

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

JAN 15 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Watts, M. L., House
other names/site number Watts-Adams House

2. Location

street & number Fourth at Jefferson Street, NE corner N/A not for publication
city, town Athena N/A vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Umatilla code 059 zip code 97813

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official *David G. Ball* Date January 5, 1988
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. *Patrick Adams* *3/9/88*
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Tudor Revival (English Cottage)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Brick

roof Wood: wavy shingle
other Stone
Glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 15 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1

The Watts-Adams House was built in 1926 for Marville L. Watts in the small, wheat-farming community of Athena, Oregon. The design by architect Raymond Walter Hatch was in the English Cottage style then popular among the well-to-do families in the larger cities of the Pacific Northwest.

While Arts and Crafts elements abound, the expert hand of Raymond Hatch captured the homely feeling of the English country houses. The brown brick lends warmth; the stature of the house hugs the ground; and the form of the house varies in the proper organic manner. Hovering over the whole assemblage and insuring the Englishness of the feeling are the waves of shingles and rolling eaves of a false thatched roof. The result is one of the most distinguished houses in Umatilla County, and the finest rendition of the English Cottage style in northeastern Oregon.

SETTING AND SITE PLAN

The groundplan of the Watts-Adams house consists of a shallow "U", with a centered entry on the long side, facing outward, and the bedroom wing and port cochere forming rear wings at either end. The house is situated on the west side of the three 50' x 120' lots that comprise the property, located on the northeast corner of N. 4th and E. Jefferson streets just north of the downtown district of Athena. To the east of the house is a half-circle driveway lined by perennial flowerbeds and, to the north a large garage, separated from the house by a walled-in patio and rose garden. A fine, tree-shaded lawn extends within the half-circle drive and around the south, west, and north sides of the house. Evergreen shrubbery composes the foundation plantings, and there is a mixed shrubbery border along the north property line. Magnificent London planetrees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) line the parkway along both streets, and by their massive size, point to having been planted as part of the original landscaping for the house. The blueprints for a landscaping scheme for the property were preserved and have been reproduced in this document. However, most of the shrubbery has been replaced.

The surrounding neighborhood includes many fine old homes, mainly dating from the 1885-1905, quite a number of which are being included on the historical inventory for Athena, currently being prepared by the Umatilla County Planning Department. The setting is residential and peaceful, with many large shade trees and pleasant yards. The location is easily accessible from Oregon Highway 11, a major interstate route between Pendleton, Oregon and Walla Walla, Washington. Athena is a prosperous farming community and rural service center of 1000 population, located midway between these two

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 15 1988

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

cities.

FORM AND PLAN

The Watts-Adams House is a one-and-one-half story structure rising above a full, high-ceilinged basement. On the main floor, the tile-floored entry leads through low, wide archways to the living room to the south, and the dining room to the north. Another, smaller arch leads to the back hall connecting the bedrooms and bathroom with the kitchen. The living room and solarium to the south form the entire south wing of the house, the port cochere extending eastward from a secondary entry via the solarium. To the north, the dining room leads to a well-lighted breakfast room and the kitchen which occupy the northwest corner of the house. Behind, to the east, are the back hall and bedroom wing. The two large bedrooms on the main floor are both corner rooms provided with large multi-paned windows. They are separated by a shared, tiled bath and walk-in closets. An added feature of the north bedroom is a small sleeping porch with screened windows. Built-in closets line the back hall.

Downstairs, much of the basement was finished as additional living areas. A large family room and library are joined by the laundry, wood storage, and fruit rooms which are more expected in a basement. The high ceilings and spacious rooms bely the fact that one is underground, and add immensely to the square footage of the house.

Upstairs, the attic was apparently left unfinished for many years. By the 1940's however, several bedrooms had been created, and there is room for another bath. Dormer windows light these rooms.

INTERIOR APPOINTMENTS

The interior of the house is light, with white, stuccoed walls, large multi-paned windows, and natural oak woodwork. The feeling is not at all the dark, heavy Tudor interior one somehow expects from the outward appearance of the house. Also, the whole tone is one of subtlety. The elegance of the house relies on the simplicity of the treatment: expanses of natural wood; soft, white, pebbly-finished stucco; light streaming in the many windows. Ornamentation in the normal sense is quite restricted.

