Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Hickory Hill; Thomas E. Watson House

AND/OR COMMON: Hickory Hill; Thomas E. Watson House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Hickory Hill Drive at Lee Street — __NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Thomson — __ VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10

STATE: Georgia — CODE: 13 — COUNTY: McDuffie — CODE: 189

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Walter Brown

STREET & NUMBER: c/o Hickory Hill

CITY, TOWN: Thomson — __ VICINITY OF — STATE: Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: McDuffie County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER: Main and Lumpkin Streets

CITY, TOWN: Thomson — STATE: Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

(314)

CITY, TOWN — STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	_RUINS	X ALTERED	_MOVED DATE_____
_FAIR	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built near the city limits of Thomson, Ga., by Capt. John Wilson shortly after 1864, Hickory Hill is an imposing, classical, 3-story, white-painted frame structure with a gabled roof. A full-height pedimented portico, supported by fluted columns with Ionic capitals of plaster, graces the front facade, and porches or balustraded verandas gird the house on the other three sides. About 1900, Thomas E. Watson, who at that time resided nearby in a house on Lumpkin Street, purchased Hickory Hill and its accompanying 1,000-acre estate from Captain Wilson's son. Watson then began to remodel and expand Hickory Hill to create the kind of house he had dreamed of for 15 years. While the work was being carried out, he continued to live on Lumpkin Street. During the remodeling process Watson installed in Hickory Hill the first electric lights in Thomson, the first gas and indoor plumbing, and his own waterworks and sewage disposal. He added the columns to the front of the house and had a conservatory built onto the rear. Fear of assassination caused him to encircle the estate with a cypress fence.

When Watson finally moved to Hickory Hill in 1904, it became a place of great political importance. Democratic politicians beat a path to his door because, says historian C. Vann Woodward, "news of Watson's favor or disfavor made or unmade many a candidate."[11] In 1910 Watson decided to establish his publishing business on the estate and he built a printing plant a quarter of a mile west of the house. From here, he issued a steady stream of weekly papers and magazines, books, pamphlets, letters and newspaper articles until 1917 when the plant burned.

According to Thomas Watson's great-grandson, Tom Watson Brown, Hickory Hill became the embodiment of Thomas E. Watson's ideals. Says Brown, "It is like an ante-bellum estate. You only have to read his writings and the story of his life to know why he idealized Hickory Hill."[12] And C. Vann Woodward after seeing Hickory Hill wrote that "in style as well as in name, Hickory Hill suggests Jackson's Hermitage rather than Jefferson's Monticello: the grandiloquent pretentiousness of a later Southern tradition rather than the chaste graciousness of an earlier."[13]

After Thomas E. Watson died, in 1922, his wife Georgia continued to live at Hickory Hill until her death in 1923. The house

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[11] Woodward, Tom Watson, 433.

433. [12] V. Williams, "New Life for Tom Watson's Old Home," The Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine (Atlanta, May 16, 1965), 9.

[13] Woodward, Tom Watson, 343.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1900-1922 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Wilson (and Thomas E. Watson)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tom Watson, according to his biographer C. Vann Woodward, was "perhaps the first native white Southern leader of importance to treat the Negro's aspirations with the seriousness that human strivings deserve."[1] As the South's leading Populist, he struggled in the 1890's to overcome ancient antipathies and urged a united front between white and black farmers in the Populist Party, arguing, says historian Norman Pollack, "that class interests cut across racial lines."[2] This made Watson a national figure of the first magnitude.

In addition he was one of the principal founders of the Populist Party, and in contrast to other party leaders who grasped at panaceas like free silver or fused with one of the major political parties, Watson struggled to keep the Populist Party committed to a program of broad reform. In 1896 after the Populists nominated Democrat William Jennings Bryan for President, Watson accepted the Vice Presidential nomination in the hope of preventing his party's demise. Despite appeals for him to withdraw in favor of the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, Watson refused and conducted an extensive campaign. He polled 217,000 votes in 17 States and received 27 electoral votes, but despite his efforts, the Populist Party was dead--as two later efforts by Watson to revive it demonstrated.

