United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

47

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 16Å). 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.

		Property Watkins, Willia		House	egy or a state			
2. Lc	cation							
street	& town	74 North 100 I	East				_ not for	publication
city or	town _	Brigham City					vicinity	,
state	Utah	code	UT	county Box Elder	code_003	zip code 84	302	
3. St	ate/Fed	eral Agency Cer	tification				3	
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	Signatu	re of certifying official	/Title	Date				
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I hereby	entered in the second s	Park Service Cer t the property is: In the National Register See continuation sheet al Register See continuation sheet ed not eligible for the al Register. from the National er. splain:)	: :	Signature of the Calsan	Keeper / Se	all_	Date of A	3

Watkins, William L. & Mary, House Name of Property		City, County	and State	
5. Classification Ownership of Property check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (check only one box)		rces within Property ly listed resources in the co	unt.)
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
private	building(s)	1	1	buildings
public-local	☐ district			sites
public-State	☐ site			structures
public-Federal	structure			objects
	object	1	1	- Total
Name of related multiple pro Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a Historic Resources of Brigham	multiple property listing.)	Number of contrib in the National Re	outing resources prev gister	riously listed
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6. Function or Use Historic Function (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fu (Enter catego	unction ries from instructions)	
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7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	31	Materials (Enter catego	ries from instructions)	
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic Reviva	31	Materials (Enter catego foundation	ries from instructions)	

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Name of Property	City, County and State
8. Description Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
☑ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE COMMERCE
☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	SOCIAL HISTORY
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.	Period of Significance c.1862-1950s
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates
Property is:	c.1862
☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Persons (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A
C a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation
D a cemetery.	N/A
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder Unkown
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) 9. Major Bibliographical References Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more conti	See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8 inuation sheets.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
□ preliminary determination of individual listing (36	☐ State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State agency ☐ Federal agency ☐ Local government ☐ University ☐ Other Name of repository: ☐ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Watkins, William & Mary, House Name of Property	Brigham City, Box Elder County, Utah City, County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property .3 acres	
UTM References (Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
1 <u>1/2</u> Zone Easting 4/5/9/5/9/0/0	
3 <u>/</u> <u>/ / / / / / </u>	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.) BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 6, BLOCK 19, F AND RUNNING NORTH 84.3 FEET, EAST 165 FEET, SOUTH 84.3 FE	
Property Tax No. 03-103-0090	
Boundary Justification	
(Explain why the boundaries were selected.) The boundaries are those that have been historically associated with the 11. Form Prepared By pame/title	☐See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10
The boundaries are those that have been historically associated with the 11. Form Prepared By name/title Larry Douglass, Brigham City CLG/Director Brigham City N	□See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10
The boundaries are those that have been historically associated with the 11. Form Prepared By name/title Larry Douglass, Brigham City CLG/Director Brigham City Morganization Brigham City CLG	□See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10 luseum-Gallery date March 9, 2001
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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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Watkins, William L. & Mary House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

Narrative Description

The William L. & Mary Watkins House is one of the larger and more unique settlement-era houses in Brigham City. It stands out above the surrounding dwellings on the tree-lined street of 100 East. The house is situated northeast of the Brigham City Library and the City Hall parking lot. A number of pioneer and Victorian houses were built in this neighborhood, but most of them have been extensively remodeled and have lost their historic integrity.

The Watkins House, built c.1862 in the Gothic Revival style, is a one-and-one-half-story, adobe and stucco cross-wing type dwelling with a rear lean-to section. At the west (primary) facade the projecting wing's gable end faces 100 East street. A porch extends across the flanking wing of the facade and covers the main entrance and two windows. Four original porch posts are still intact, but two of the posts are missing their upper decorative trim. The projecting wing has centrally-placed windows on both the upper and lower levels. The lower window is not original to the house. It was enlarged c.1915, and is a double-hung wood sash, only slightly larger than the original windows. All the other windows are six-over-six double-hung wood sash. The dormer windows are the same style, only smaller. Two gabled dormers are located on the east elevation.