The house is entered through the stone-arch portal of the gabled porch. To either side of the leaded, beveled-glass, French door are matching side lights with centered medallions of painted, stained glass. The entryway is cruciform and vaulted, with the vaults rising

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 15 1988

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

in low Tudor arches to a Gothic, iron-filigree lantern at the junction. Closets occupy three corners and a dumb-waiter for firewood the other. These doors all are natural-finished oak with plain, recessed center panels. A narrow, open, ironwork grill of leaves and flowers trims the archway to the back hall that is opposite the front door. Single-candle wall sconces of wrought iron add additional accent.

To the right of the entry, the open archway leads into the spacious living room. The east and west walls are nearly all windows: tall multi-paned French casement windows with several painted, stained glass medallions. The south wall consists of the wide fireplace with multi-paned double French doors to either side, opening into the solarium. The fireplace is a large, but simple affair with a Tudor arch casing of cast-stone. There is a grape-leaf motif incised into the corners of the arch and cast-stone quoins extend into the wall area to either side of the fireplace opening. A simple, cast-stone mantel shelf supported on brackets is located above the fireplace opening, and two great, brass andirons sit on the tile hearth in front. The rest of the fireplace is stuccoed to match the walls, so it does not visually dominate the room.

The dining room is to the left of the entry, accessed through double French glazed doors set into the archway. Leaded glass oak cabinets are set into the corners. A large hexagonal, iron filigree lantern and wrought-iron wall sconces carry the same design as those found in the entry. Over the wide, four-part, segmental arch, leaded glass window is a simple wrought-iron trim.

From the north end of the dining room, another multi-paned French door leads to the sunny breakfast room. It features a large built-in breakfront of oak and leaded-glass that matches the cabinets in the dining room. An unusual feature of the windows in these various cabinets is the use of a round-topped "keyhole" arch to form the opening for the glazing.

The other rooms of the house are also simply finished with clean, plain, painted walls and the lovely oak trim. Throughout the main floor area, the rooms are provided with hardwood floors, once adorned by Marville's collection of oriental rugs. The windows are all large, tall double casements with 15 panes separated by muntins. Most of the windows are in double sets, and the corners at the back of the house provide an abundance of light to the bedrooms. Throughout the house, the door and window casings are plain and flat with a beaded edge composed of a separate, narrow molding. The baseboards are tall, plain, and flat, with molded tops and a quarter-round molding at the foot. All of this trim is done in natural-finished oak.

JAN 15 1988

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

Upstairs, the rooms are finished in the prevailing style of the 1940's with white painted woodwork and plastered walls. The main bathroom is also an exception to the norm, in that virtually the entire room is sheathed in yellow tiles trimmed in a green bead molding, also of tile, and narrow friezes of molded tiles in a floral relief.

EXTERIOR DETAILING

The brick used on the Watts-Adams House is a blend of muted, warm light grayish- and reddish-browns, considerably softening the appearance of the house. Use of the common red brick would have given a heaviness, a massive feel, to the house. The enormous, sweeping false thatched roof avoids the feeling of massiveness as well by the undulating courses of cedar shingles and the breaking up of planes by dormers and chimney plinths. It is stained a warm, reddish-brown that complements the brickwork.

The other primary materials used on the exterior of the house are the wooden window sashes and cast stone. A round-arched portal of rough-cut stone blocks imparts a Romanesque feeling to the entry and draws the eye to it as the focal point of the front facade. Stone is also used as a narrow, crosetted casing around the leaded glass west windows in the living room, and stone sills are used beneath each window on the front of the house. Elsewhere, the sills are of brick.

In proper English tradition, the windowheads rise up to the eaves for the standard multi-paned casement windows found around the house. The sashes are all painted ivory, while the mullions, heads, and jambs are painted a dark brown.

