

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.

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 14 2015

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Ogan, Servetus W., House

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

Other names/site number: CS0192

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: 504 East Forrest Avenue

City or town: Wynne State: Arkansas County: Cross

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 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 XC    D

		<u>7-13-15</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		
In my opinion, the property meets <u>   </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.		
Signature of commenting official:		Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

**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

9-28-2015  
Date of Action

**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

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: American Foursquare

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Ornamental Concrete-block

**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 Servetus W. (S.W.) Ogan House is an excellent example of a vernacular ornamental concrete-block American Foursquare form building constructed in Wynne, Arkansas, c. 1910. The S. W. Ogan house is one of the few rusticated cement block structures in Wynne. It is the only example of this method of construction being used to produce a Colonial Revival foursquare. The physical appearance remains largely unchanged, excluding alterations to the front balcony and rear porch.

Rock-faced concrete-block was a popular construction material during the early twentieth century. Numerous companies produced block-making machinery that could be purchased through mail-order catalogs. The material was used to construct thousands of domestic and commercial structures between 1905 and 1930. The popularity experienced by concrete-blocks was due to the materials being inexpensive and simple to use.

The site on which the Servetus W. Ogan House is located is generally set on the northeast corner of North Harrel Street and East Forrest Avenue. The Servetus W. Ogan House is surrounded by other residential properties. However, only two blocks to the east is Arkansas Highway 1 which

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

is causing suburban encroachment to spread into the area. The Servetus W. Ogan House offers a remarkable contrast to the other nearby buildings, which are smaller in scale or have been altered with modern materials. One other concrete-block building is located one block away, but is constructed in the Craftsmen Style of architecture unlike the Colonial Revival Style the Ogan House was built to represent.

### **Narrative Description**

The S. W. Ogan House is a two-and-one-half story, concrete-block American foursquare in the Colonial Revival style. The massing of the house is rectangular in shape with the front elevation slightly larger than the side elevations. A box bay, one-story, one-room attachment, and rear porch break the basic foursquare plan. The rear porch was added between 1945 and 1951.<sup>1</sup> The house sits upon continuous foundation of cast-concrete walls, with a water table about three rows from ground level and is covered by a hipped roof with large over-hanging eaves. The main body of the house is covered by a steeply pitched, hipped roof. Hipped dormers are found on all four elevations of the main hipped roof. The symmetrical massing of the front elevation features a large entry porch and balcony spanning the entire width of the elevation. The exterior of the house is clad in ornamental concrete-blocks each measuring 8 inches square by 16 inches.

### **Front Façade (South Elevation)**

The front façade of the Servetus W. Ogan House faces south and is accessible from Forrest Avenue. Approaching the nearly full-length front porch,<sup>2</sup> there are four steps and the concrete front porch decking which is covered by a balcony supported by four square wood columns. The porch is made of poured concrete and the edge features a decorative profile. There are two rows of lapped siding and a small overhang with fascia and a soffit, located between the top of the four columns and the decking of the second-story balcony. The balcony is enclosed by six posts that support a very plain traditional handrail made of two horizontal 2"x4" and numerous vertical 2"x4" supports. Each of the six posts had a square cap with an urn-shaped finial. The front door is centrally located on the elevation. Located above the front entrance is a transom window and a concrete header. On both the right and the left of the front elevation there are single, one-over-one, single-hung, windows, each with a concrete header and sill. The door and window arrangement is repeated on the second floor. However, the transom has been removed from the second-story doorway and replaced with a louvered vent. Each set of windows on the front elevation have a pair of green louvered shutters. Just below the cornice is a row of dentil moldings that were done in cast-concrete-blocks as well. The dentils align with the bottom of the header of the second-story doorway. Above the dentil moldings is large boxed cornice, with a large overhang begins the hipped roofline, while a dormer clad in wood shingles pierces the roof and is fenestrated by a two-pane hopper window.

<sup>1</sup> Sanborn Map Company. May 1919, Wynne, Cross County, Arkansas. "Digital Sanborn Maps." Sheet #2. <<http://sanborn.umi.com.ezproxy.library.arkansas.gov/sanborn>> and Sanborn Map Company. May 1951, Wynne, Cross County, Arkansas. "Digital Sanborn Maps." Sheet #7. <<http://sanborn.umi.com.ezproxy.library.arkansas.gov/sanborn>>

<sup>2</sup> The porch lacks roughly three feet on either side to make the porch full length.

