Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE: West Virginia

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present appearance of the Craik-Patton House is very close to its original appearance. Cooking was originally done in a basement, but some years ago, probably in 1906, an open "galley" at the rear between the two wings was enclosed for use as a kitchen. The building now has false ceilings of easily removable material in all rooms except the front hall, a wide but narrow element giving egress to the front porch. A sheet metal roof has replaced the original shingles.

The setting is much different from the original. In its present, second location, the building is very close to a frame house to the east, while there is a gravel parking lot immediately to the west.

Originally, the house apparently had two rooms in the west wing and three in the right wing. The high-œilinged front hall was as it is now. A fireplace occupied the west side of a large central room.

The house has been studied by the principal architectural historian of the Historic American Buildings Survey, Mr. Denys Peter Myers. His analysis is presented as Exhibit 1. In part, he says ". . . the Craik House has an outstanding exterior and an unusual plan. The mantelpiece in the main room surpasses in qualoty any of the trim in the Ruffner House. The Craik House is a very good example of Greek revival design freely interpreted by a local builder. The departures from conventional classical forms add to its charm and architectural interest, in my opinion. It is apparently unique among surviving early houses in Charleston. If only one of two houses can be preserved, my personal recommendation is that first consideration should be given to saving the Craik House."

Similar comments have been written by Mr. Orrin Bullock, preservation consultant, who visited the Craik House in May, 1970.

Exhibit 2 is a copy of a letter of endorsement from Dr. James L. Hupp, State Historian and Archivist, who comments as follows:

"The house itself has an unusual and outstanding exterior, somewhat like "Arlington," the Custis home overlooking Washington. The interior follows and unusual plan, and the woodwork, especially the mantel piece, is well done."

The house is in the process of being deeded to the National Society of Colonial Dames of America Resident in West Virginia, who intend to set up "Craik-Patton House, Inc." to manage the property as a museum, preferably eventually under the ownership of the city or State.

| SIGNIFICANCE | | | | |
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Elm Grove, Craik-Patton House

This attractively designed wooden frame building has been associated with two families of more than passing historical importance.

The acre and a half <u>lot</u> on which the house originally was built, on present Dunbar Street, downtown Charleston, was purchased in 1834 by the Reverend James Craik, grandson of Dr. James Craik, the physician who was such a close companion to George Washington. It is presumed the clergyman erected this home soon after purchasing the lot.

In 1858 the house came into the possession of George S. Patton I, grand-father of General Patton of World War II fame. General Patton's father was born in this house. The first George Patton, as brigadier-general in the Confederate Army, was killed in action at Winchester in 1864. He had temporarily halted the Federal advance into the Kanawha Valley while commanding officer of the Kanawha Riflemen at the Battle of Scary Creek, twenty miles northwest of Charleston in July, 1861. He fought bravely in many battles.

Dr. James Craik, who accompanied Washington to western Virginia in 1770 and 1784 and who was with him at Great Meadows and Braddock's defeat, became chief physician and surgeon of the army in 1781 and attended Washington in his last illness, 1799. He was Washington's uncle by marriage. Dr. Craik's second son was named George Washington Craik, and he served as secretary to the President during his second term.

The "Elm Grove" house was removed a few blocks east, to 1316 Lee Street, in 1906 when a new street -- Dunbar -- was cut through the property on which it stood.

A parking lot and other encroachments have again robbed the building of its appropriate setting, and plans have been drawn by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of West Virginia, to move the house again, this time to Daniel Boone Roadside Park, Malden District, Kanawha Co.

The house has been praised by architects and writers for its charming simplicity and for the distinction lent by a square portico whose columns elevate a high roof considerably above the house itself.

This rank for Colonel Patton was posthumous, since he was killed before it could be conferred.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dayton, Ruth Woods. Pioneers and Their Homes on Upper Kanawha. Charleston, W. Va., 1947. History of house.

Stan Cohen, "Col. George S. Patton and the 22nd Virginia Infantry Regiment," West Virginia History (April 1965), pp. 178-190.

For a biographical sketch of Dr. James Craik, see Dictionary of American Biography (New York, 1930), vol. 4, pp. 498-499.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

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8.

Statement of Significance, continued

Colonel Patton is the most significant figure directly connected with the house, since it was his own home at an important stage of his life.

Colonel Patton was engaged in a high percentage of the battles fought on West Virginia soil. In addition to Scary Creek, already mentioned, he fought in the engagements at Fayetteville, Carnifex Ferry, Lewisburg, White Sulphur Springs, and Droop Mountain, and rode with Imboden in his raid of the northern counties of West Virginia.