Ultimately defeated in his efforts to unite the races and create a political party committed to reform, an embittered Watson turned reactionary toward his former allies and played what historian George B. Tindall has described as a "leading role in summoning up the demons of malice" that infested the early years of the 20th century.[3]

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1 C. Vann Woodward, Tom Watson: Agrarian Rebel (New York,1963), 221.

2 Norman Pollack (ed.), The Populist Mind (Indianapolis, 1967), 361.

3 George B. Tindall, The Emergence of the New South, 1913-1945 (Baton Rouge, 1967), 185.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clark, Thomas D. and Albert D. Kirwan, The South Since Appomattox: A Century of Regional Change (New York: Oxford University Press, 1967).

Glad, Paul W., McKinley, Bryan, and the People (Philadelphia: J.B.Lippincott Co., 1964).

(cont.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY circa 70 acres.

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	17	359600	3704400
B	17	360000	3704400
C	17	360000	3704000
D	17	359600	3704000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See last page of description)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mary Jane Gregory and Ralph Christian, Assistant Editors; George R. Adams, Managing Editor

ORGANIZATION American Association for State and Local History

DATE January 1976

STREET & NUMBER 1400 Eighth Avenue South

TELEPHONE 615-242-5583

CITY OR TOWN Nashville

STATE Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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then remained vacant a few years until a granddaughter and her husband, now-prominent historian Avery O. Craven, moved to Hickory Hill. Dr. and Mrs. Craven tore down Watson's conservatory and kitchen, replaced them with an open terrace, and built a new fence around the estate. Craven began teaching at the University of Chicago in 1927, so apparently he and Mrs. Craven used Hickory Hill only as a summer home. Eventually they rented it to Frank Gibson, who lived there a year. After the Gibsons moved, Hickory Hill remained vacant until 1945 when Walter Brown, Tom Watson's grandson by marriage, bought the house. Brown and his son Tom Watson Brown have undertaken the restoration of Hickory Hill. Much of Thomas E. Watson's furniture, sold in the 1920's, has been brought back to Hickory Hill. The house itself has been renovated inside and out, and the grounds have been cleaned up. Tom Watson's 1820 log cabin birthplace has been moved onto the estate from its original site 3 miles away, and it is currently undergoing restoration. Of the original 1,000-acre estate, approximately 150 acres remain. The designated historic area includes about 70 of these.

Hickory Hill consists of a 3-bay-wide, white-painted frame central block and a one-story rear wing resting on a foundation that is partly white stone and partly brick. A small basement, now used as a game room, lies under the rear portion of the house. Paired ornamental brackets grace the eaves of the house's gabled roof, and two white-painted brick interior chimneys sit atop its ridge. A third brick chimney rises from the flat roof over the rear wing. Four massive, fluted, plaster-covered, wooden, Ionic columns support the denticulated cornice of the pedimented portico that dominates the front facade. In addition to this front (or south) portico, there are several porches and verandas. A one-story screened-in porch with balustraded roof adorns the east facade of the house, and a one-story, open, balustraded porch crosses the west facade. Four slim, fluted Ionic columns support the flat, balustraded roof of this gallery. The rear wing also has two small porches, one positioned on each side (east and west) under its flat, balustraded roof. At the rear of the house is an open, balustraded terrace. Most windows in the house are 2-over-2 sash with white wood frames and shaped lintels, and most are flanked by black-painted, wooden, louvered shutters. A fanlight graces the center of the pediment, above the portico.

Approach to the main entrance is by a broad concrete walk leading from the front gate to the portico. This walkway, lined by manicured hedges, is interrupted halfway to the house by a circular fountain

which Woodward describes as "faintly reminiscent of Versailles."[14] From the walk five steps ascend to the portico, which shelters the main entrance: an arcaded double door with two large rectangular glass panes, sidelights, and a rectangular transom. Pilasters on either side of the arcade extend upward to become brackets that support a small balustraded balcony at the second floor level. The door that opens onto this balcony is single leaf with a single glass panel and is flanked by sidelights and topped by a rectangular transom. In addition, there is a single door in each end of the central block and on each side of the rear wing.