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

### West Elevation

The western elevation features more fenestration than the previous elevation. Moving right to left across the elevation, there is a large single, one-over-one, single-hung, window, with a concrete header and sill, located in the far right corner on the first floor of the elevation. To the left of the single window is a tall ornamental concrete-block chimney, which rises above the front edge of the roof and terminates nearly at the height of the dormer on the roof. The chimney extends out away from the rest of the house. To the left of the chimney is another large single, one-over-one, single-hung, window, with a concrete header and sill. There is not ornamentation located in a small area between the window and the protruding bay window. The bay window is supported on the same foundation as the house and contains four, one-over-one, single-hung, windows, with a concrete header and sill. One window faces the south and another window faces north and is located along the small bumped out portion of the bay window. The other two windows face Harrel Street. Above the windows in the bay window, is the continuation of large boxed cornice, with a large overhang. Just below the cornice is a row of dentil moldings that were done in cast-concrete blocks as well. The dentils are located in the row of blocks just above the concrete header of the window. Set back along the building elevation there are two more small, one-over-one, single-hung, windows, with a concrete header and sill. This section of the house is an original extension off of the building and is covered by a hipped roof. The second story is fenestrated by three windows. The first window is located to the far right between the chimney and the southwest corner of the building. There are two more one-over-one, single-hung, windows, with a concrete header and sill. However, the middle window of the three windows is smaller than the other two windows on the second story. Just below the cornice is a row of dentil moldings that were done in cast-concrete blocks as well. The dentils align with the bottom of the header of the second-story doorway. Above the dentil moldings is a large boxed cornice, with a large overhang begins the hipped roofline, while a dormer clad in wood shingles pierces the roof and is fenestrated by a two-pane hopper window.

### North Elevation

The north elevation contains a unique fenestration pattern, when compared to the other three elevations. Working right to left across the elevation, the far right side of the elevation is the small original concrete-block addition to the building. A small one-over-one, extruded aluminum single-hung, window, with a concrete header and sill is centrally located on the north elevation of the addition. The addition then steps back to the rear porch. The rear porch also has an ornamental concrete-block foundation similar to the rest of the house. However, the once open porch has been enclosed. It was enclosed sometime between 1945 and 1951, according to Sanborn maps. The enclosed porch is clad in narrow teardrop siding. There are four windows located between the original addition and the rear porch entranceway. The three windows to the right are made of extruded aluminum one-over-one, single-hung, windows. The fourth window is a wooden twelve-pane stationary windows. To the left of the stationary window is an entranceway leading into the enclosed porch. Upon opening the rear entrance door, there are concrete steps leading up on to former porch. Above the entranceway is a smaller twelve-pane stationary window. No other ornamentation is found on the first floor of this elevation. However, it must be noted that the enclosed porch does not cover the entire length of the elevation between the original addition and the northeast corner, because the porch terminates about one foot before

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

the end of the elevation. The enclosed porch is covered by a flat or nearly flat standing-seam metal roof. A small carport has been attached to the fascia of the enclosed porch and was probably done about the same time as the enclosing of the porch. The carport is supported by wooden 4" x 4" post and is covered by a standing-seam metal roof as well.

The second story has limited fenestration because the roof of the original addition covers nearly one-third of the second floor elevation. To the left of the roof, from the original addition, and centrally located on the second floor elevation, is a one-over-one, single-hung, window, with a concrete header and sill. However, this window is set lower on the elevation than the window to its left, which is also a one-over-one, single-hung, window, with a concrete header and sill. Directly to the left of the second window is a small brick chimney that rises out of the enclosed porch penetrates the wide over-hanging eave and exits the roof with an aluminum vent pipe. The elevation then terminates only a foot from the chimney. As previously stated, just below the cornice is a row of dentil moldings that were done in cast-concrete blocks as well. The dentils align with the bottom of the header of the second-story doorway. Above the dentil moldings is large boxed cornice, with a large overhang begins the hipped roofline, while a dormer clad in wood shingles pierces the roof and is fenestrated by a two-pane hopper window.