Before his death at the third battle of Winchester, he participated in the battles of New Market and Cold Harbor and was with General Lee in the Wilderness.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20003

D5815-HHA

Mrs. Turner Rust Ratrie, Headquarters Chairman The National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of West Virginia

Dear Mrs. Ratrie:

Malden, West Virginia 25306

It was a pleasure to be with you in Charleston. Please remember me to. Mesdames Tallman and Muehlman. I have written Mrs. McCullough that you will receive a summary of my observations on the relative merits of the Ruffner and Craik Houses.

The Ruffner House is an early house of good quality, but it has many later accretions. The plan is fairly typical for its time and place. The stairhall is the outstanding interior feature. There is evidently log construction surviving in one section, a circumstance of architectural interest. The glass of the front entrance has been altered, and the portico appears to be of doubtful authenticity in its present form.

On the other hand, the Craik House has an outstanding exterior and an unusual plan. The mantelpiece in the main room surpasses in quality any of the trim in the Ruffner House. The Craik House is a very good example of Greek revival design freely interpreted by a local builder. The departures from conventional classical forms add to its charm and architectural interest, in my opinion. It is apparently unique among surviving early houses in Charleston. If only one of the two houses can be preserved, my personal recommendation is that first consideration should be given to saving the Craik House.

The Ruffner House should certainly be recorded by good professional photographs (preferably 5 x 7 or at least 4 x 5 inch negatives), written data, and, if feasible, measured drawings, if it is to be destroyed. It is also advisable that the Craik House be similarly recorded before it is moved to another site. The Historic American Buildings Survey will be happy to receive negatives, written records, and, if any are made, measured drawings of the two houses for our permanent archive at the Library of Congress. We can supply HABS drawing paper, if drawings are contemplated. Gifts of records to the HABS are tax deductible.

As for the feasibility of moving the Craik House, that is a matter to be determined by a structural engineer. If the frame is sound, moving should not be a major physical problem. The relative historical importance of the two houses is something your Committee will have to decide. Certainly the association of the Craik and Patton families with the Craik House is significant.

With all best wishes for the success of your project, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Denys Peter Myers

Principal Architectural Historian Historic American Buildings Survey



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Department of Archives and History CHARLESTON 25305

DR. JAMES L. HUPP

June 11, 1968

Mrs. F. Witcher McCullough, Jr. 1405 Ravinia Road Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Mrs. McCullough:

We are pleased that "Elm Grove", the Craik House, is being considered for preservation. It is one of the earliest built homes in Charleston and has much history connected with it.

The original owner of this home was the Rev. James Craik who bought the lot and built the home around 1834. The Craik family were cousins of George Washington.

Another owner, just before the Civil War, was Captain George S. Patton who organized the Kanawha Riflemen just before the Civil War started. At the beginning of the war, he was promoted to Colonel and given another command. Colonel Patton was killed in Winchester, Virginia in 1864, shortly after being commissioned Brigadier General. This Brigadier General Patton was the grandfather of General George S. Patton of World War II fame.

The house itself has an unusual and outstanding exterior, somewhat like "Arlington", the Custis home overlooking Washington. The interior follows an unusual plan and the woodwork, especially the mantel piece, is well done.