The front door leads into a spacious central hall that features original heart-pine flooring with parquet borders. Walls have cream-painted, paneled, 4-feet-high wainscoting and wallpaper. Ceilings are white plaster. On each side of the central hall is a parlor, each of which features an intricately-carved, imported, Italian marble fireplace. There are four other such mantels at Hickory Hill, and each one is carved differently. Two semicircularly-arched doorways topped by fanlights provide access from the rear of the left parlor through a small passageway into the dining room. In the passageway a curio cabinet houses Watson's shell collection. Beyond the right parlor is a bedroom. The rear wing contains a breakfast room (originally a bath), the kitchen (originally a small living room), and a bath. On each side of the kitchen, a transomed door leads onto the rear veranda. Until at least the mid-1920's, when the Cravens removed them, a kitchen, conservatory, and pantry occupied the space where the veranda now stands and connected with a still-extant well shed at the rear of the house.

From the rear of the central hall, a two-run, open-well, ornamentally bracketed stairway ascends to the second floor. The staircase has a hand-turned oak banister with white wood balusters, and a decorative statue poses atop the newel post. The second floor central hallway, dominated by a great carved bookcase, provides access to four bedrooms. Tom Watson occupied the left rear bedroom. It remains much as he left it, containing his bed, wardrobe, and a chest of drawers that belonged to John C. Calhoun. Watson used the left front bedroom as his study. Steps lead from near the center of the second floor hall to the attic floor, which consists of a long central hall and storage rooms. At the front end of this hall, a doorway leads into a storage space built into the pediment over the portico.

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[14] Woodward, Tom Watson, 343.

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The Outbuildings. The grounds of Hickory Hill include numerous outbuildings of assorted vintage. Among these are five simple cottages situated randomly rear of the main house. Some of the cottages were intended for guests and some were used as servants' quarters. All the cottages are white frame structures with gabled roofs. A white-frame wellhouse, once connected with the main house, now serves as a tool shed. In addition to these structures, there are several storage buildings, a couple of barns, a garage, a water tower, a pigeon cote, a smokehouse, a pumphouse, and a corral.

Built in 1820, the cabin where Tom Watson was born is now relocated northwest of the main house. The 1 1/2-story birthplace has log walls covered with gray-painted wood siding. A raised porch with four pine posts and a shingle roof is affixed to the front. There is a smaller porch in the rear. Front and back doors are of vertical planks, and windows, newly installed, are six-over-six sash. Two end-placed, stone exterior chimneys are an outside manifestation of the two stone-hearthed fireplaces within. Downstairs, the cabin has a main front room, a smaller adjacent room, and a kitchen ell. A narrow staircase rises to the loft upstairs where Watson was born. The cabin retains its original pine flooring, ceiling beams, and log walls. It is surrounded by a split-rail fence.

The cabin and other outbuildings are located in a setting which includes pastures, orchards, gardens, woods, a pond, and a grape arbor. A white rail fence borders the estate in some places; barbed wire is used in other areas. Still visible, though partially hidden by dense undergrowth is a double row of oak trees lining a path that at one time led from the rear gate of the estate to the rear entrance of the main house.

Boundary Justification. Included within the boundary are Watson's house and the outbuildings, orchard, grape arbor, and garden that were part of the original estate. Also included are Watson's relocated birthplace cabin and a portion of his pastureland and timberland. The latter areas are essential to the preservation of the house's historical integrity and to its protection against encroachment from housing developments that have sprung up immediately to the north and northwest. In addition, the north, east, and south bounds conform to those in effect during Watson's occupancy.

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Boundary Description. As indicated in red on the accompanying maps, [U.S.G.S., 1:250,000, Ga.-S. Car., Athens Quad., 1953; Thompson Street Map, CSRA Planning and Development Commission, 1973; AASLH Sketch Map, 1976], a line beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of Hickory Hill Drive and running approximately 1,600 feet

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along the left curb of Lee Street to the southwest corner of its intersection with Magnolia Avenue; thence, northwestward about 1,000 feet along the left curb of Magnolia Avenue to its union with Beechwood Drive; thence continuing northwestward about 400 feet along the city boundary that is an extension of Magnolia Avenue to the point at which the city boundary angles sharply to the right; thence continuing about 200 feet north-northwestward along the city boundary to the point at which it angles sharply to the northeast; thence southward from the city boundary approximately 1,850 feet, passing to the right of Watson's birthplace cabin and to the left of radio station WTHO, to Ga. 223, which becomes Hickory Hill Drive as it enters the city limits; thence eastward about 2,100 feet along the left right-of-way of Hickory Hill Drive to the starting point.