### **East Elevation**

The first and the second floor of the eastern elevation is fenestrated by two, equally-spaced, one-over-one, single-hung windows. Just below the cornice is a row of dentil moldings that were done in cast-concrete blocks as well. Above the dentil moldings is a large boxed cornice, with a large overhang begins the hipped roofline. Like the other elevations, the East Elevation also has a centrally-located roof dormer, clad in lap siding and is fenestrated by two, single-pane, awning windows. Off of the main body of the house, on the first floor, there is a small setback before the coming to the enclosed porch added in 1951. The enclosed porch carries the concrete-block construction material along the porch's foundation, but not as a wall material. However the addition is clad in small tear drop siding. Centrally located on the addition is a small, wide and narrow, single-pane, stationary window. The roof of the addition is done as a shed roof that drains to the north.

### **Integrity**

Though this building was in need of repair until the present, the building retains a great amount of integrity. All of the original windows except for one remain in the house. As previously stated, the rear porch was enclosed between 1946 and 1951 along with the addition of the single-car carport. It is believed that front porch was changed c.1950 by the second home owners. Historic photographs show the concrete block pillars where there in early photographs. Another change to the porch is shown in really early photos, where the railing around the second-story front porch is not there. However, in later photos of the original family, the railing is there and is very similar to the current arrangement, minus the ornamental urns located on top of the second-story pillars.

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
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.)

- 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

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

c. 1910  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

c.1910  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
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 Servetus W. (S.W.) Ogan House in Wynne, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its association with ornamental concrete-block construction following the 1904 World's Fair. The S. W. Ogan House is one of the few ornamental concrete-block structures in Wynne. However, it is the only example of this method of construction being used to produce an American Foursquare form home. The other fascinating example of this construction technique is only one block to the north, located along Harrel Street, but was stylistically done in Craftsman rather than American Foursquare. The physical appearance remains largely unchanged, excluding alterations to the front balcony and rear porch.

Ornamental concrete-block was a popular construction material during the early twentieth century, especially after its worldwide introduction at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri. Numerous companies produced block-making machinery that could be purchased through mail-order catalogs. The material was used to construct thousands of domestic and commercial structures between 1905 and 1930. The popularity experienced by concrete-blocks was due to the materials being inexpensive and simple to use.

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

### Wynne History

When the City of Wynne, Arkansas, was founded in 1882, it was situated at the junction of both the North-South line and the East-West line of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad<sup>3</sup>, within the present boundary of Cross County. Cross County is situated in the Delta region of Eastern Arkansas. Cross County was established on November 15, 1862, and was named after Col. David C. Cross who "led a group of men through Union Army lines south to the Confederate capitol in Little Rock"<sup>4</sup> to renew the a request for a new county in Eastern Arkansas that was voted down in 1848. It was also with Act #2 of 1862, under the Confederate held legislature that established Cross County out of portions of Poinsett, Crittenden, and St. Francis counties.

It must be noted that the county seat of Cross County moved frequently in the first forty years after its creation. The original county seat, located in Pineville, lasted only until the end of the Civil War in 1865. Following the end of the American Civil War the County Seat was

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<sup>3</sup> Goodspeed Publishing Company, *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas* (Chicago: Goodspeed Brothers, Publishers, 1890; reprint, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1978), 326 (page citations are from the reprint edition).

<sup>4</sup> Cross County Historical Society, *Cross County, Arkansas: History and Families* (Morley, MO: Acclaim Press, 2012), 16.

Ogan House

Cross County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

subsequently moved to Cleburne, named for General Patrick Cleburne, and remained the County Seat from 1865-1868. By 1868, Wittsburg had regained prominence in the area and a petition was presented to the County court and approved for another County Seat move from Cleburne to Wittsburg, Arkansas, where it was located from 1868-1884. By 1884, the Iron Mountain Railroad bypassed Wittsburg causing a population shift away from Wittsburg to Vanndale. A special election was held in 1883 for a possible move of the County Seat to Vanndale. The election passed thus allowing Vanndale to take over the Cross County Seat from 1884-1903. However, as part of the elevation process the election called for a write-in of the city name, for which to move to. It was during this write-in portion of the ballot that Wynne, Arkansas, was starting to draw interest as a possible candidate for Cross County Seat. Vanndale would remain the county seat until 1903 when Wynne, Arkansas, began to grow rapidly due to the intersection of two railroad lines.<sup>5</sup>