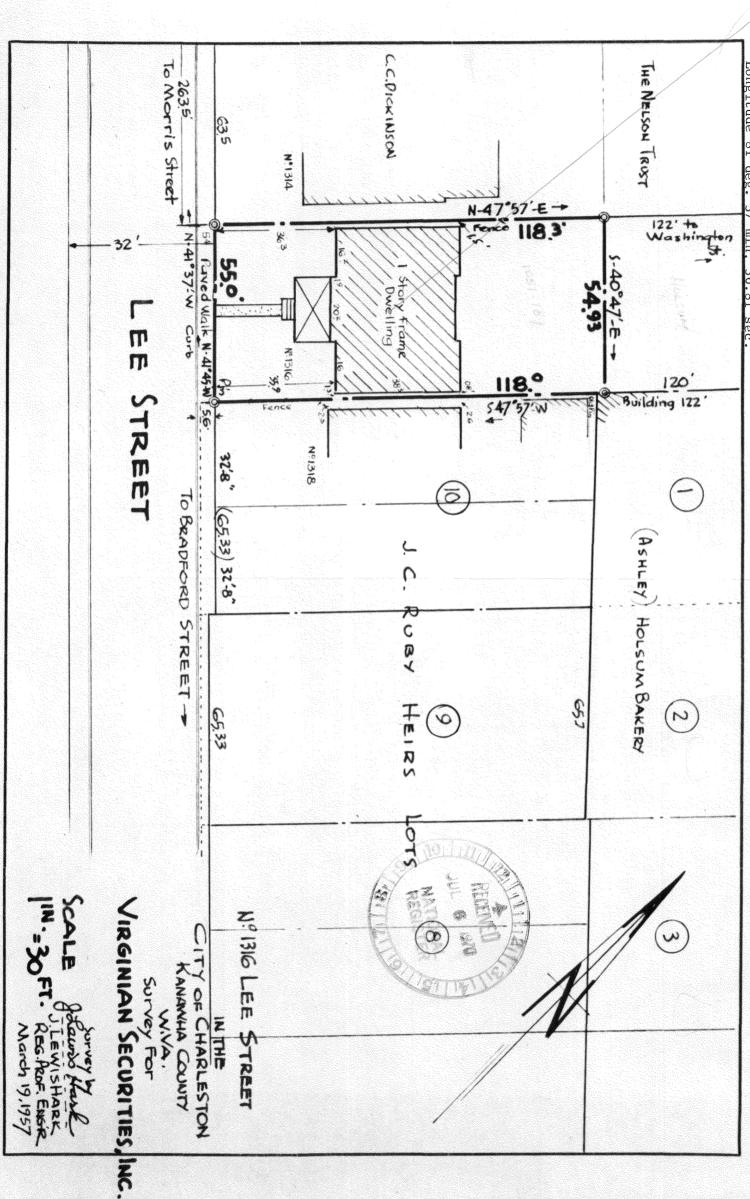
Far too many old homes and buildings in West Virginia and in Charleston have been destroyed. We hope this one can be preserved.

Sincerely yours,

Tomes L. Hupp

State Historian and Archivist 12

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Craik-Patton House is presently situated in Daniel Boone Roadside Park, U.S. Route 60, Charleston, Kanawha County, overlooking the Kanawha River. The structure is placed on a high (about four feet above ground), cut-stone foundation which houses a caretaker's apartment, meeting hall, exhibit space, kitchen, office and rest room facilities. The house itself is in three distinct units and must be approached by high stairs on the front or rear.

A typical Greek Revival structure, it has been hardened somewhat by local interpretation. It is bilaterally symmetrical and consists of three rectangular blocks, the center section being a bit higher but not as deep as the wings. Classical temple form with a projecting portico is followed in the main unit; the roof ridge runs from front to back in the gabled center and only about three-quarters of the length of the side units, for the latter have a rear gable and hipped front. Although the roofs are of generally low pitch, the center section is higher than that of the wings. All windows and doors are trabeated.

Four massive columns support the extended center roof with pilasters placed against the facade. The main entrance is through narrow double doors above which is a rectangular overlight of geometrical divisions in squares and diamonds. Fluted pilasters are on each side of the entrance, and the facade also has long, 12/12 windows on the central section. The wings are set back about a foot from the front of the main unit and are noted by the dentil molding on the front and side cornice. Window arrangement in the side units incorporates two, 9/6 sashes on the facade and three of similar style on the side with none at the rear.

There are three brick chimneys projecting from the structure, one in each wing behind the point at which the ridge of the roof divides to form the hip and the other on the west side of the central section about midway between front and rear. Fireplaces have all been opened and ceilings raised to their original height. The interior consists of an entrance hall behind which is a large main room. Either wing can be approached from this entrance vestibule, and it is believed the house originally had two rooms in the west wing and three in the east wing.

At the time of its move to its present location in September 1973, the structure had a door cut into the rear of the left wing and a window in the right wing. Both of these have been removed. It was on a foundation much closer to the ground, but this was a change from the high basement (similar to the present) of its location before the first move in 1906. The rear gallery was enclosed for use as a kitchen after 1906; this has since been opened to give the look of the original. A sheet metal roof (still in place) has replaced shingles.

When first constructed in about 1834, the Craik-Patton House was on Virginia Street in Charleston. It is the proposal of the custodial organization—the National Society of Colonial Dames of America Resident in West Virginia—to restore the building to this period. The structure was moved in 1973 in order to save it from the threat of demolition for property reuse as a commercial plot. Accomplished over a period of two days, the house was divided into its three units and transported about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The new setting is actually closer to the original (pre-1906) Virginia Street location, for it offers more open area and eliminates the run down and shoddy conditions on Lee Street. The historical effect has been minimized by the fact that the structure's architecture remains intact and the new area is closer in environment to 1834 Charleston than was the old Lee Street property.