The north elevation is the one-and-one-half-story gable end of the flanking wing and has two windows on the main portion, an upper and a lower. The side of the rear lean-to section has two horizontally aligned small, double-hung sash windows. These windows appear to have been added circa 1915.

The prominent feature of the east elevation or back of the house is a lean-to section that runs along the rear of the flanking wing up to the projecting wing. This lean-to section could be original to the house, but was definitely built by March of 1884. It has two doors and two windows. On the roof above the lean-to is located a gabled dormer. The gable end of the projecting wing has an upper and a lower window, similar to the other gable ends.

The south elevation is the side of the projecting wing. It has two gabled dormers, and a central door with two flanking windows. Of the nineteen total windows in the house, only three are not original to the building, but are still of the historic era.

The house has several distinctive elements that mark it as Gothic Revival in style; namely, steeply pitched gabled roofs, dormer windows, and decorative bargeboard trim. The Gothic Revival style was somewhat common in Utah in the 1860s and 1870s,² although only two other examples remain in

¹The 1884 Sanborn Map of Brigham City shows this lean-to section is attached to the Watkins' house. If this section wasn't part of the original construction of 1865, it was built before March 1884.

²Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, <u>Utah's Historic Architecture</u>, pp. 103-104.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

Brigham City; however, they differ in type from the Watkins House. The Peter Forsgren house at 59 South 100 East Street is a central passage type that has retained its historic character. The Thomas-Hansen house at 120 North Main Street is a double cross-wing type that was rehabilitated in 1993 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Both of these houses were constructed circa 1860.

Changes to the exterior of the building have been minor. The lower window on the face of the extended wing (west elevation) was replaced with a slightly larger, double-hung wooden sash, circa 1915. After 1950, a roughcast stucco coating was applied to the exterior walls, covering up the original lime and sand stucco. Although the original porch columns remain intact, some of the wooden detailing adjoining these columns has been removed.

The only outbuilding is a frame garage that has been remodeled into a storage shed. Although it appears to have been built before 1950, it is not on the last historic Sanborn Map (the 1917 map was updated in 1949). With its more recent makeshift remodeling, this shed does not contribute to the historic nature of the property.

Over the years, new wall and floor coverings have been installed in the interior, but partition changes have been minor. Most of the original interior doors with their transoms are still intact. Sometime after 1950, a new wide, straight staircase was added to the south side. It replaced the original narrow staircase. The current owners, Jared Jensen and his brothers, are planning a complete rehabilitation/restoration of the interior.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The William L. and Mary Watkins House, built circa 1862, is significant under criteria A for its association with the history and development of Brigham City, Utah. William Watkins was an early educator in Brigham City and became one of the charter members and leaders of the Brigham City Co-op. He was also involved in the community in several roles. The Watkins House is architecturally significant under criterion C as the only example of a Gothic Revival-style cross-wing residence in the city and also as an example that has received very little alteration from its original construction. The Watkins House is also one of the largest historic residences in the city. The Watkins House is eligible under the *Historic Resources of Brigham City* Multiple Property Submission within the "Economic Development Residential Architecture, 1854-1950" context.

Contextual History

Brigham City stands out among the towns settled by the Mormons in the Utah Territory for its unique economic history. Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon Church) and territorial leader, directed rapid expansion of the Great Basin area. In 1853 he asked Apostle Lorenzo Snow to take 50 families with him to colonize Brigham City as the northernmost community. Young also advised Snow to establish an economy where the people could produce all their commodities. To ensure this would happen, Snow carefully selected settlers who had various trade and craftsman skills to help him build this new town.

Snow had the town plat surveyed in 1856³ and provided property for residents to build homes and farms. He supervised the construction of public buildings and encouraged people to form private businesses. By 1865, he was ready to begin the cooperative venture. He asked local merchants to combine their businesses to form a corporation, and stock in the company was available to all citizens of the community. The Brigham City Co-op began with a mercantile store, and profits from the store were then used to build a tannery. The corporation continued to expand its enterprises, so by the mid 1870s local people were producing all their necessities.

