

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Ogden, H.C., House

other name/site number: Wise-Ogden House

2. Location

street & number: 12 Park Road

not for publication: N/A

City/town: Wheeling

vicinity: N/A

state: WV county: Ohio

code: 069 zip code: 26003

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian
Queen Anne

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation brick roof slate
walls wood other asphalt shingle

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Yes, state.

Applicable National Register Criteria: B, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Communications
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1893-1940

Significant Dates : 1893 _____

Significant Person(s): Ogden, Herschel Coombs

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Not Known

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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The Ogden House stands amid shade trees at the rear of an expansive lot on an elevated site above Woodsdale Park in the Woodsdale section of Wheeling, West Virginia. The tranquil, suburban setting of the large frame Queen Anne-style house at 12 Park Road is provided to the owner and adjacent properties through deed restrictions that date to the early 1890's. The deep lot, with its broad lawn running down to Park Road and Woods Run, is a picturesque setting that has survived into the late 20th century.

One of the first houses in Wheeling's suburban Woodsdale section, the Ogden residence is also one of the city's earliest and best surviving examples of free classic Queen Anne architecture in which elements of classicism and the Colonial Revival are present. All of the house's locally manufactured decorative detailing and design features have survived in an excellent state of preservation. The probable work of a Wheeling architect, the Ogden House combines materials and craftsmanship reflecting a quality of superior house building that has disappeared from the American scene.

Cross gabled at the rear, the two and one-half story house is T-shaped with three formally designed elevations. The house front exhibits the character defining features of the Queen Anne style with a deep full-width front porch carried with pairs and clusters of plain wood Doric columns. The porch wraps around the corner of the house, left of entrance, beneath a round tower crowned with an intriguing domed roof featuring an ogee profile (S curve). A large oval landing window is centered in the front facade above the porch; its white wood trim and wood keystones are in the Colonial Revival style. The front and side elevations are equally well detailed. Like the front, the sides are divided into contrasting textures. Square, coursed wood shingles cover the upper house walls (painted green) and flare slightly at their juncture with the narrow, decorative board siding of the first story walls.

Two features of the south facade are noteworthy. Because the architect was designing a fashionable and very up-to-date residence, he chose to amply light the interior, ornamented in a variety of handsome hardwood finishes, with large windows featuring multiple sashes in lines or pairs. The group of five arched windows within the south gable is one of the finest examples of this design tradition. At the ground level, a three-part dining room window contains a central upper stained glass panel with a jeweled border and a brilliant foliar pattern in hues of peach, green, gold, and rose. Beneath this panel is a solid exterior apron upon which a relief, arabesque-style pattern is centered.

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The opposite, or north, elevation is neatly designed with three-part, double-hung windows. Here a spectacular keyhole window, with radiating clear bevelled panels, provides an elegant glow. Its lyre-like colored lines, green and brown herringbone border, and centrally placed jewels remind one of a crystal spiderweb. Beneath the window, as with the flanking three-part window, are aprons with decorative raised panels. Windows in the ell at the rear of the Ogden House are also tall, doublehung types. The ell, however, has a distinctive jerkinhead gable. Attached to the rear ell is a one-story kitchen-storage wing with a steeply pitched roof.

Interior spaces are richly appointed in fine woods. Traditional to the late 19th-century American house are the following: spacious entrance vestibule and oak-paneled foyer; open-well stair; inglenook; free flowing spaces between rooms; pocketdoors; ornamental plasterwork; solid paneled doors; window seats; open-beamed library ceiling; foyer-hallway spindlescreen; enriched mantels and overmantels; crown cornices; and tilework. Significant to the Ogden House is the survival of all the above in an excellent state of preservation. Oak, for example, provides an element of strength in the foyer/stairhall. Solid newels are carved with serpentine patterns. Curly maple highlights the left parlor, while mahogany is the preferred wood for the library. Light reflecting through beveled or faceted panes casts its special and intended effect. The oak-paneled dining room, with a Wheeling Hobbs-Brokunier chandelier, is a prime example of how light reflects and refracts about a Victorian room.

While upper floors of the 15-room house are trimmed in less expensive woods, the dignified open, high-ceilinged spaces are the same. The century-old Ogden House preserves its original fabrics and statements of taste that are significant West Virginia cultural resources.

Dependency

A contributing 1-story Four Square-style stucco garage stands at the rear of Lot 3, at the line with Central Alley. The building features a slate-covered hip roof with hipped dormers. Brackets, typical of this building type, are its principal ornamentation. The c. 1915 structure is a contributing resource.