As Wynne began to grow due to the intersection of both sets of Iron Mountain Railroad lines, the population steadily maintained a presence at this location. By 1903 another special election was called for the moving of the County Seat again from Vanndale to Wynne. After another battle between the two cities, Wynne won out and became the County Seat, for which it has remained since that election. Though the population really boomed around 1903-1904, the Town of Wynne had been steadily occupied since 1882 and was incorporated as a Town in 1888.<sup>6</sup> With the incorporation of the town, the population really started to rise, and by 1890 the population was already 1000. Much of the population increase was caused by the fact that Wynne was the headquarters for the construction along the Iron Mountain Railroad. With this increase in population due to the construction, many of the workers and their families stayed and settled in the growing town. At the same time as the increase in rail traffic through the area, the lumber industry was also ramping up activity around Wynne through the use of the railroad. "It was during this time that the timber industry and sawmills were gaining ground in eastern Arkansas and throughout the state due to the fact that railroads were able to reach a larger market for timber."<sup>7</sup> With this increased growth in population there became an increased growth in the built environment, including housing. As the Town of Wynne really started to hit its peak in building many of the common building styles were becoming popular within the newly established town. At the same time the Town of Wynne was increasing in popularity, so was a new building material, ornamental concrete-block.

### Ornamental Concrete-block History

Though ornamental concrete-blocks were only introduced in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, concrete on the other had has been around since the Greeks, Egyptians, and Romans utilized similar products. The Romans have largely been credited with "perfecting a form of concrete, but the ancient Egyptians and ancient Greeks both utilized lime-based mortars and plasters"<sup>8</sup> as well.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, 55.

<sup>7</sup> Travis Ratermann, "Northern Ohio School" *National Register of Historic Places Nomination* Department of Arkansas Heritage, National Register and Survey Files, Northern Ohio School.

<sup>8</sup> James P. Hall, "The Early Developmental History of Concrete Block in America" (Thesis, Ball State University, 2009), 19.

Ogan House

Cross County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

The earliest uses of a "concrete-block," in the Modern Era, happened to be in England by William Ranger in 1832. His first building project was a wall surrounding a garden of Mr. Peel of Kemp Town.<sup>9</sup> The earliest use of "concrete-block" in the United States "was constructed on Staten Island, New York, by George A. Ward, esq. who was a well-to-do, well-traveled merchant in 1837."<sup>10</sup> Between 1837 and 1904, various manufacturers designed and created various forms of concrete-blocks. The first machine used in creating such blocks was patented by Harmon S. Palmer, and over the next 20 years his design evolved from a wooden mold to a four-legged cast-iron unit. Though the market became flooded with various machines to help in the construction of these building materials, it was not until the 1904 World's Fair that the concrete-block was brought to the world stage.<sup>11</sup>

Author J.P. Hall, in his thesis about the history of concrete-block, claims that the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904 is...

"Important in understanding the early development of concrete-block for three main reasons. First, the Exposition consolidated a fragmented Portland cement and concrete-block industry. Second, the Expo was integral in establishing comprehensive testing for concrete and concrete-block, which led to government assistance. Third, the Expo acted as a springboard for the promotion of concrete-block to the average citizen."<sup>12</sup>

With the industry coming together to promote their product and have comprehensive testing done on to show both construction uses and strength, the general public was becoming more aware of the usefulness of this product and how stable and long lasting a material concrete-block could be into the future. Following the 1904 World's Fair the use of Portland cement increased by 36% from the previous year.<sup>13</sup>

Thousands of commercial and domestic structures were built of rock-faced concrete-block between 1905 and 1930. Prior to 1900, concrete-blocks were practically unknown. Following the patenting of a concrete-block making machine 1900, concrete-blocks experienced near immediate success. A mere four hundred block machines were produced in 1902 by a single manufacturing plant. By 1907, concrete-block machines flooded the market with nearly one hundred companies producing the apparatuses.<sup>14</sup>

Concrete-blocks are produced from a mixture of Portland cement and aggregates. Concrete-blocks were produced in various sizes with most being 8x8-inches square with lengths of 8, 16,

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, 22-23.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid, 24. Multiple sources differ on the construction material used in the construction of Mr. Ward's home. Some authors state that it was monolithic concrete, while other note that it was built using solid blocks of cement.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, 37-53.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid, 54.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid, 56.