The Co-op reached such a high level of success it became a prototype for other Mormon settlements throughout the Utah Territory. Its demise began, however, with a series of financial disasters in the late 1870s, which resulted in the sale of some of its enterprises as private businesses. The Co-op gradually closed down its departments and finally went into receivership in 1895. The last enterprise to be shut down was the Mercantile Store. (See Associated Historic Contexts: Industrial and Commercial Beginnings, 1854-1864; and The Co-op: Brigham City Mercantile and Manufacturing Association, 1864-1895).

³Box Elder County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, History of Box Elder County - 1851-1937, pp. 259-260.

⁴Leonard J. Arrington, "Cooperative Community in the North," <u>Utah Historical Quarterly</u>; Summer 1965, vol. 33, no. 3.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

Ownership History

William Lampard Watkins was born in London, England, in 1827. He became a member of the Mormon Church in 1841. To join the main gathering of Mormons, William immigrated to America and settled in Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1842. At age 17, he married his first wife, Mary Almina Hammond, on Dec. 4, 1844. After they married, the couple lived in a number of places, including Illinois and Iowa. Both of them were well acquainted with the Prophet Joseph Smith, Mormon Church leader. Because of financial difficulties due to religious persecution, Mary and her parents lived in the Smith home for a while. William was involved in Joseph Smith's campaign for President of the United States and toured Kentucky on his behalf.

When the Mormons were driven out of Nauvoo, William and Mary crossed the plains, arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in 1852 and lived there until 1861. During this year, William accepted an offer by community leader Lorenzo Snow to teach school in Brigham City. The Watkins family relocated to Brigham City, and William became the town's fourth educator.⁸

Besides his educational duties, William was a charter member of the Brigham City Co-op and assumed a leadership role in this organization as secretary, treasurer and director of the Mercantile Department. He was paid an annual salary of \$1,200 for his services, which lasted for the entire 30-year span of the Co-op organization.⁹

William was involved in almost every aspect of community life. When Brigham City was incorporated in 1867, William was appointed the first city recorder. He was also one of the first to plant an orchard, owned one of the city's first adobe yards, and was an original stockholder of the Brigham

⁵Box Elder News, Sept. 21, 1911, p. 1.

⁶Sketch by South Box Elder County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, p. 1

⁷Box Elder News, Sept. 21, 1911, p. 1.

⁸Box Elder County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, <u>History of Box Elder County 1851-1937</u>, p. 207.

⁹lbid, p. 107 and 109.

¹⁰lbid, p. 262.

¹¹lbid, p. 66.

¹²lbid, p. 88.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

City Roller Mills.¹³ He also had a creative bent and participated in the city's Dramatic Association copying scripts and serving as prompter for the plays.¹⁴

William also stood out in ecclesiastical affairs. He was involved with citywide administration of the Mormon Church, being a counselor in the Box Elder Stake¹⁵ presidency under Rudger Clawson. He later became the stake patriarch, a revered office that provided a service of individual blessings to all LDS Church members in Brigham City.¹⁶

Mary was involved in domestic and religious activities. She taught Sunday school for many years and served as the Relief Society President for her ward. The president of the Relief Society is the highest office a woman can hold in the ward. In this position, she organized and provided charitable service to local citizens. In addition to her church calling, Mary took care of a large family, having born twelve children. 18

As was common for those holding leadership positions in the Mormon Church at the time, forty-year-old William was encouraged to marry more than one wife. In 1867, he married a second wife Teah Johnson. She was 20 years old and a Danish immigrant. Teah came to Utah with her family in 1854 when she was seven. Her parents owned a 600-acre farm in Denmark, but came to Utah to escape religious persecution. Shortly after they were married, William built a brick and frame house for Teah at the corner of 100 North and 100 East streets just north of his and Mary's adobe dwelling. This house is still standing 19 but has diminished historic integrity due to a major remodeling. 20

Teah was known for her superb skills as a weaver and seamstress. She designed and sewed all the clothes for her family and many people in the city. Teah also served in the church's Relief Society organization as a first counselor and teacher. She and William had eight children. Teah died on Dec. 23. 1933.²¹

¹³lbid, p. 128.

