

F-5-86

John S. Watkins House
Monrovia vicinity
Private

Ca. 1908

The John S. Watkins House is a two-story frame Queen Anne style dwelling with german siding, a pressed metal roof and gables, and a polygonal end bay with gable ornamentation. Built in about 1908, the house is a good example of the late period of the Queen Anne style, in which the basic vernacular form of the 19th century house is still apparent, with variations in the bay arrangement and surface decoration. The house has a modern one-story porch on three elevations and the rear wing, which probably originally had an open two-level porch on the west, has also been altered. Land records show that the Watkins House was built after a 1907 equity sale of a 30-acre tract which was advertised as being ideal for division into building lots. The one-acre site was sold in 1908 to Watkins for \$200. Monrovia was having a small boom at the time, as a result of improvements to the B&O railroad line through the village.

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John S. Watkins House

Monrovia

Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function & Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/other dependencies

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John S. Watkins House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 5020A Green Valley Road not for publication

city, town Monrovia vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Larry E. & Linda E. Wetzel

street & number 5020A Green Valley Road telephone no.:

city, town Monrovia state and zip code MD 21770

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1653

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 671

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-5-86

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 2

The John S. Watkins House is a two-story frame Queen Anne style dwelling with a cross gable, a polygonal east gable end and gable ornamentation, and a modern one-story porch which encircles the house. The house was built about 1908 on the north side of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks near the village of Monrovia, Frederick County, Maryland. A small frame meathouse contemporary with the house is located immediately northwest of the house. The dates of the buildings were determined from land records and architectural details.

The house is covered with german siding and the roof is pressed metal. An off-center chimney rises near the junction of the cross gable and the main roof ridge. Pressed metal also covers the surfaces of the cross gable and the end and rear gables. The south elevation of the house is the original principal facade. The cross gable is centered over an irregular bay arrangement with two bays near the southwest corner and a single bay near the southeast corner. The modern one-story porch probably replaced an original porch on the south and east elevations. The porch has a lattice railing. The porch extends to the north elevation which is dominated by a two-story rear wing. Windows are 1/1 replacements and a pointed arch window is centered in the cross gable on the south. The east gable end has three sides and scroll-sawn brackets are at the gable corners. An ornamental gab' decoration with perforations and pendants is on the east end. The north elevati. has a plain 2/2 gable window and a paired window bay on the second floor. On the first floor are modern french doors. The west side of the wing has been enclosed, probably taking in an original two-story open porch. The interior of the house was inaccessible for this survey.

Meathouse: The one-story frame meathouse is located northwest of the rear wing. It has board and batten siding, except on the east elevation, which has german siding, and a corrugated metal roof. A window with 1/1 replacement sash is on the south elevation and a replacement glazed door is on the east elevation. A 2/2 window is in the gable above the door opening. The west elevation is covered with plywood siding, suggesting the possibility of another section of the structure having been demolished. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, domestic outbuildings were often combined, such as a meathouse and dairy or woodshed. The plywood may also be a temporary replacement of deteriorated original siding. The meathouse dates from the same period as the house, about 1908.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates C. 1908 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