<sup>14</sup> Information compiled by author Jared Caldwell, Department of Arkansas Heritage, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, National Register and Survey Files, Ogan House.

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

or 24-inches. The most common size was 8x8x16-inches. Blocks typically weigh between 40 and 60 pounds with some weighing more and some weighing less. Weight is dependent on size, aggregate, and hollow or solid core. The configuration of each block determines the key characteristics of compressive strength and fire resistance.<sup>15</sup>

Concrete-block construction offered a number of benefits over traditional building methods. Advertisers of the time touted concrete-block as being fireproof, requiring no paint, little repair, imperishable, and durable.<sup>16</sup>

The potential for ornamentation is one element that played into the popularity of concrete-block. While the most popular ornamental face imitated natural stone, a number of other designs could be purchased, including paneled, ashlar stone, cobble, rusticated, and decorative wreaths and garland. Retailers such as Sears included the imitation rock face with the purchase of their block machine. Customers could purchase the additional face plate designs for an extra fee. Additionally, the blocks could be further customized by the addition of different types of sand or metal oxides to produce a variety of colors.<sup>17</sup>

Another attribute that contributed to the popularity of concrete-block construction was their being cheap, quick, and easy to produce. The cost of wood and brick increased during the early 1900s. From 1898 to 1906, the price of lumber and brick rose 64 and 59 percent, respectively, while the same period decrease in cement prices was 16.5 percent. At this time, concrete-blocks could be manufactured for between 13 and 20 cents. Savings were further compounded by their being cheaper to lay than brick. At the time, concrete-block was less expensive than any other form of construction.<sup>18</sup>

The period spanning from 1900 to 1930 saw the construction of thousands of concrete-block buildings. The wide spread use of ornamental concrete-block in residential and commercial construction can be attributed to advances in concrete manufacturing, development of concrete-block making machines, and economic advantages over traditional construction methods. A rockfaced finish was the most widely used, although other patterns were produced. Concrete-block machines were easily obtained through mail order catalogs such as Sears & Roebuck and required only a single unskilled laborer to operate.<sup>19</sup>

At the same time concrete-block was introduced widely to the public the home production in and around Wynne, Arkansas, was also beginning to take increase. Though lumber was steadily increasing in price throughout the United States, timber was readily available to the residents and buildings in east Arkansas and the price point was generally less than the rest of the United States. With the increase in the timber production in the area, one would wonder how and why a person would be constructing a home with something other than wood. However, that is just what Servetus Wesley Ogan did c. 1910. One can assert that the reasoning for the material

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

Ogan House

Cross County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

deviation from wood to concrete-block was likely do to as a symbol of status in the neighborhood and the City of Wynne. As a young aspiring lawyer, one can see how having a home that deviates in size and material could be seen by the public as a figurehead in the community both in wealth and status.

### Family History of Mr. Ogan

Servetus W. (S.W.) Ogan was the son of Noah and Emma Ogan of Columbus Grove, Ohio. Noah Ogan fought in the American Civil War between 1861 and 1864, as part of Company K in the 14<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry<sup>20</sup> before mustering out of service after helping General Sherman take Atlanta.<sup>21</sup> Following his time as a citizen soldier and farmer<sup>22</sup>, he took up the practice as attorney at law before retiring and becoming a landlord around Columbus Grove. Noah Ogan was married twice, though it is unknown who his first wife was at this point in time, though he married a woman named Emma sometime before 1880. He and Emma would have two sons following their marriage with Servetus born in 1881 and Silas born in 1888. It is noted that in 1880 both Noah and his son with his first wife were both attorneys in Ohio.<sup>23</sup> The family seems to have been well off financially given the family's ability to take a lavish trip to Lake Michigan and the ability to have servants in their home by 1900. This love for law must have been passed down to Servetus because by 1901 Servetus had enrolled in Law School at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.<sup>24</sup> Servetus Graduated from Ohio State University c. 1905 before taking up law in Lima, Ohio.<sup>25</sup> Following taking up a law practice in Lima, Ohio, where it was stated that Mr. Ogan was one of Lima, Ohio's, most promising young attorneys, he married Miss Bonnie Fay Morris on April 8, 1906. On their honeymoon, on which they traveled through the south toward New Orleans where they would embark on an Atlantic Ocean trip from New Orleans to New York City.<sup>26</sup> It is on this sightseeing tour through the South, that they couple might have become aware of the development in Eastern Arkansas, especially in Wynne at this time.