The great hipped roof is visually relieved and broken up by the use of a crossed gable over the living room, a lower, projecting gable over the entry, two small double-pitched dormers, the great chimney stacks, and the irregular plan of the house. A polygonal oriel window with leaded glazing sprouts from the gable-end over the living room, and each of the dormers sport a pair of multi-paned, horizontal casements, with false half-timbering in the tiny gable-ends above the windows. The chimney stacks are each compound with twin chimney pots of unequal height. They rise high above the ridge of the roof. At the eaves an ivory-painted metal gutter encircles the house, with charming downspouts sporting cartouches of a tulip shape with embossed bird and crenelated top.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
_____	1926 _____	1926 _____
Architecture _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	Cultural Affiliation	_____
_____	N/A _____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Significant Person	Architect/Builder	
Marville L. Watts _____	Raymond Hatch _____	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The house at the NE corner of 4th and Jefferson Streets in Athena, in northeastern Umatilla County, was built in 1926 for Marville L. Watts, one of the prominent wheat and pea growers in the county, and also one-time mayor and officer in the First National Bank of Athena.

Designed by Raymond Hatch, the Watts House is a well-preserved and singular example locally of period residential architecture in the English Cottage style. Notwithstanding its rural location, it compares favorably with the leading examples of English Cottage architecture in the state. As the leading example of English Cottage architecture in northeastern Oregon displaying a roof with wavy cedar shingles and rolled eaves in imitation of thatch, it meets National Register Criterion C.

Exterior elevations of the commodious 1½-story house are faced with brick. The house is otherwise distinguished by its wavy shingle roof cover and rolled eaves in imitation of thatch, and by its picturesque Roman-arched porch entrance, multi-paned casement and oriel windows, and Arts and Crafts interior with Tudor touches, epitomized by living room chimney piece with its four-centered pointed arch.

The house is noteworthy also for its association with the original occupants. Marville Watts (1884-1948), like his brother, Circuit Court Judge Homer Watts, was clearly a leading figure in the small and prosperous farming community of Athena. Watts occupied his house for 22 years before his death in 1948. His wife, Jennie Anderson Watts continued in the house with her daughter and son-in-law, the Clason Adams, thereafter. Mrs. Watts in fact, held title to the property in her own name from the outset.

Research for the nomination has brought to light interesting, detailed information on the career of the architect, Raymond Hatch (1883-1928), a Denver native trained at the University of Pennsylvania, who practiced in Boise before moving to Pendleton in 1915. It was in 1915 that Hatch was associated with Folger Johnson as supervising architect during construction of the Umatilla County Library. Hatch designed a number of buildings in the county, including the Bank of Echo (1920), a National Register property, before he moved to Portland about 1924.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Gaston, Joseph, Centennial History of Oregon (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1912). Vol. II, 505; Vol. III, 751, 778.

Lawler, Roxanne, "Gingerbread House," Walla Walla Union-Bulletin (November 20, 1983).

Pendleton East Oregonian (February 9, 1948). Obituary, Marville L. Watts.

Umatilla County Probate Records.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Umatilla County Planning Department

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

UTM References

A

1	1
---	---

3	8	4	4	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	7	4	1	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is Lots 10, 11 and 12, Block 2, Kirk's 3rd Addition to the Town of Centerville, now City of Athena, in Umatilla County, Oregon.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area is comprised of the entire 120 x 150-foot parcel improved and occupied by Marville L. Watts, his wife and his daughter and son-in-law from 1926 onward.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steve Randolph, Planning Consultant

organization N/A date August, 1987

street & number 510 NW 4th telephone (503) 278-0366

city or town Pendleton state Oregon zip code 97801

JAN 15 1988

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Watts-Adams House is a finely-wrought example of the English Cottage style, and is indeed the finest rendition in northeastern Oregon. Architect Raymond Walter Hatch used the style, uncommon in this rural region, to create a truly distinguished house. Meticulously maintained since its construction in 1926, the house retains its original appointments and appearance on both the exterior and interior. The false thatched roof has earned the home the nickname of "The gingerbread house", and has given the place the status of an unofficial landmark. The Watts-Adams House is one of the architectural hallmarks of Umatilla County, and remains one of the two finest houses in the wealthy little farming community of Athena.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

MARVILLE L. WATTS

The Watts-Adams House was built for Marville L. "M.L." Watts in 1926 for a cost of \$26,000. Marville was born in Athena on 31 January 1884, only a few years after the town had been founded and was still known as Centerville. His parents were Thomas J. and Elizabeth Naylor Watts, who were married in 1871. Thomas was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Markham Watts, emigrants from England and Ireland respectively, and was born to them 31 August 1830, in Wayne County, Kentucky. The family had moved to Missouri in 1836, where Thomas J. was raised.