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SPECIFIC DATES c. 1834 (constructed)

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Craik-Patton House is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture applied and interpreted in an interesting frame structure dating from the first half of the nine-teenth century. Built for a Charleston lawyer-clergyman who was the grandson of George Washington's family physician and son of Washington's secretary during his second administration, the house was later occupied by George S. Patton I, a noted military leader in western Virginia during the Civil War and grandfather of World War II's General George S. Patton.

Construction took place soon after the Charleston lot on which it was built was purchased by Reverend James Craik in 1834. "Elm Grove," as it later became known, followed classic Greek Revival lines, for the most part, with free interpretation by the local builder. Although small and unpretentious, especially by today's standards, the Craik-Patton House is interesting in its pattern. As noted in the description, it is bilaterally symmetrical and consists of three rectangular blocks. The central unit is somewhat less deep than the side sections, but there are no distinguishing transitional features between them. Classical temple form is followed in a projecting portico, supported by four massive columns, which crosses the middle part. Roofs are of generally low pitch with the center a bit steeper than the sides; the ridge runs from front to back in the main unit, whereas the wings have a hipped front and a gabled rear. Wall surfaces are rather flat, and all windows and doors are trabeated. Though now in need of paint, the frame structure was originally white.

The first owner of the house was Reverend James Craik, son of George Washington's secretary during his second administration, George Washington Craik, and grandson of Washington's family physician and close personal friend, Dr. James Craik. At the time he purchased the lot, Craik was a licensed and practicing lawyer who was married to Juliet Shrewsbury, a member of a prominent family in the Charleston area. By 1839 he changed professions and became a clergyman, serving Charleston's St. John's Episcopal Church from 1839 to 1844 when he moved to Louisville, Kentucky.

In 1858, the house was bought by George Smith Patton in his wife's name (Susan Glasell Patton) and would remain in this family until near the end of the Civil War. George S. Patton II, father of the noted World War II general, George S. Patton, was born here. Patton had originally come to Charleston in 1856 to practice law. He had graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1852, and when he moved west he took with him a strong discipline and liking for the military-social organization he had known in Richmond as the "Light Infantry Blues." He helped organize the "Kanawha Riflemen" in 1856 along the lines of the Blues and became the first captain of the unit.

The Riflemen, a first-rate drilling company dressed in fine green uniforms, were generally of monied families of the area. Their reputation was widespread in western Virginia where they appeared on occasion at fairs and other social gatherings. With the outbreak of the Civil War, however, they shed the fineness of green and joined the Confederacy as Company H of the 22nd Virginia Infantry.

| 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES |
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| Dayton, Ruth Woods. Pioneers and Their Homes on Upper Kanawha. Charleston, W.Va.: West Virginia Publishing Co., 1947. (pp. 242-47) Cohen, Stan. "Colonel George S. Patton and the 22nd Virginia Infantry Regiment." West Virginia History, XXVI (Apr. 1965), 178-90. Husley, Val. " 'Men of VirginiaMen of KanawhaTo Arms!': A History of the Twenty- second Virginia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, C.S.A." West Virginia History, XXXV (Apr. 1974), 220-36. |
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| 11 FORM PREPARED BY NAME/TITLE James E. Harding, Research Analyst |
| ORGANIZATION DATE West Virginia Antiquities Commission March 7, 1975 |
| STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University (304) 292-1527 |
| CITY OR TOWN STATE Morgantown West Virginia |
| 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION |
| THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: NATIONAL STATE LOCAL |
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| 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 explicated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. |

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 3 1 1975

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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PAGE one

8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Under Patton's command, they first saw action in July 1861, at Scary Creek along the Kanawha River. The company was also present at Carnifex Ferry, Lewisburg, Fayetteville, White Sulphur Springs and Droop Mountain, and it participated in the Jones-Imboden Raid of 1863. Patton eventually rose to the rank of colonel and commanded the 22nd Virginia Infantry Regiment at Winchester in September 1864. It was there that he fell mortally wounded, only to be posthumously promoted to brigadier-general.

The Craik-Patton House has since been associated with other prominent Charleston families, but its physical move in 1906 and subsequent deterioration required reappraisal. The National Society of Colonial Dames of America Resident in West Virginia took up the drive to save the structure in the 1960s, and as a consequence it was purchased and moved to its present location in 1973 in order to prevent demolition. Today, the house stands in a new, majestic setting overlooking the Kanawha River, and its Craik and Patton history will survive in a house museum.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Continued)

Maginnis, William H. "Historic Home Located in Virginia Linked with Events of this Area." Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette, Feb. 12, 1950.