The couple moved from Lima, Ohio, to Wynne, Arkansas, sometime between September 14, 1908, and November 9, 1909, according to *The Lima Daily News*, which reported that the couple was returning to Lima following a short visit to the mother-in-laws home in Columbus Grove,

<sup>20</sup> National Archives and Records Administration. "Noah Ogan," *U.S. Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000.

<sup>21</sup> Historical Data Systems, comp. "Noah Ogan," *U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865* [database on-line], Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009.

<sup>22</sup> National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). "Noah Ogan," *Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registration Records (Provost Marshal General's Bureau; Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865)*; Record Group: 110, *Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War)*; Collection Name: *Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865 (Civil War Union Draft Records)*; ARC Identifier: 4213514; Archive Volume Number: 3 of 3.

<sup>23</sup> "Servetus Ogan," Year: 1880; Census Place: Putnam, Ohio; Roll: 1061; Family History Film: 1255061; Page: 457D; Enumeration District: 141.

<sup>24</sup> Polk, R.L. *Columbus Directories: 1905*. "Servetus Ogan," Ancestry.com. *U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

<sup>25</sup> "S.W. Ogan Sr.," *Arkansas Gazette*, 4 January 1937, 5.

<sup>26</sup> "Pretty Wedding Solemnized," *The Lima Daily News*, 9 April 1906.

Ogan House

Cross County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

Ohio.<sup>27</sup> Yet, by November 2, 1909, the couple had moved to Wynne, because according to Treva Jane Ogan's Birth Certificate, their place of residence was Wynne. By 1913, the family is said to be living at 404 Church Street, Wynne, Arkansas, which is about 4 blocks south and one block west of the current home site. At some point between 1913 and 1920, the Ogan family moved into this large concrete-block American Foursquare home at the southwest corner of Forrest Avenue and Harrel Street.

### 504 Forrest Street Home

The culmination of the Ogan family moving to Wynne, Arkansas, a large population and building increase in the city, and the development and commercialization of concrete-block brought on the construction of the S.W. Ogan House at 504 Forrest Avenue. It is still unclear exactly why the family or the contractor used the concrete-block, given the readily available timber supply within the area. Nonetheless, the home was built using this rather new building material for its construction. Only a block to the north Harrel Street is another concrete-block building that used the same material, only it was constructed in the Craftsmen style of architecture rather than the American Foursquare form of house. The American Foursquare is not actually an architectural style, but rather an architectural form, that usually has stylistic ornamentation applied to the form and was a very popular form of house throughout the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This form of architecture takes on the stylistic ornamentation of Craftsmen, Colonial Revival and Prairie architecture, and had really become popular at the same time as the other significant events leading up to the construction of the Servetus W. Ogan House.

The American Foursquare form generally "has a simple square or rectangular plan, low-pitched hipped roof, and symmetrical façade. One-story wings, porches, or carports are clearly subordinate to the principle two-story mass."<sup>28</sup> Like the front entrance on the Servetus Ogan House, the entrance is generally centered in order to keep the overall symmetry of the façade. On this home, like on other vernacular examples of this building form, "hipped dormers are common, as are full-width, single-story front porches. This would not be the first American Foursquare form home built of ornamental concrete-block. Given the coordinating dates of the influx of the concrete-block material and the building form, there are multiple examples of this material and form being used together during construction in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Yet, the level of detail in this home is incomparable to any other American Foursquare, using frame or block construction. The detail in the individual concrete-blocks, molded to have dentils shaped into the block is unseen in American Foursquare form buildings in Arkansas. In going through and adding the detail that is visible in this home's exterior, it shows that Mr. Ogan spared no expense when designing and constructing this home for his family. The Ogans seemed to be able

<sup>27</sup> An obituary from *The Lima Daily News*, that that Mr. Ogan lived in Lima for three years following graduation before moving to Arkansas. The obituary also has everyone name misrepresented Servetus Ogan Sr. is labeled as a Jr. While S.W. Sr. father Noah is labeled as S.W. Sr. "S.W. Ogan Jr.," *The Lima Daily News*, 4 January 1937.

<sup>28</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005), 439.

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

to spare no expense on the extra added detail as they were able to accommodate a servant, Hallie Johnson, and her daughter Lillian.

