

Watson Street, S.W.

415-17 Watson S.W. The DeWitt Barrel Co. was founded in Chicago in 1893 by the great-grandfather of Peter Joseph DeWitt, Jr. The barrel reconditioning company moved to Grand Rapids in 1939, and became a landmark at its Watson Street location. The property was sold to Grand Valley State University in 2002, and the company relocated to Marne in November of that year.

417 01/17/2003 9207 Pitsch
 DeWitt Barrel Co.

516

520 05/22/89 7901

601-15

614

617-27 Watson S.W. The 1936 owner of this frame multi-unit apartment building was Charles E. Ansorge. A 1917 occupant was Max Dryło, grandfather of Fr. Walter W. Derylo. (Photo: GRPL 286 [Assessor], 1936.)



617 05/13/81 7013
8,000 square feet.

620 03/10/83 7194 Kentwood

742 04/20/94 8403

752 Watson S.W. GRP 01/03/1960, p. 18: "Straight School Is on Site of Indian Village."

752 09/13/75 4933 Pitsch
No water cutoff.

752 Watson S.W. In July, 1977, a bronze plaque was installed on the small park building which had replaced the old Straight School. Among other things, the plaque noted that this had been the location of the "wampum man," the one who exchanged money for items which the Odawa brought to the Rapids in trade. This plaque was stolen about 1985. It was later recovered, and thought to have been placed in the custody of the Public Museum. However, by 2011, the Museum was unable to locate the plaque in its collections.

845 Watson S.W. Fire at 4:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2003, resulted in \$75,000 damage to this 2-story frame dwelling.

845 09/15/2003 9262 Ter Maat
Permit denied.

855-57 11/17/97 8766 Courtade

954

1005 04/11/75 4813 Urban Renewal
Rehabilitated.

1033 Watson S.W. This 2-story brick home was built in 1924-25 by Joseph Frydryszek (Frederick) and his father, Paul. It remained the family home of Joseph and Anna for about 50 years.