Although he was the only survivor of 10 children born to his parents, he evidently had inherited the "westering urge" from them, for in 1851, at age 21, he took an ox team to California or Mexico, presumably for hire, and in 1852, emigrated to California as a miner. His gold mining efforts took him to the Rogue River Valley of southern Oregon in 1856. In 1857, he changed careers, moving to Roseburg, Oregon, and then to Linn County in the Willamette Valley, pursuing the manufacture of chairs.

In 1869, Thomas sold out west of the Cascades and came to Umatilla

JAN 15 1988

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

County, which was then only seven years old, to raise stock. He married Marville's mother Lizzie Naylor in 1871. She was his second wife. Lizzie was born in Arkansas to Wilson and Apalona Naylor, natives of Virginia. She and Thomas had five children, of whom only Marville and his brother Homer survived.

Thomas had branched into wheat-farming, probably in the late 1870's when the crop became well-established on the arid bunchgrass hills of the county under a dryland farming system. He was successful in his farming endeavors and by 1911 owned 520 acres of wheatland. It is said that Thomas was well-known, successful, and had an excellent reputation. He had joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1858.

Marville and his older brother Homer were born into a good family. The degree of their parents success is indicated by the fact that both boys attended State Normal Schools and then universities. We will digress a moment to relate that both boys attained no small amount of wealth and local fame in their time. Homer, older by three years, graduated from Monmouth State Normal School in 1897, completed the Civil Engineering course at Throop Polytechnic Institute in Pasadena, California, obtained his B.A. from the University of Oregon in 1903, and then his L.L. from Harvard University in 1907. He returned to Athena, engaging in both farming and the practice of law. His "unusual educational acquirements" earned him region-wide recognition as an attorney. He was also active in civic promotion and educational improvements.

While lacking the degree of educational prowess attained by his brother, Marville was no intellectual slouch. He graduated from the Weston State Normal School in 1894. He taught school for two years and then went to Oregon State University, from which he graduated with a B.A. in 1899. He returned to Athena as principal of the Athena High School, a post he held until 1904. Then began his business career. The Preston-Schaffer Milling Company hired Marville as a bookkeeper, but then in 1906 promoted him to Manager of the company. In 1911, he became Director of the First National Bank of Athena.

Marville married Miss Jennie Anderson, who had come to Umatilla County in 1882. She was born in Virginia in 1874, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Anderson, later of Eugene, Oregon. Marville and Jennie had but one child, a daughter Vernita, born in 1901. The family was "widely and favorably known, having an extensive circle of friends." Marville was a member of the Democratic party, and though very active in civic affairs, he was not an office holder. He was also a member of the Elks, the Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias.

Marville Watts capitalized on the advantages extended to him in life

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

and accumulated a substantial amount of wealth. His interests in farming, banking, and milling were all profitable. The style, craftsmanship, and quality of this house are all symbolic of his success.

Marville Lawrence Watts died on Sunday, February 8, 1948, at age 74. He therefore lived in the home for 22 years. His obituary in the February 9, 1948, edition of Pendleton's "East Oregonian" stated that the funeral was to be held in Walla Walla, Washington, some 23 miles from Athena, with internment in the Walla Walla Mausoleum. The front-page article referred to M.L., as he was generally called, as "one of the best-known wheat and pea growers in the county." It added that he was the Vice-President of Preston-Shaefer Milling Company (of Walla Walla), was involved in other milling concerns, and was a "former banker" with the First National Bank of Athena. The February 12, 1948, edition of the "Athena Press" added that M.L. had served as Mayor of Athena and had been a member of the Masons, Knights of Pythias, and Odd Fellows. The article recalled he had been born on the nearby family homestead on Pine Creek, and that he was survived by his brother, Circuit Court Judge Homer Watts. His marriage to Virginia "Jennie" Anderson had occurred in Portland, Oregon, in September 1899, and Vernita Watts Adams was their only child. The reporter noted that while M.L. had not been in good health for sometime, he had carried on his duties as head of the local Preston-Shaefer Office and that of Athena Light & Power Company until the Friday before his death.