¹⁴lbid, p. 168.

¹⁵A stake is similar to a diocese and has authority over several wards.

¹⁶Box Elder News, Sept. 21, 1911, p. 1.

¹⁷A ward is the smallest ecclesiastical unit of the LDS Church.

¹⁸South Box Elder County, Daughters of the Utah Pioneers' Sketch, p. 2.

¹⁹Abstract Records of Box Elder County for parcel 03-121-82. Abstract Book A, p.37.

²⁰ After 1950, the one-story frame ell wing (circa 1870) was rebuilt and became a two-story addition with dormer windows and large clapboard siding. Because the house sits on a corner lot, this non-historic wing is quite visible from 100 North Street.

²¹Aurilla W. Whipple, Sketch of Teah Johnson Watkins.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

William figured prominently in the town's history because of his leadership in civic and ecclesiastical matters. Especially noteworthy were his organizational skills that kept the Brigham City Co-op operating for thirty years. When the Co-op was organized, William was a charter member and was made its secretary and treasurer. In this position, he kept the records and business of the Co-op running smoothly.²² He also was in charge of the Mercantile Department, which was the only general store in Brigham City for a span of about ten years. He was a stalwart and important resident of Brigham City, which is symbolized in this home. William died at age 84 in September 1911.²³

William Watkins deeded the home to his son John Hyrum Watkins in 1904; however, William probably continued to live in the home until his death in 1911. John and his wife Lucy were farmers and residents of Beaver Dam, Utah (approximately 20 miles north of Brigham City). At the time of William's death, John was 43 years old and serving an LDS mission in England. John's family never lived in the house. They did move from Beaver Dam to Brigham City in 1928 where John became the Ice Plant Manager. John died in 1935.²⁴

The house then changed ownership several times over the next few years. In 1913, the home was sold to Amasa Belnap who sold it to J.G. Lariscy in 1915. Lariscy sold it back to John H. Watkins in 1916, and in 1918 John sold the home to his nephew Clifford C. Watkins.

Clifford was born in Beaver Dam and was educated in the Brigham City Schools, and studied music at Utah State University, University of Utah, and Brigham Young University. He taught music in the Jordan, Cache, and Box Elder School Districts. Clifford owned the Watkins House for only a year, because his teaching career took him from Brigham City to Salt Lake City.²⁵

In 1919, Clifford deeded the home to his father Joseph H. Watkins. Joseph may not have lived in the house, but had lived in Brigham City since 1916. His address at the time of his death (December 1955) was one house north of this property²⁶. Joseph sold the property to William R. Dredge in 1921.

Born and raised in Malad, Idaho, William Dredge was a prominent farmer. In 1914, at the age of 34, he married his second wife, Maud Harris, and moved to Brigham City.²⁷ William and Maud lived in the house for three years and then sold it to Orson G. Spencer in 1924.

²²Box Elder News, Sept. 21, 1911, p. 1.

²³Box Elder News, Sept. 21, 1911, p. 1.

²⁴"Obituary", Deseret News, Aug. 22, 1935

²⁵"Retired Musician, Teacher Dies Sunday After Illness". Box Elder Journal, Feb. 5, 1963, p.8.

²⁶"Brigham City Native Pioneer Dies At Home of Daughter in Salt Lake" Box Elder News, Dec. 28, 1955, p.1.

²⁷"Farm Accident Wednesday Fatal To W.R. Dredge". <u>Box Elder News-Journal</u>, May 10, 1946, p.1.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

Orson G. Spencer²⁸ and his wife, Marilla lived in the house for 32 years. She was employed as clerk of the Selective Service, retiring in 1954. At this time Orson and Marilla moved to Salt Lake City where Marilla died in 1956.