Pollack, Norman (ed.), The Populist Mind (Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1967).

Tindall, George B., The Emergence of the New South, 1913-1945 (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1967).

Williams, Vinnie, "New Life for Tom Watson's Old Home," The Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine (Atlanta, May 16, 1965), 8-9, 16-18.

Woodward, C. Vann, Tom Watson: Agrarian Rebel (New York: Oxford University Press, 1938).

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Because of his large following among rural whites, Watson was a powerful force in Georgia politics, and until his death in 1922 carried on a virulent crusade against what he considered the menace of Negroes, Jews, and Catholics from the lecture platform and his newspapers and magazines.

Watson bought Hickory Hill in 1900 and resided here from 1904 until his death in 1922. The house, now being restored, is an imposing, classical, three-story, white-painted, frame structure with gabled roof. It is in good condition and rests on a designated tract of 70 acres, which includes numerous outbuildings and Watson's relocated birthplace cabin.

Biography

Tom Watson was born on September 5, 1856, on a plantation near Thomson, Ga., to John S. and Ann Eliza Watson. His family was prosperous and his early childhood happy, but the aftermath of the Civil War brought him and his family face to face with poverty, as gradually they lost all their land. Despite this lack of financial resources, Tom received a good preparatory education at a Thomson academy, and he attended Mercer University for 2 years before economic considerations forced him to leave school.

In 1873 Watson took a position as a rural school teacher and began to study law in his spare time. He passed the bar examination in 1875, but a lack of legal business forced him to resume teaching to supplement his income. About 1878, however, soon after his marriage to Georgia Durham, his practice began to prosper, and soon he developed a reputation as one of Georgia's leading criminal lawyers.

Watson first attracted wide public attention in 1880 when at the State Democratic Convention he delivered a speech opposing the gubernatorial nomination of "New Departure" Democrat Alfred H. Colquitt. This faction, whose principal spokesman was Henry W. Grady, urged industrialization of the State and when in power enacted legislation and tax policies favorable to large scale businesss enterprises. The group also favored an alliance with the eastern wing of the National Democratic Party. Watson, on the other hand, followed the lead of his political heroes Alexander H. Stephens and Robert Toombs, who while accepting the result of the Civil War, glorified the traditional agricultural order, generally opposed concessions to industrialism, and strove to maintain the old alliance with western Democrats. "Throughout the triumphant rise of the New South, in which he was to fight his battles," Watson, according to C. Vann Woodward, "remained fixed upon [a] vision of agrarian bliss."[4] In 1882 he won election as McDuffie County's Representative in the Georgia House, and there he tried to carry out his principles by unsuccessful assaults on the

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4 Woodward, Tom Watson, 6.

convict-leasing system, farm tenancy laws, and railroad tax privileges.

By the late 1880's declining prices for agricultural commodities had caused many Georgia farmers to join the Farmers' Alliance, an organization dedicated to using united action to secure higher prices and legislation favorable to the Nation's agricultural interest. Although Watson never joined the Alliance because it prohibited the admission of lawyers, he subscribed wholeheartedly to its principles. His successful fight against the jute-bagging trust in 1888 gained for him a following in the increasingly powerful organization and made him a man to be reckoned with in Georgia politics. He was an at-large elector for Grover Cleveland in 1888, and 2 years later he won election to Congress on an Alliance platform. In 1891 when the major parties refused to accept all Alliance demands, Watson was one of eight Representatives and two Senators who bolted and formed the Populist caucus, an important step in the creation of the Populist Party. He emerged as a leader of the group and was the Populists' candidate for Speaker of the House. He did not win, but on the House floor, he introduced bills on almost every aspect of the party's platform, including the subtreasury and income tax. But these were rejected, too. Watson's principal accomplishment was his 1893 resolution "providing for the first appropriation that the United States ever made for rural free delivery."[5]

Although defeated for reelection in 1892 by Democratic fraud and intimidation, Watson's influence and power continued to grow in Georgia. Continuously campaigning throughout the State, he urged a united front between white and black farmers on the ground that their interests were similar. Thus he became, says C. Vann Woodward, "perhaps the first native white Southern leader of importance to treat the Negro's aspirations with the seriousness that human strivings deserve."[6] By nominating a Negro to the Populist State Executive Committee and speaking to racially mixed audiences from the same platform as black speakers, Watson helped to bring the races closer together than they had ever been before; and, despite fraudulent Democratic election practices, the 1894 Populist gubernatorial candidate won 44.5 percent of the State vote.