### After Construction

The massive American Foursquare was built roughly four years after his first daughter, Treva Jane, was born. This beautiful two-story home would also accommodate a set of twins, Servetus Wesley Ogan Jr. and Bonne Fay, right as the house was probably being built in 1913. Still with all of the joyous occasions including the birth of children, a beautiful concrete-block home and, successful law practice in Wynne, Arkansas, happening in Servetus Wesley Ogan Sr.'s life leading up to 1937, he died of a heart attack at the age of 55. This home is said to have stayed within the family until the 1950s and 1960s. However, Bonnie and the family remained very active following the death of their husband and father. Treva Jane was accepted into the University of Arkansas where she was an editor of the Razorback newspaper. At the same time that Treva Jane was active on campus in Fayetteville, Arkansas, her mother Bonnie was also active in visiting relatives and caring for the twins. After Treva was married she would visit her daughter in Oklahoma before returning to her house in Wynne.

The home was sold a few times following the original owners selling of the property and the front porch renovated from concrete-block to wooden post. Following the changes to the front porch, the house fell in to disrepair and foreclosure around 2011.

Though the variations of this form of architecture continued to progress and evolve over the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the Servetus W. Ogan House remains an excellent example of the variation of American Foursquare architecture being constructed in the early year of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century before the building boom faded leading up to the Great Depression. Though there seems to have been a high point around 1905 to 1906 for the use of concrete-block construction. Many architecturally significant buildings were built of concrete-block during this period. Though no real answer has been given why the "initial energy that revolved around concrete-block faded away by the 1930s,"<sup>29</sup> one could generally state the lack of housing being built during this time played big into the phasing out of the more ornamental concrete-block. "Unfortunately, the negative attitudes toward concrete-block still exist today among those who use and study architecture."<sup>30</sup> This attitude could come from the lack of knowledge about this history of the product, causing this type of building and construction method to be threatened over time. Though concrete-block construction of the present may not spark flashes of architectural genius, the buildings built using the material in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century were architecturally pleasing by applying this material to significant styles of the period.

Therefore, the Servetus W. Ogan House in Wynne, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion C** its association with ornamental concrete-block construction following the 1904 World's Fair.

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<sup>29</sup> Hall, 67.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid, 68.

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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*The Arkansas Gazette, 1937.*

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*The Lima Daily News, 1906-1937.*

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.

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Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): CS0192

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreege of Property <1

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 701359 | Northing: 3900630 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

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

Brookfield's Third Addition S 162 FT Lot 1, Block 6

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the remaining land and buildings historically associated with the building.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Travis Ratermann (Survey Historian)  
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
street & number: 323 Center St. Suite 1500  
city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201  
e-mail Travis@arkansasheritage.org  
telephone: 501-324-9874  
date: August 6, 2015

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, 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.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Servetus W. Ogan House

City or Vicinity: Wynne

County: Cross

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Travis Ratermann

Date Photographed: June 25, 2015

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

Photo #1 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0001)

South elevation of the building. Camera facing North.

Photo #2 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0002)

Perspective of the South and West elevations. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #3 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0003)

East elevation of the building. Camera facing West.

Photo #4 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0004)

Detail of the enclosed back porch, which was enclosed c.1950. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #5 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0005)

North elevation of the building. Camera facing south.

Photo #6 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0006)

Detail photograph of the balustrade. Camera facing north.

Photo #7 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0007)

Ogan House  
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas  
County and State

Detail photograph of the various concrete block forms that are consistent throughout the exterior cladding of the home. Camera facing south.