The Umatilla County probate records (#388-44) revealed that the family's mansion was owned separately by Jennie Watts and was not appraised as part of M.L.'s estate. The two lots that comprise the garden to the east of the house and contain the garage were however in his name and valued at \$1000. M.L.'s total estate was valued at \$650,000, much of which was divided equally between his widow and daughter.

JUN 15 1988

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5

VERNITA WATTS ADAMS

The only child of Marville and Jenny Watts, Vernita inherited this home and her parents extensive farmland holdings. Though a victim of polio in her childhood, Vernita seems to have had an optimistic and charitable outlook on life and used her inheritance for positive good. She married a California schoolteacher, Clayson Adams, no relation to the prominent Adams family of the Athena-Adams area. The marriage seems to have been a happy one, and Clayson did not seek to further their position in life by any higher ambitions. Vernita lived in this house all of her life. She died in 1981, at the age of 80.

According to Umatilla County Probate Record #447-12, Vernita Watts Adams inherited this house from her mother Jennie Anderson Watts following her death on July 24, 1956, at age 84. Vernita died at age 80, on October 17, 1981. She and her husband Clason had moved in with her mother upon the death of her father M.L. Watts in early 1948. Vernita had therefore lived in the home for 33 years, however her occupancy had commenced less than 50 years ago.

The probate records also enlighten us by adding that Vernita and Clason had refurnished the kitchen and were responsible for completely finishing and furnishing the upstairs bedrooms. They also had contributed some new furnishings downstairs to replace those that Jennie Watts had disposed of after M.L.'s death. However, there remained in the house on Jennie's death many of the original fine furnishings of the house, including: 2 large oriental rugs, 7 smaller ones, 2 bedroom sets, a piano, sunroom set, dining set, settee, large chair, small chair, and miscellaneous items including china, silver, paintings and draperies. It is our understanding these items were retained by Vernita, but were dispersed after her death.

Presumably this detail in the probate records was provided to explain the circumstances under which Jennie Watts and her daughter and son-in-law had cohabited this house so that the belongings and work of the Adamses was not included in the estate appraisal. In any event, Vernita Watts Adams was sole heir to her mother's estate, valued at over one half million dollars. The house alone was appraised at \$40,000, in August 1956.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

RAYMOND WALTER HATCH

When research began for this nomination, only the name of this architect and the fact that he designed this house were known. Many months and many telephone calls later, the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon, provided an obituary that opened the door to knowledge about Raymond Walter Hatch.

Raymond Hatch was born 30 December 1883, in Denver, Colorado, where he also grew up. At age 19, he moved to Boise, Idaho, with his parents. He went back east to school, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1909, from the School of Architecture, at age 26. He returned to Boise, and in 1910, married Miss Nettie Bunn, in Denver.

Hatch began the practice of architecture in Pendleton, Oregon, on 1 January 1915, as the supervising architect for Folger Johnson, of Portland, during the construction of the Umatilla County Library. On 14 July 1919, he was issued Certificate #41 under the auspices of the new Oregon State Board of Architect Examiners, via the "grandfather clause" for architects already in practice. His office in Pendleton was in the Despain Block, on SE Court St. His home was located at what was then 415 W. Wilson St., now NW Furnish, on Pendleton's North

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 1 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Hill.

While in Pendleton, he was active in the Presbyterian Church, and became friends with a number of prominent families. His obituary in the East Oregonian revealed that the L.L. Rogers and W.W. Green families drove to Portland to attend his funeral. Both of these families also became his clients. He designed at least three residences for L.L. Rogers, a very wealthy farmer and cannery owner, and a number of schools for W.W. Green, the County School Superintendent.