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Significance

The H.C. Ogden House at 12 Park Road, Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia is significant under Criterion B for its association with Herschel Coombs Ogden (1869-1943), a publisher, community leader, and businessman significant in the history of West Virginia. Ogden built the largest, most influential newspaper group in West Virginia, beginning his career as a reporter for the Wheeling Register. He founded the Wheeling News in 1890. Considered a crusading publisher, Ogden managed his newspapers with creativity, campaigning successfully for tax reform, worker protection, and humanitarian legislation. The Ogden House derives additional significance, under Criterion C, as a Wheeling, West Virginia, architectural landmark of the Queen Anne style.

"Lot 3 Woodsdale," upon which the Ogden House stands, was platted as part of an exclusive suburban neighborhood in 1890-91. Once part of the Woods farm, the development along Park Road was privately accessed. The purpose of the development reflects a national trend recalling the movement of upper class populations in the late 19th century to cleaner, quieter, and more idyllic locations outside the grimy cores of the nation's industrial cities.

The house at 12 Park Road was constructed about 1893, apparently for George Wise, a Wheeling businessman. In 1906, H.C. Ogden bought the house and resided there until his death in 1943. The house is significant because of its association with Mr. Ogden.

H.C. Ogden was born in Worthington, West Virginia. He was a graduate of Fairmont Normal School (later Fairmont State College) and West Virginia University (1887). Locating soon thereafter in Wheeling, Ogden entered the local newspaper business where he established the Wheeling News in 1890. This newspaper became the first permanently successful evening paper in Wheeling. By 1904 Herschel Ogden owned the Wheeling Intelligencer, an old, famous West Virginia newspaper that had a significant influence in the anti-slavery and West Virginia statehood movements. In later years, other newspapers, mainly in West Virginia, were acquired. These included: Weirton Daily Times, Moundsville Journal, Fairmont West Virginian, Fairmont Times, Parkersburg Sentinel, Parkersburg News, Martinsburg Journal, Elkins Inter-Mountain, Point Pleasant Register, Hinton Daily News, Williamson Daily News, Welch Daily News, The Braxton Central (weekly). Ogden either owned, or had substantial interest in, all of the above papers.

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Although involved in a number of banking institutions, manufacturing, and chemical businesses in the state, Ogden is remembered particularly for his reform stands, advancement of organized labor causes, and tax reform. An example of H.C. Ogden's ideas on tax measures appeared in the Wheeling Intelligencer. In his "A Tax on Oil and Gas in West Virginia," a pamphlet authored by Ogden, Eugene Thoenen, in his History of the Oil and Gas Industry in West Virginia, p. 316, relates the following:

As to why natural gas should be taxed, the editor reasoned that natural gas is public property because it belongs to no individual; that gas lacks the qualities which allow the establishment of individual ownership; that it is not the product of man's labor, nor is it a combination of materials belonging to any individual. Then, too, the nature of the supplying and transporting natural gas makes it a monopolistic business, thus a more desirable tax target than the property of everyone by a direct tax. The burden of tax, he maintained, will be borne by persons outside the state where most of the gas is sent and marketed. He contended that the Legislature should legislate for the benefit of West Virginia, by whose population they were elected, rather than for the benefit of Ohio, Pennsylvania, or Maryland, and that if the gas remained in West Virginia it would benefit the citizens by bringing industries into the state.

In addition to business activities, H.C. Ogden was, for over 40 years, active in numerous civic organizations and charitable causes.

The Ogden House remained home to H.C. Ogden until his death in 1943. Virtually unchanged to the present, the house is an excellent Wheeling example of Queen Anne architecture. Many decorative textures and features identify the architectural character of the Queen Anne style, among these: narrow siding, shingle siding, wrap-around porch, triangular section in top of gable extended forward, and corner tower. The Woodsdale house at 12 Park Road is an especially fine example of the free classic Queen Anne group which is quickly identified by the porch with its pairs and clusters of wood Doric columns and oval Colonial Revival window centered in the front facade.

In summary, the Ogden House has achieved significance during its period of significance (1893-1940) because of its association with Herschel C. Ogden, a figure important in the history of Wheeling and West Virginia. H.C. Ogden was a powerful citizen whose work placed him in the forefront of West Virginia political and social developments (Ogden was inducted into the Wheeling Hall of Fame). The house at 12 Park Road is equally significant as an architectural landmark which embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction.

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Period of Significance

The period of significance begins with the house's 1893 date of construction and extends to 1940, the year marking the height of H.C. Ogden's career. On September 23, 1940, the fiftieth anniversary addition of the Wheeling News-Register ran special stories highlighting the history of the paper and H.C. Ogden's career.