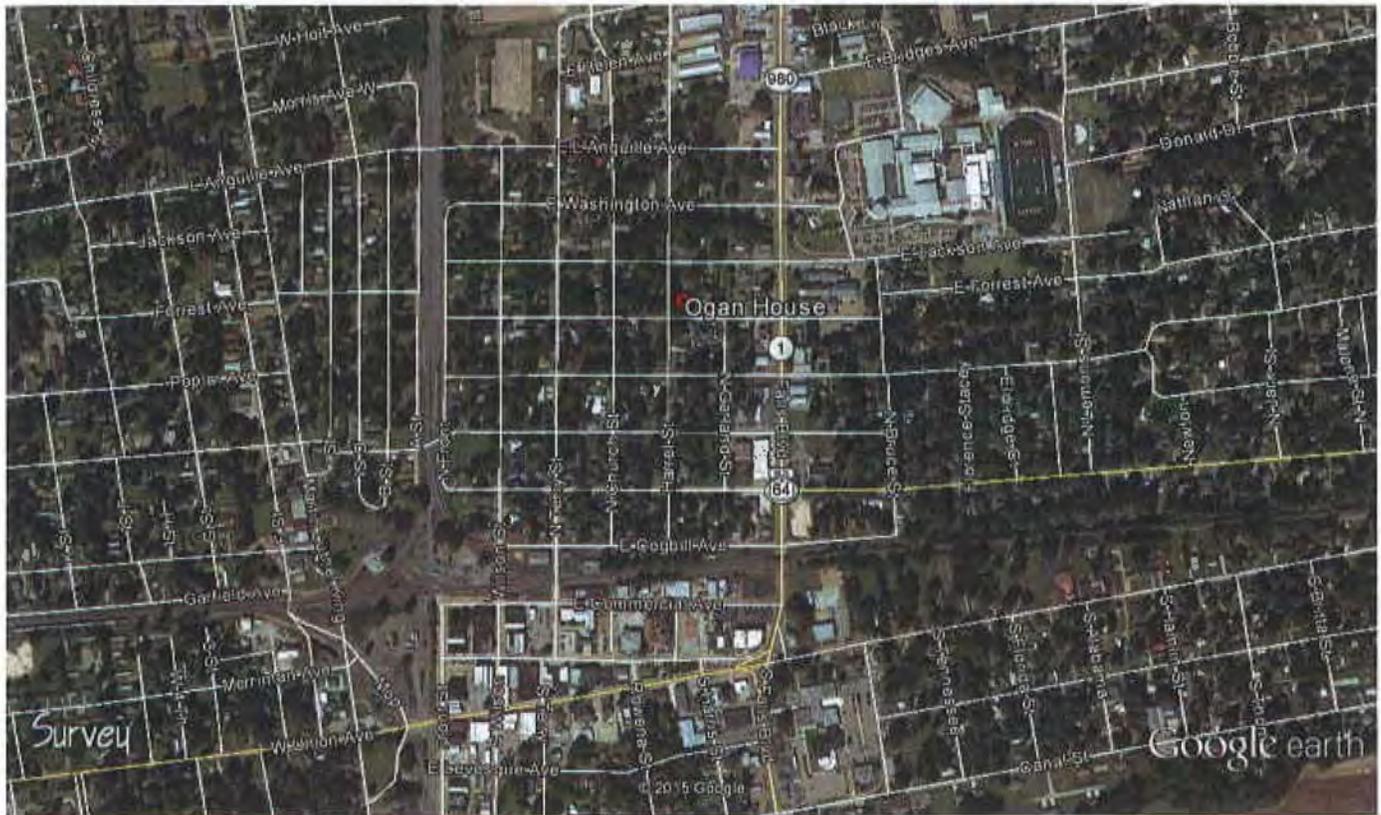
Photo #8 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0008)  
Perspective of the North and East elevations. Camera facing west.

Photo #9 (AR\_CrossCounty\_Servetus\_W\_Ogan House\_0009)  
Detail photograph of the concrete blocks molded to form dentils just below the soffit. Camera facing south.

**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.

# Servetus W. Ogan House, Wynne, Cross County, Arkansas



Google earth



**UTM**

**15 701359 3900630**

**NAD83**

**Servetus W. Ogan House, Wynne, Cross County, Arkansas**



Google earth



**UTM**

**15 701359 3900630**

**NAD83**



















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Ogan, Servetus W., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Cross

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/09/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/24/15      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000624

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    9-28-2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Interesting - one of 2 potentially eligible similar houses in town*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Gabbert      DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N see attached

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS  
**HERITAGE**

August 5, 2015

**RECEIVED 2280**

**AUG 14 2015**

**Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service**

Asa Hutchinson  
*Governor*

Stacy Hurst  
*Director*

J. Paul Loether  
Deputy Keeper and Chief  
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.  
Washington D.C. 20005

RE: Servetus W. Ogan House– Wynne, Cross County,  
Arkansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are enclosing for your review the Servetus W. Ogan House Nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Travis Ratermann of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacy Hurst  
State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:tar

Enclosure

---

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program



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