctors of his day, he was a member of several medical societies, which would provide him with greater medical knowledge but also help legitimize his position as a "real" doctor. He was able to achieve a higher level of status in his community, and, from reading his obituary, he obviously understood how a good bedside manner would benefit him as a doctor in a small town.

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DEMENT|ZINSER HOUSE

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Murphy, Betty Weghorst. *Tazewell County, Illinois Cemeteries: Volume VII Morgan and Washington Townships*. Pekin, IL: Tazewell County Genealogical Society, 1984.

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Tazewell County Reporter, (Several issues, circa 1917, 1918)

United State Bureau of the Census (USBS). 1910 Population Schedule of Tazewell County, Illinois. Microfilm copy on file at Illinois State Archives, Springfield, IL.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The house is located on Lots 1 and 2 at 105 Zinser Place, formerly Washington Street in the City of Washington, Township of Tazewell County, and state of Illinois.

The south boundary is 120 feet, the east boundary is 83 feet, the north boundary is 77 feet 8 inches. An L-shape piece is 24 feet on the east side, 42 feet on the north side, and the west boundary is 107 feet.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The property includes the house, bungalow, garage, and surrounding land historically associated with the Dement/Zinser House and that maintains historic integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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DEMENT | ZIN~~S~~ER HOUSE

PROPERTY OWNER

Washington Historical Society
105 Zinser Place
Washington, IL 61571

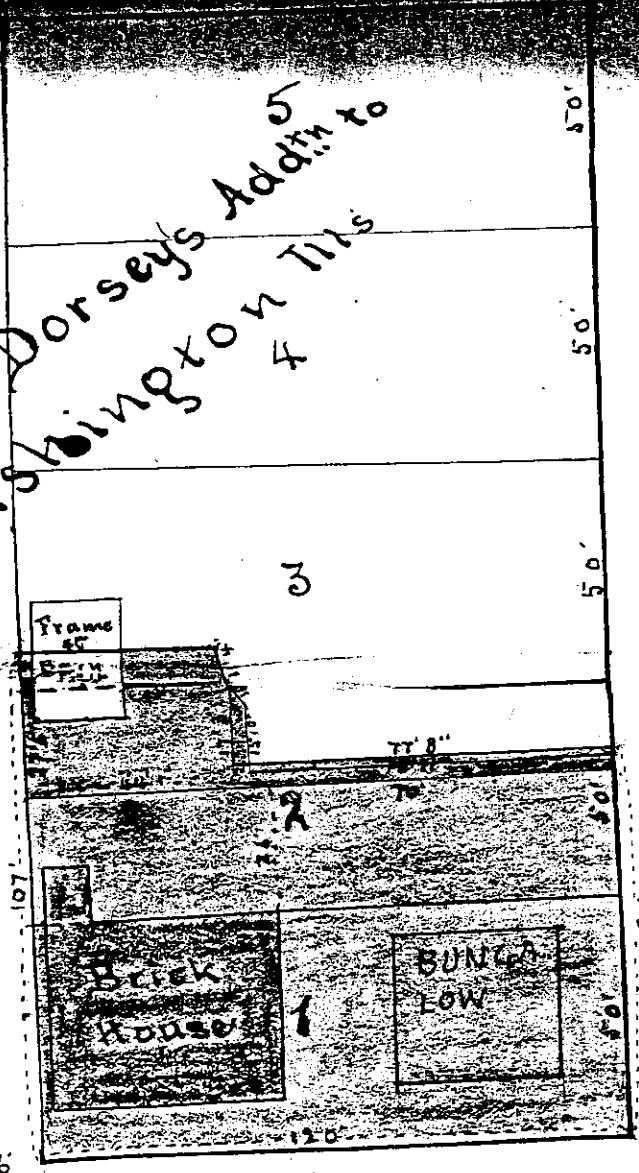
WASHINGTON

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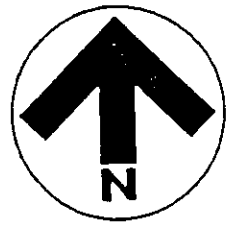
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STREET