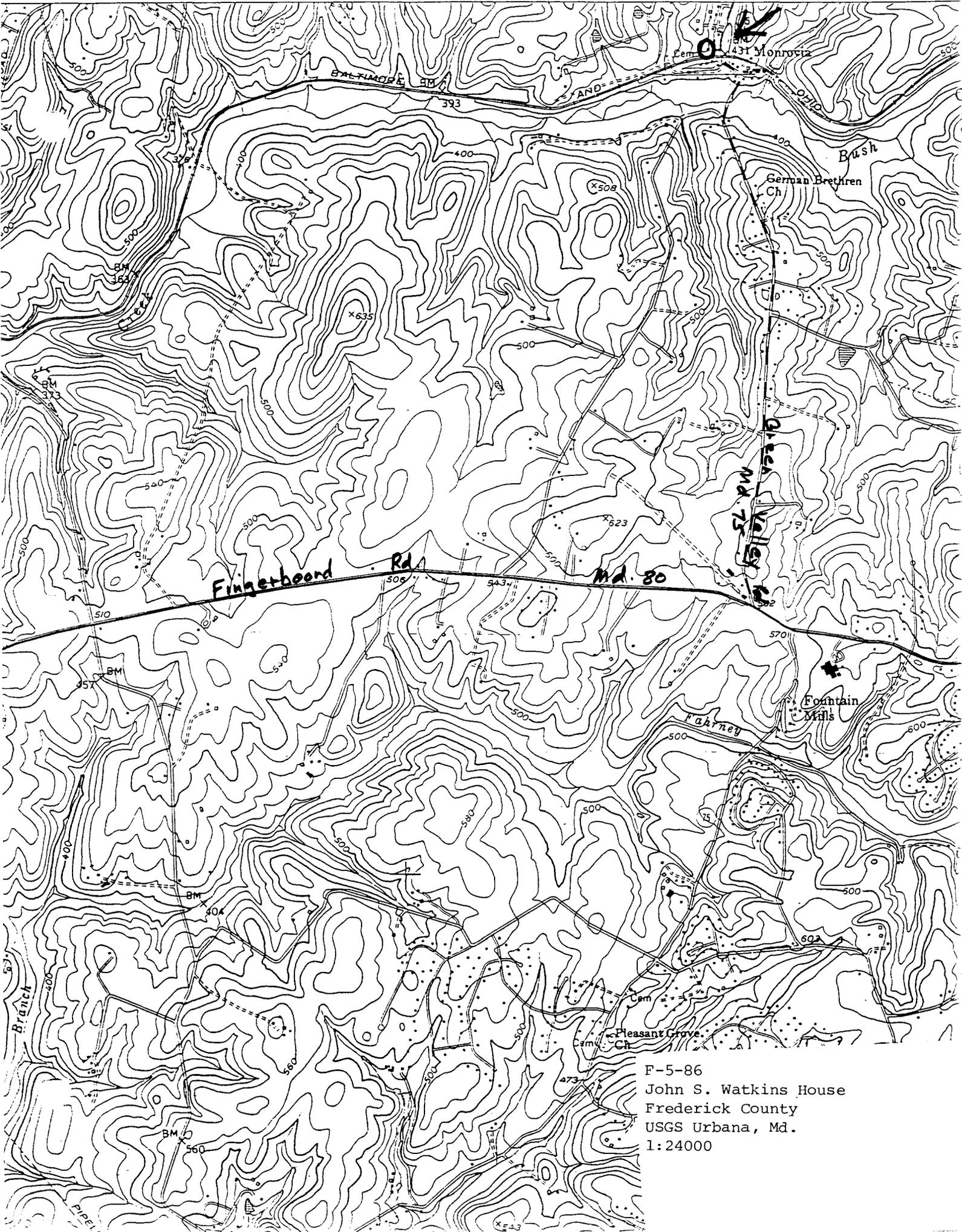
The John S. Watkins House is moderately significant in architecture for its Queen Anne style, exemplified by the polygonal end bay, decorative brackets and gable ornamentation. The house has been altered by the addition of a one-story porch which almost encircles the house, the enclosure of an originally open porch, and a french door on the rear wing. The house is a good representative of the late period of the Queen Anne style's popularity, retaining its basic form derived from the traditional German-influenced vernacular house of the 19th century, with the variation of an irregular bay arrangement and the applied features common in the late 19th and early 20th century. The house was built about 1908, possibly by John S. Watkins, near the village of Monrovia, which was experiencing a minor building boom as a result of the improvement and upgrading of the B&O railroad line which passes just south of the Watkins House. In 1907, an equity sale of 30 acres, including the Watkins House site, took place and the tract was described as "fronting on the newly piked road leading from Monrovia to New Market adjoining the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the property of Edgar L. Grimes and others; well watered and in a high state of cultivation, and surrounded by a post and rail fence. This property, lying on the west side of the new 'Shoemaker' road, can be readily divided into building lots . . ." John Calvin Walker, who purchased the tract in March 1907, apparently followed up on the division of one-acre lots. John S. Watkins bought the lot for \$200 in September 1908. Watkins may have been associated with the railroad. When sold in 1921, the Watkins property brought \$2,500.

5020A Green Valley Rd.

Lot Size, Description,
Original Tracts,
Miscellaneous

Liber/Folio	Grantee	Grantor	Lot Size, Description, Original Tracts, Miscellaneous	Cost
165 3/671 15 June 90	Larry E. & Linda C. Metzger	Gary S. & Lois A. Carr	1.0471A.	\$99,900 ⁰⁰
1562/728 12 May 89	Gary S. & Lois A. Carr	Earl E. Crone	1A.	\$15,000
1294/76 2 Aug 85	Earl E. Crone	Mary B. Scheer widow	1A.	\$15,000
722/708 7 May 65	Charles L. & Mary B. Scheer	Milton E. & Brenda S. Paul	1A.	
699/689 11 Mar 64	Milton E. Paul et ux	Douglas & Frances B. Crockett	1A.	
474/235 20 Sept 48	Douglas Crockett	Ray M. & Edna V. Watkins	1A.	
439/173 19 Aug 43	Ray M. Watkins et ux	H. Kieffer DeLauter	1A.	
439/172 19 Aug 43	H. Kieffer De Lauter	Ray M. Watkins et ux	1A.	
376/350 1 Dec 30	Ray M. Watkins	Charles H. & Florence I. Stor, Philadelphia	1A.	
333/572 28 Jan 21	Charles H. Stor et ux	John & Malissa B. Watkins	1A.	\$3500

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 Frederick County
 USGS Urbana, Md.
 1:24000



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Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis
April 1994

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.
Southeast corner view

1/2



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John S. Watkins House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1994

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

North elevation and breathouse

2/2