Orson sold the house to Roy S. and Marjorie Olsen in 1956. The Olsen's lived in the home until Roy's death in 1996; Marjorie then sold it to the Jensen family trust. The Magnificent Seven Trust comprised of Jared Jensen and his brothers bought this house for the purpose of rehabilitation. The Watkins House was listed on the Utah Century Register in 1972.

Architecture

The cross wing house plays a ubiquitous role in Utah. Because strict Mormon town planning based on Joseph Smith's "Plat of the City of Zion" was promoted, nucleated villages were set up in a gridiron fashion. With a prescribed number of lots per block, housing, a garden, and a small family farm were incorporated into each homestead. Houses were usually placed at the corner of the lot nearest the intersection of the streets, which left two sides of the house as potential formal facades. With symmetry being a principle concern in the design of a house, the ambiguity of placement was somewhat disconcerting to the designers. But house builders devised solutions that were also in keeping with changing architectural trends. By adding another wing to the common single-cell or hall-parlor, another less-formal facade was created so that there was now an entrance onto both streets. With the addition of the wing the classical form of the house was altered to a Victorian type. Thus, not only was space increased, but the entire appearance of the house was updated as well.²⁹ The familiar, and proven, hall parlor plan was maintained with the addition of another room, usually in the form of a kitchen. If a single cell was receiving a cross wing, the addition most commonly had a hall parlor plan, whereas if a hall parlor was receiving a cross wing it was usually with a singe cell addition. These corner-housing types can be found in almost every community in Utah.

Gothic Revival is a form of picturesque expression in architecture that was popular in Utah from approximately 1865-85. The style was developed on the premise that the Classical styles (which had been the styles of choice since settlement in 1847) were artificial and in contrast to natural forms. Although Romanticism and the "Picturesque" had their beginnings in England in the mid-eighteenth century, it wasn't until the nineteenth century that these influences began influencing American art architecture and landscape planning. Gothic Revival architecture, with its asymmetrical and vertical massing, sometimes-complicated decorative schemes, and use of rich colors and various materials,

²⁸ No further information was found for Orson G. Spencer.

²⁹Keith Bennett & Thomas Carter, "Houses with Two Fronts: The Evolution of Domestic Architectural Design in a Mormon Community," <u>Journal of Mormon History</u>, <u>Volume 15</u>, (Provo, UT: Mormon History Association, 1989) 49-50.

³⁰ William H. Pierson, Jr., <u>American Buildings and Their Architects, Volume 2</u>, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1978) 9-

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

was the architectural rendition of this natural ideal.³¹ Gothic Revival houses in Utah range from the very simple vernacular (a Classical house type with a single gabled dormer), to very elaborate with multiple dormers, ornamental bargeboard and other wood trim. The Watkins House falls somewhere in between the two. The asymmetrical form of the cross wing features multiple dormers and reserved bargeboard details and trim on the covered porch. The house is in near original condition, retaining its architectural integrity, and is a rare surviving example of the style in Brigham City.

³¹Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, <u>Utah's Historic Architecture</u>, <u>1847-1940</u>: A <u>Guide</u>, (Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, 1988) 102-103; also, ibid, 389-93, 416.

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Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

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- Sketch by South Box Elder County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. "Mary Almina Hammond Watkins." Unpublished Manuscript, 1922.
- Whipple, Aurilla W., "Sketch of Teah Johnson Watkins." Unpublished Manuscript, n.d.

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

Watkins, William L. & Mary, House, Brigham City, Box Elder County, UT

PHOTOGRAPHS

Common Label Information:

1. Name: Watkins, William L. & Mary, House

2. Address: 74 North 100 East Street

3. Photographer: Larry Douglass

4. Date: February 2001

5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. Southwest corner of building. Camera facing Northeast

Photo No. 2:

6. Northwest elevation of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 3:

6. East elevation of building. Camera facing west.