The late Miss Gwendolyn Rogers, daughter of L.L., was interviewed in 1986. She knew Raymond Hatch and lived in the mansion he designed for her parents. She described him as "very talented and particular, a stickler for detail." She remarked that no two of his houses looked alike, that each one was a unique design catering to the tastes of his clients. She recalled that her family was heartsick over his sudden, early death. She felt he was a good, dedicated, Christian man.

Hatch moved to Portland, Oregon, about 1924, to further his career. His office was in the Henry Building, and his home was located at 792 East 22nd North (now 3724 NE 22nd Ave.) He became a deacon in the Westminster Presbyterian Church and a member of the Knights of Pythias. He was also a charter member and one-time president of the Exchange Club, a Portland businessmen's luncheon club. He died on 13 April 1928, at Good Samaritan Hospital, in Portland, at the age of 44, as a result of blood poisoning contracted due to an infection in his nose. He was survived by his wife, Nettie, a daughter Winifred, aged 6, his mother, Mrs. Isabel Hatch, and a brother, A.M. Hatch, both of Boise.

Raymond Hatch was the most talented and versatile local architect this researcher has encountered in his experience inventorying historic buildings in Umatilla County, Oregon. Hatch was well versed in historic period styles in the tradition of the American Renaissance. However, while his houses show a special interest in traditional styles, Colonial, English Cottage, or Norman Farmhouse, his detail work often shows the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement. His numerous public school buildings exhibit an abstract Classicism. His talents earned him a listing in the 1925 issue of the "American Art Annual."

Hatch was very active during his ten-year practice in Umatilla County and continued to design commission in the County following his removal to Portland. In addition to the Watts-Adams House in Athena, the following buildings are known to have been his designs:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 15 1988

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

ADAMS: High School, 1919
BINGHAM SPRINGS: Rogers family cabin (built in 1940's)
ECHO: Bank of Echo, 1920, already on the National Register
HELIX: Griswold Union High School, 1923
MILTON-FREEWATER: Milton Library, 1918, (a Carnegie project),
McLaughlin Union High School, 1922
PENDLETON: Umatilla County Library, 1915, (as supervising
architect), L.L. Rogers House, 311 N. Main, 1917 (Palazzo);
Mildred Rogers Davis House, NW Despain, 1925 (Norman
Farmhouse); James Johns House, NW Despain at 7th (stucco
Bungalow); House now owned by Elmer Kerns, 503 N. Main (New
England Colonial)
STANFIELD: High School, 1921

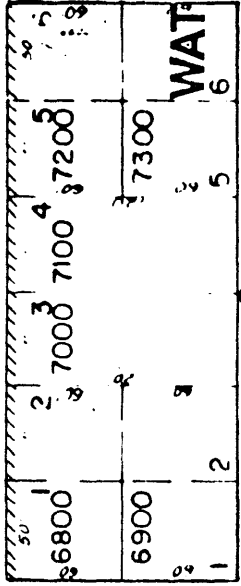
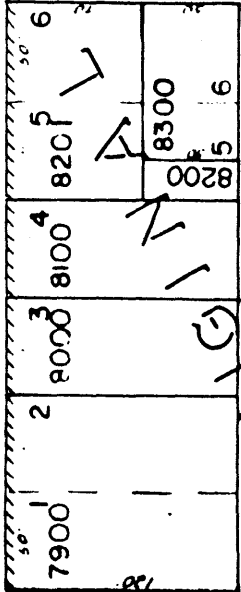
Hopefully, as further research on historic buildings continues in Umatilla County, other buildings will be identified as the work of Raymond Hatch. This researcher suspects, for example, that the Pilot Rock High School, 1919, and the first designs for the Vert Auditorium, 1926, in Pendleton, are his works. The latter building was not constructed until the late 30's, to another architect's designs. With one exception, Hatch's work in Portland has not yet been identified. It is known that he designed the former Nazarene Church, at 1021 SW 12th, in 1926. However, only the basement, first floor, and lower half of the tower were built at that time. The church was completed in 1946 to the designs of Walter Kelley.