Dement/Zinser House
Washington,
Tazewell County,
Illinois



MAIN



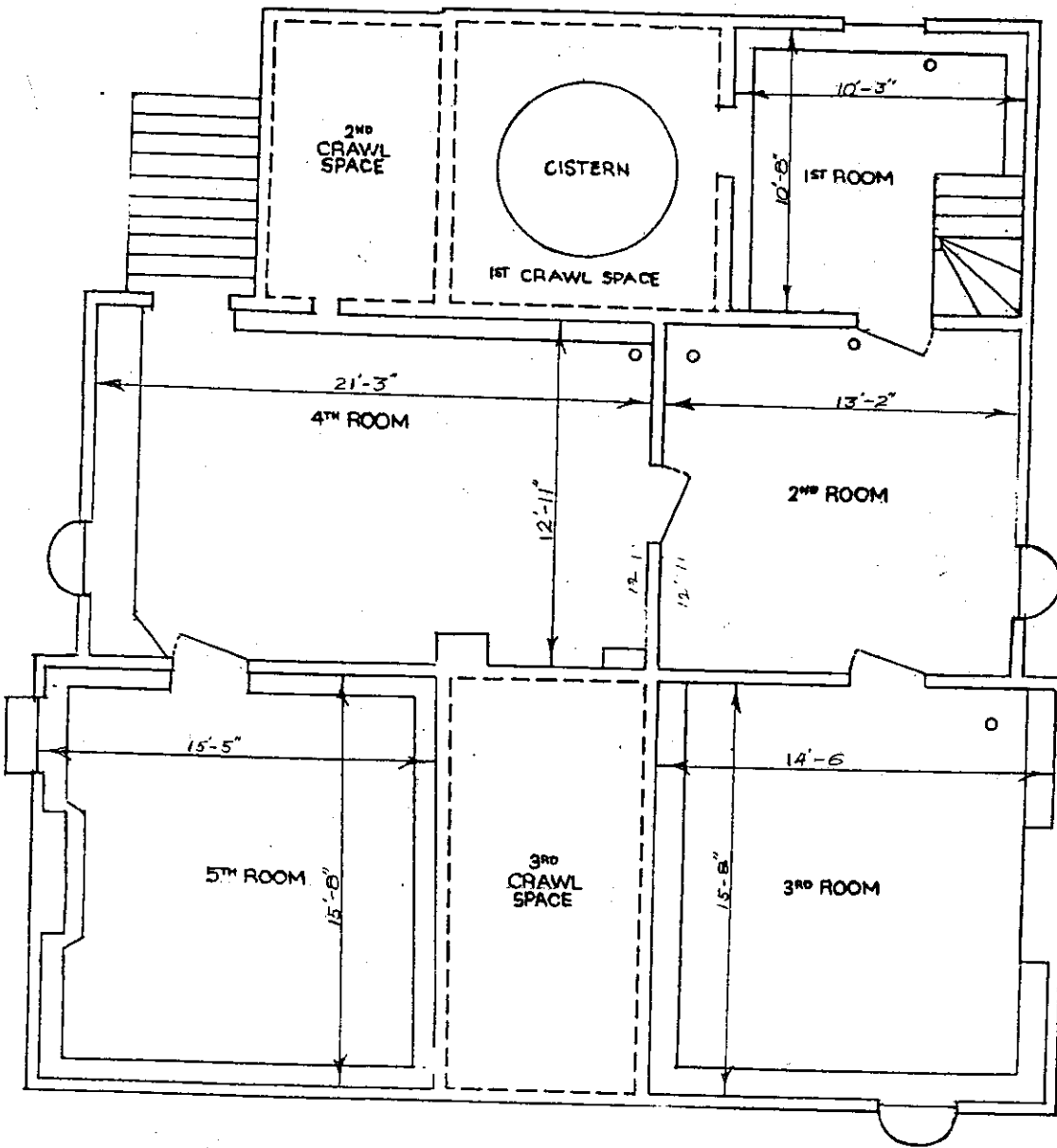
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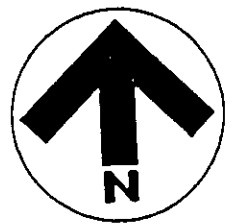
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Dement/Zinser House
Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois

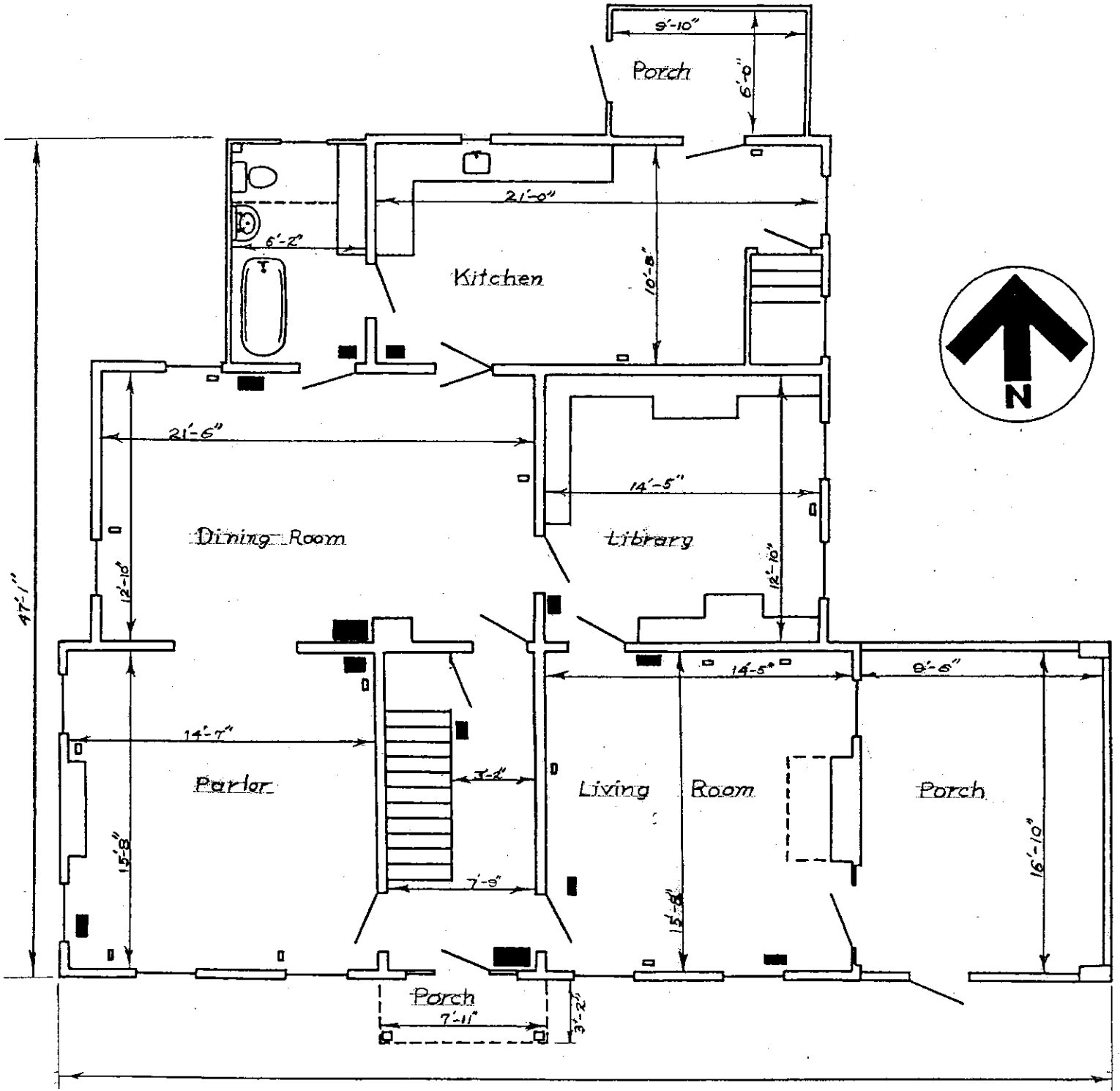


BASEMENT



DRAWN BY:
RALPH WOOLARD

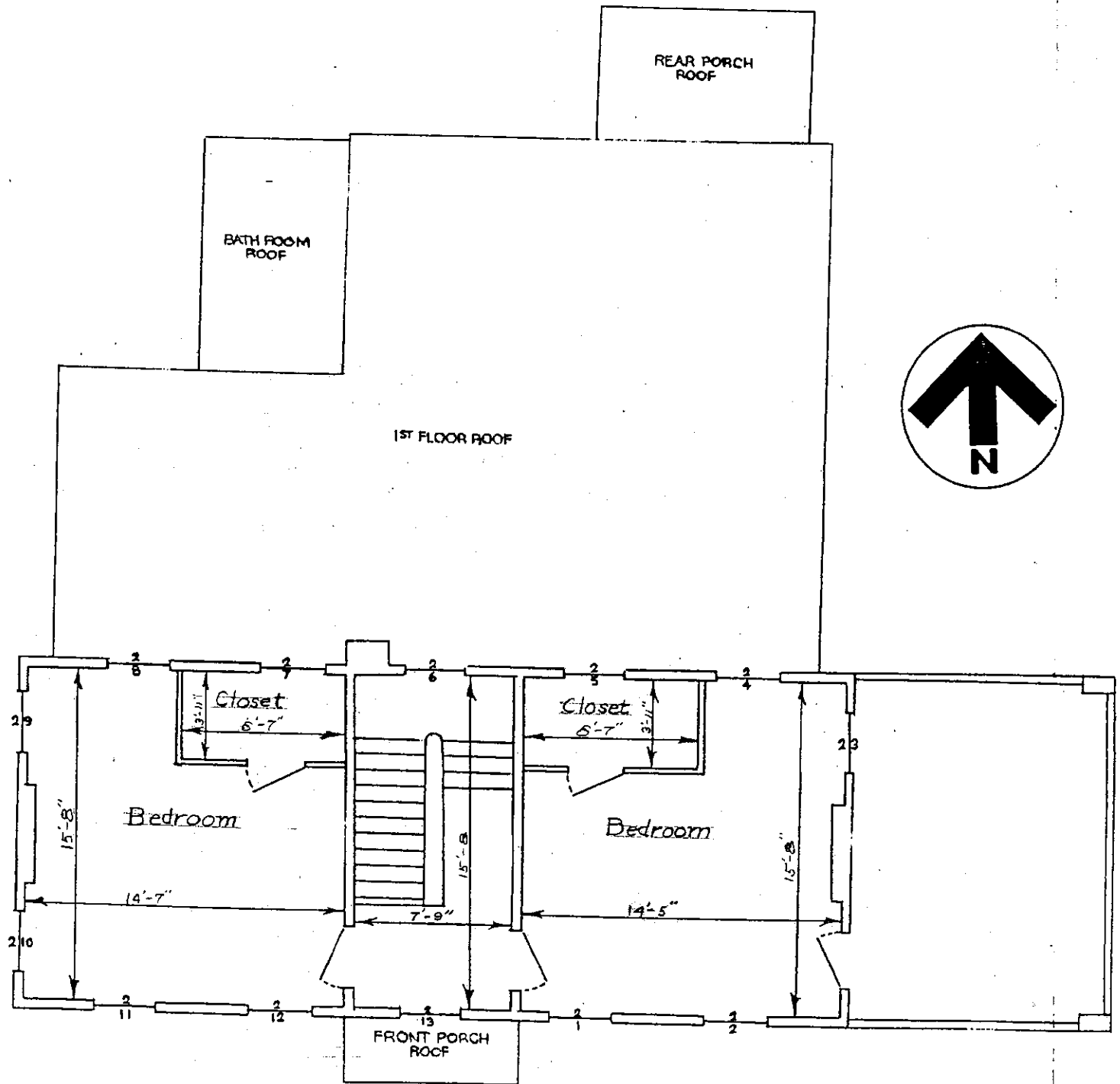
Dement/Zinser House
Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois



FIRST FLOOR

DRAWN BY:
RALPH WOOLARD

Dement/Zinser House
Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois



SECOND FLOOR

DRAWN BY:
RALPH WOOLARD



United States Department of the Interior

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WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 11/25/02 THROUGH 11/29/02