By 1896, Watson, says Norman Pollack, had become "one of the half

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[5] Ibid. 244.

[6] Ibid., 221

dozen nationally prominent figures in the movement."[7] The Georgian struggled to keep all the Populists committed to a program of broad reform in contrast with other leaders who grasped at single panaceas like free silver and wished to fuse with one of the major parties. In 1896 after the Populist Party nominated William Jennings Bryan--already tapped by the Democrats--for President, Watson accepted second place on the ticket because he was "fighting to save his party."[8] Despite appeals from some Populists for him to withdraw in favor of Arthur Sewall, the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, Watson refused and conducted an extensive campaign, eventually polling 217,000 votes in 17 States and receiving 27 electoral votes. Despite Watson's efforts, the Populist Party was dead, as two later attempts by him to revive it attested.

After 1896 Watson tired of politics and devoted himself to writing, producing a history of France and biographies of Jefferson, Jackson, and Napoleon. In 1905 he began the publication of Tom Watson's Magazine, later known as Watson's Jeffersonian Magazine, a muckraking periodical characterized by trenchant editorials. In 1904 and 1908 politics beckoned again as he made two unsuccessful races for the Presidency on the Populist ticket.

These and his earlier defeats embittered Watson, and he became increasingly reactionary, especially toward minority groups. Turning on his former Negro allies, he became, according to Thomas D. Clark and Albert D. Kirwan, the "most vitriolic of race baiters," promising his support to Hoke Smith in the 1906 gubernatorial primary only after receiving a pledge that Smith would advocate Negro disfranchisement.[9] From the lecture platform and in the columns of his magazine and weekly newspaper, he preached race hatred and conducted lurid crusades against what he considered the menaces of Judaism and Catholicism.

From 1906 to 1922 Watson, because of his large following among

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[7] Pollack (ed.), The Populist Mind, 23.

[8] Paul W. Glad, McKinley, Bryan, and the People (Philadelphia, 1964), 185.

[9] Thomas D. Clark and Albert D. Kirwan, The South Since Appomattox: A Century of Regional Change (New York, 1967), 126.

rural whites, was the most powerful man in Georgia politics. "As a political boss of his kind Tom Watson was unique," says C. Vann Woodward, because "standing virtually outside the party he bossed, he manipulated it through its own machinery" by constantly playing one faction against another.[10] Only a nominal Democrat after 1908, he supported Theodore Roosevelt in 1912 and Charles Evans Hughes in 1916. Because of his bitter hatred of Woodrow Wilson, he opposed American entry into World War I and bitterly denounced wartime legislation like the Espionage and Conscription Acts to such an extent that the government revoked the mailing privileges for his publications in August 1917.

Although he continued to denounce Negroes, Jews, and Catholics, Watson now became a crusader for personal liberties--at least for personal liberties of white Anglo-Saxon Protestants. Using this civil liberties issue in 1918, Watson almost defeated Carl Vinson in a race for Congress, and in 1920 the old Populist led the popular vote in the Georgia Presidential primary. In that same year he entered the U.S. Senate primary against the incumbent Hoke Smith and Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey. In a campaign highlighted by Watson's attacks (1) on the American Legion, (2) the Wilson Administration's efforts to curtail the civil liberties of whites, and (3) Negroes, Jews, and Catholics, the old Populist won handily.

Entering the Senate in 1921, Watson introduced little significant legislation. He became recognized as the chief defender of the Soviet Government and the foremost advocate of American recognition of that regime. For several years, his health had been declining because of chronic asthma, and the Washington climate made his condition worse. Shortly after Congress adjourned, Watson died in Chevy Chase, Md., on September 26, 1922, at the age of 66.

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10 Woodward, Tom Watson, 433.