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Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 2
Bill Roy

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE PUB	LIC
District X Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisit	ion:	▼ Occupied	Yes:	
Site Structure	X Private	☐ In Pro	cess	Unoccupied	Restricted Unrestricted  No	
Object	☐ Both	☐ Being	Considered	Preservation work		
				in progress		
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DESCRIPTION						
				(Check One)		
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	□X Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check On	e)		(Che	eck One)
	☐ Altere	ed	🔀 Unaitered		Moved	Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORIG	GINAL (if kno	Wn) PHYSICA	LAPPEARANCE		

The Powell House is a two-story Victorian structure with a full basement located at 108 West Commercial street in Waterville. The house is typically Victorian with numerous porches, projecting wings and bay windows. The frame structure sits on a rough hewn native limestone base. clapboard siding is accented with white horizontal bands at the window sills and heads. The building corners are also accented with white painted vertical cornerboards. The building roof is unusually complex with a series of steep gables, projecting porches and towers. in all directions and occur in profusion around the building. Each gable is decorated with a scroll-like bargeboard. tower is circular and forms a porch at both the first and second floor levels and ends in a steep conical roof. roof surfaces are covered with wood shingles laid in a diamond pattern which gives a decorative appearance to the roof material. Two brick chimneys project from the

work near the top and by a lower projecting brick band.

Many porches and balconies occur at both levels of
the house. These are very sensitively done with airy
ballustrades and thin ornamental columns. Windows and doors
are, as one might expect, varied in design and size.

Window shapes range from rectangular to half-circular to
shallow arches at the lintels. All windows are shuttered.
Bay windows occur on all sides of the house on both the
first and second floor levels.

roof. These chimneys are ornamented by corbeled brick

↑ Complementing the house is a carriage house at the rear of the site. The carriage house is similar to the main house in style with gabled roofs and decorative bargeboards. Both structures are in very good condition and are believed to be basically unaltered on the exterior.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 18	94-1895	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	<ul><li>Political</li></ul>	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	·
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art .	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Powell House in Waterville was built in 1894-1895 for one of the town's most prominent citizens, Samuel T. Powell. Born and educated in New York, Powell began working as a bank clerk in Poughkeepsie, New York, in the early 1860's. In 1871 he came west, settling in Waterville in Marshall county, Kansas. He was employed for several years by the Marshall County Bank, and after it closed he established his own banking institution, the Bank of Waterville. Later he was active in a loan business, which contributed to the development of the area by bringing eastern capital into the state, and he also served as president of banks in two other Kansas towns for a number of years.

In June, 1894, the Powells moved their old house to a new location where they lived while their new home at 108 West Commercial was being erected. By late August the foundation of the house was completed. The contractor, W. E. Fitzgerald of Waterville, reportedly built 85 per cent of the houses constructed in Waterville prior to 1935, including some of the most beautiful in the town. The Powell House, completed by the fall of 1895, was the first of these spacious Fitzgerald homes.

The Powell house with its carriage house is an excellent example of Victorian architecture in north central Kansas. It is made more impressive by its location in a small rural community.



MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL F	EFERENCES									
F	nar, Frank W., e	n.d.), v. 3	3A, pp.	. :	557, 558	3.		(Chicago	o, Sta	ndard	HR 14/693 43958
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