So far, the Watts-Adams House is only the second Hatch project to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. However, further nominations are anticipated, since most of the buildings designed by Raymond Walter Hatch in Umatilla County, Oregon, are architectural and social landmarks.

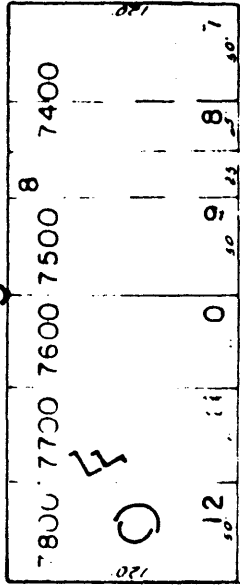
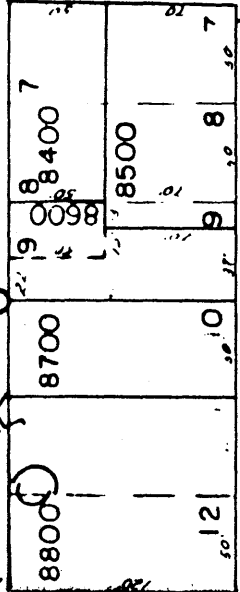
This researcher would like to extend his thanks to Richard Ritz, of Portland, the historian of the AIA Oregon Chapter, the late Miss Rogers, and the State Board of Architects Examiners for their assistance in sleuthing the story of Raymond Walter Hatch.

VAN BUREN

29-1

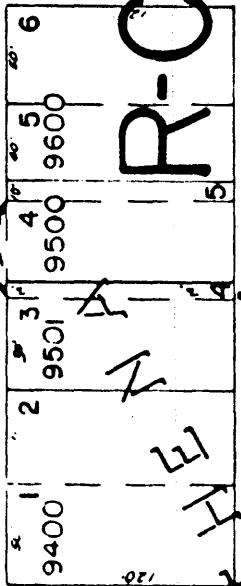
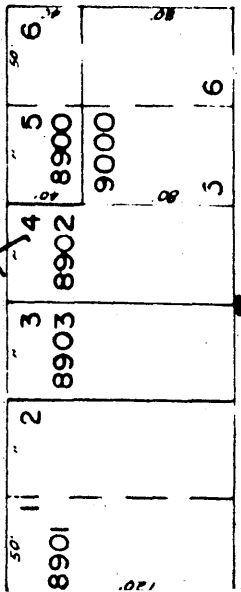


WATTS-ADAMS HOUSE

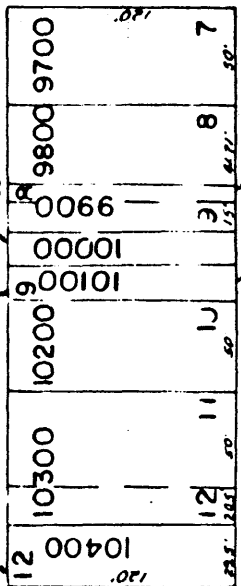
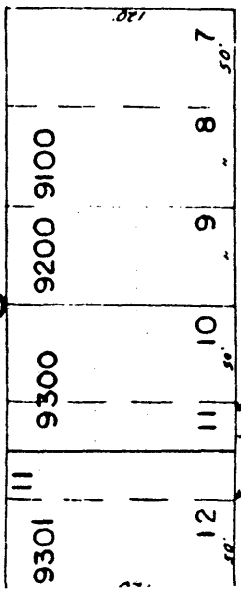


JEFFERSON

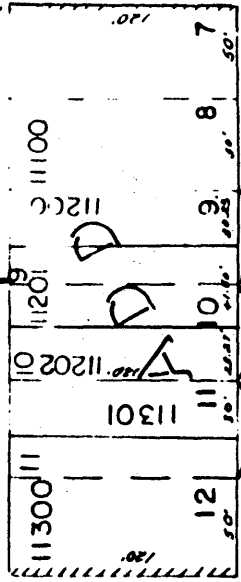
STREET



R-COM



C-CEN



MAIN
 MAP # 4N 35 19BD
 1"=100'

CITY OF ATHENA
 UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON

JAN 15 1988

City Sec.

THIRD

FOURTH