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

COLORADO, FREMONT COUNTY, Rouch Gulch Bridge, US 50 at milepost 230.12, Swissvale vicinity, 02001410, LISTED, 11/27/02 (Highway Bridges in Colorado MPS)
COLORADO, LA PLATA COUNTY, Smiley Junior High School, 1309 E 3rd Ave., Durango, 02001462, LISTED, 11/27/02
COLORADO, LARIMER COUNTY, Bee Farm, 4320 E. Cty Rd. 58, Fort Collins vicinity, 02001409, LISTED, 11/25/02
COLORADO, RIO GRANDE COUNTY, Creede Branch, Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Along the D&RGW right-of-way bet. South Fork and Creede, South Fork vicinity, 02001408, LISTED, 11/27/02 (Railroads in Colorado, 1858-1948 MPS)
GEORGIA, GORDON COUNTY, Taylor, William, House, 3032 Battlefield Parkway, Resaca, 02001414, LISTED, 11/27/02
ILLINOIS, MACON COUNTY, West End Historic District, Roughly bounded by S. Fairview Ave., Park Place, Fairview Park, Westdale Ave., W. Main St., Glencoe Ave., Sunset Ave., Decatur, 02001444, LISTED, 11/27/02
ILLINOIS, TAZEWELL COUNTY, Dement--Zinser House, 105 Zinser Place, Washington, 02001411, LISTED, 11/27/02
KANSAS, CLOUD COUNTY, Glasco Downtown Historic District, Roughly along Main St. from Railroad Av. to Fisher St., and Along Railroad Ave and Fisher St. bet Main and Buffalo Sts., Glasco, 02001307, LISTED, 11/17/02
KANSAS, SHAWNEE COUNTY, Holliday Park Historic District I, Roughly bounded by 10th Ave., Taylor, Polk, Huntoon, Clay and Fillmore Sts., Topeka, 02001308, LISTED, 11/17/02
MASSACHUSETTS, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, Minute Man National Historical Park, Minute Man National Historical Park, Lexington vicinity, 02001445, LISTED, 11/29/02
MISSOURI, GREENE COUNTY, Palace Hotel, 501 College St., Springfield, 02001419, LISTED, 11/27/02 (Springfield, Missouri MPS (Additional Documentation))
MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS INDEPENDENT CITY, Missouri Pacific Building, 210 N. 13th St., St. Louis (Independent City), 02001441, LISTED, 11/27/02
NEW JERSEY, SUSSEX COUNTY, Black Creek Site--28SX297, Maple Grange Rd., Vernon Township, 02000626, LISTED, 11/27/02
PENNSYLVANIA, DAUPHIN COUNTY, Millersburg Passenger Rail Station, 127 W. Center St., Millersburg, 02001430, LISTED, 11/27/02
PENNSYLVANIA, MONROE COUNTY, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Water Gap Station, Waring Dr., Delaware Water Gap, 02001431, LISTED, 11/27/02
PENNSYLVANIA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Lower Merion Academy--Cynwyd Elementary School--Bala Cynwyd Junior High School Complex, 506 Bryn Mawr Ave., Bala Cynwyd, 02001429, LISTED, 11/27/02
PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, Lorraine Apartments, 699 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, 02001427, LISTED, 11/27/02
VIRGINIA, BRISTOL INDEPENDENT CITY, Virginia Hill Historic District, Sections of Moore, Lee, Russell, Clinton, Spencer, W. Mary and Buchanan Sts., Bristol (Independent City), 02001447, LISTED, 11/27/02
VIRGINIA, FAIRFAX COUNTY, Spring Hill Farm, 1121 Spring Hill Rd., McLean, 02000446, LISTED, 11/22/02
VIRGINIA, NEW KENT COUNTY, Spring Hill, 11221 Carriage Rd., Providence Forge, 02001448, LISTED, 11/27/02
VIRGINIA, INDEPENDENT CITY, Grandin Road Commercial Historic District, Grandin Rd. SW, and Memorial Ave., Roanoke (Independent City), 02001450, LISTED, 11/27/02
VIRGINIA, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, Locust Hill, 7408 Ward's Rd., Hurt, 02001449, LISTED, 11/27/02
VIRGINIA, TAZEWELL COUNTY, Moore, Capt. James, Homestead, VA 644, Boissevain, 02001363, LISTED, 11/24/02
VIRGINIA, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Mount Pleasant, 317 Coles Point Rd., Hague, 02001440, LISTED, 11/27/02
WISCONSIN, DANE COUNTY, United States Post Office and Federal Courthouse, 215 Martin Luther King Junior Blvd., Madison, 02001443, LISTED, 11/27/02
WYOMING, CONVERSE COUNTY, North Douglas Historic District, Roughly bounded by Second St., Clay St. Sixth St., and Center St., Douglas, 00001470, LISTED, 11/25/02