9. Major Bibliographical References

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: 1 acre approximately

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>17</u>	<u>525980</u>	<u>4437300</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

Inclusive of lot number 3 between Park Road and Central Alley, measuring approximately 100' x 413', Plat of Woodsdale, Deedbook No. 86, pp. 209-13, Ohio County, W.V., Commission.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

The nominated property is the tract historically associated with the Ogden House dating to the platting of the lot in 1890-91.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Rodney S. Collins, Architectural Historian

Organization: Division of Culture & History Date: 4/24/90

Street & Number: The Cultural Center Telephone: 304/348-0240

City or Town: Charleston State: WV ZIP: 25305

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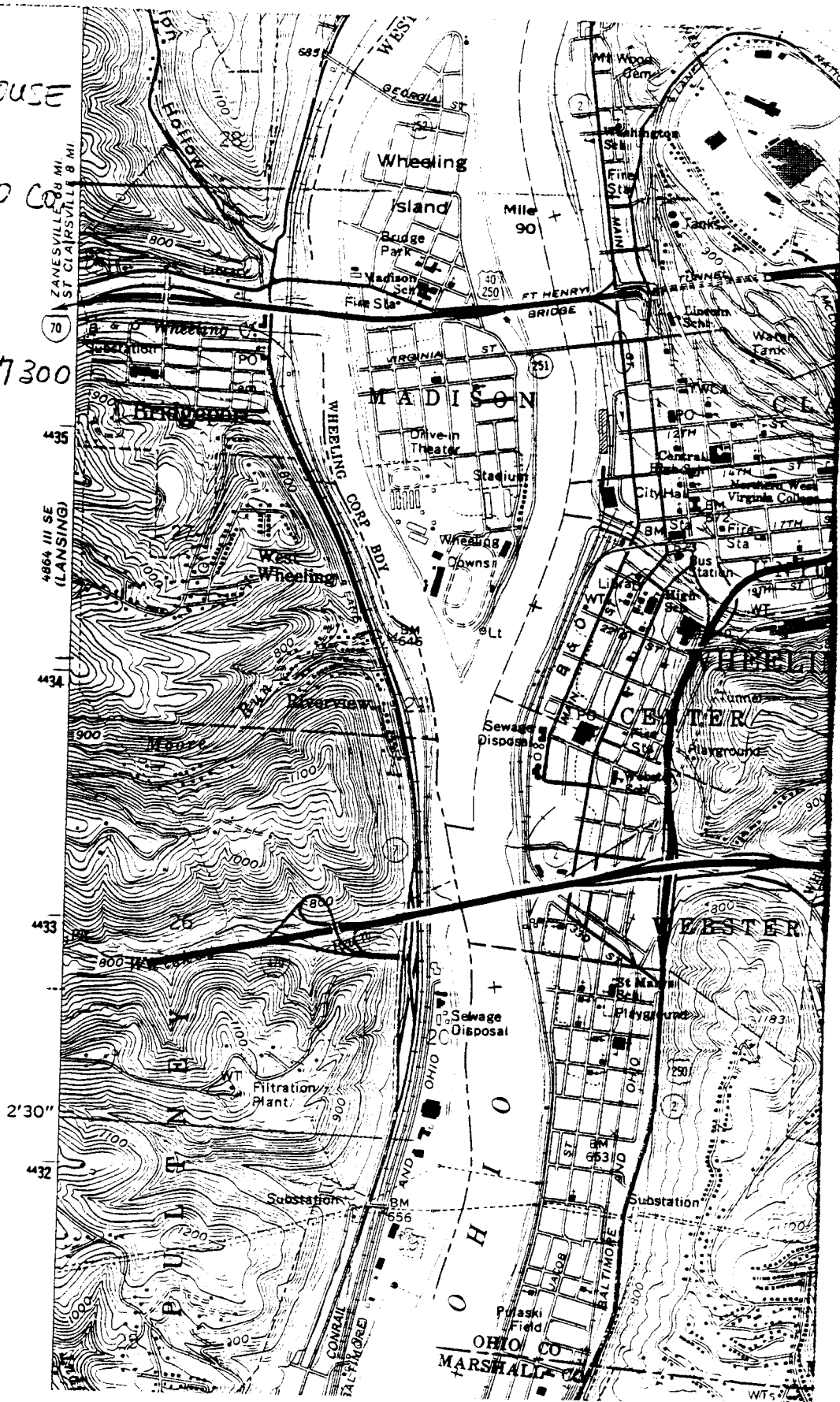
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OGDEN, H.C., HOUSE
12 PARK ROAD
WHEELING, OHIO CO
W.VA.

UTM:

17/525980/4437300



ZANESVILLE 8 MI
ST CLAIRSVILLE 8 MI

4864 III SE
(LANSING)

4433

2'30"

4432

OHIO CO
MARSHALL CO

