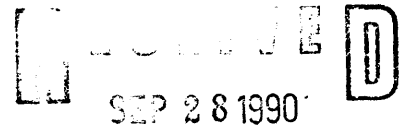


1655

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cravens-Coleman House
other names/site number Cravens, Jesse Roddye, House; Coleman Lewis Minor, House

2. Location

street & number 1 Cravens Terrace N/A not for publication
city, town Chattanooga N/A vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Hamilton code 065 zip code 37409

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
Date: 9/24/90

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official
Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
[X] entered in the National Register.
[] See continuation sheet.
[] determined eligible for the National Register. [] See continuation sheet.
[] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[] removed from the National Register.
[] other, (explain):

Entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper: Allene Byers
Date of Action: 10/25/90

Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Queen Anne/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation sandstone

walls sandstone

roof asphalt

other BRICK

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Cravens-Coleman House, located on the brow of Lookout Mountain, in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee, is a two-story, stone and brick Queen Anne style with a Craftsman Influence home constructed of locally-obtained mountain stone. The Cravens-Coleman House, built for Jessie Roddye Cravens circa 1880, is located on a plateau below the Cravens House also known as "Alta Vista" (NR 10/15/66 - Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park), the house of his father, Robert Craven. Remnants of a grand stone walkway and a set of steps still connect the two residences.

The Cravens-Coleman House is an impressive structure sited on a spacious lot on the corner of Elinor and Carolina streets and Cravens Terrace. The house faces almost due east and commands a premier, panoramic view of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Entirely constructed of smooth, but irregular-shaped stone, with a brick quoin-like detail at the window and door openings, the asymmetrical house's facade is dominated by a magnificent one-story wrap-around porch. The porch, running north-south, has four Romanesque-style arches, stone steps floored with round pavers set in concrete, eight feet by two-and-one-half feet, and wrought-iron handrails. The exterior stone work is hand cut and the initials "J. A." are carved prominently in the front porch flooring; these initials are believed to be those of the stone mason.

Despite its Queen Anne turrets, wrap-around porch, and irregular hipped roofline, the rectangular-shaped house has Craftsman influence. Resting on a stone foundation, defined on the north elevation and east facade with a stone belt course, the facade contains a turret on the north side and a smaller turreted roofline in the southern corner of the facade, above the porch's corner wrap. The windows are symmetrically arranged. The turret's windows on the first floor are one-over-one light. Two one-over-one light windows are located under the porch roof. The second floor facade contains two two-over-two light windows in the turret and one two-over-two light window above the porch. The house has one central chimney accommodating three fireplaces on the first floor and three on the second. Another chimney is located at the house's rear, but is no longer connected with a fireplace on the interior. The asphalt shingle hipped roof is broken on

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 3 Page 2 Cravens-Coleman House

PROPERTY OWNERS

Charles W., Sr., and Flora H. Walldorf
109 East Eighth Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

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three elevations, the north, south, and west, by roof dormers with paired six-light windows. The dormers all feature hipped roofs with the exception of the dormer on the west rear which has a shed roof.

The north elevation of the Cravens-Coleman House is a long expanse of stone wall, broken only, from ground to roof line, by a stone belt course and symmetrically-situated windows. The turret on the northeastern end anchors this elevation; it terminates in the west rear terrace. The terrace is an original feature of the Cravens-Coleman House, but was renovated circa 1980 with a brick floor (the original was probably wood), a new roof, and installed lattice across the southern elevation. Along the north elevation, the four first floor windows are one-over-one light double-hung sash with plain wooden surrounds, brick quoins, and rock sills. The three windows on the second floor have two-over-two lights and are identical in decorative detail and placement to those on the first floor. One unusual feature, a porthole, having wooden surrounds with a keystone design, is located in the northeastern, turret end. A story from an elderly neighbor recalls the house's owner telling the name of the ship from which the porthole was taken, but the name is now forgotten. The story continues by recalling that, as a child, he curled up inside the porthole, inside the house, looking out.

The south elevation contains symmetrically-placed first and second floor windows, identical to the rest of the house. Two windows on the first floor are one-over-one light; the two on the second floor are two-over-two light. A rear section containing the rear hall, rear stairs, and a recessed kitchen is on this elevation. The recessed kitchen area contains one two-over-two light window on the first floor. The Cravens-Coleman House terminates in a one-story, flat-roofed porch covering the rear brick terrace and entrance; lattice on the south side screens the southern elevation and offers privacy from the drive.

The west rear elevation, the first floor covered by a flat-roofed porch supported by four posts, contains the original wooden-paneled door with a transom protected by its original screen door, a small modern window added in a recent interior renovation of the kitchen, and one two-over-two light window in the ell. The second floor contains three two-over-two light windows identical to those in the rest of the house.

The nine room interior contains five large rooms on the first floor: a large entry hall, a formal parlor, a study, a formal dining room, a kitchen, and a small bath. There are four rooms on the second floor: three bedrooms, a family room, and three baths. The walls are papered or

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painted plaster; the ceilings are approximately twelve feet high, the floors are oak on the first floor and heart pine on the second. An abundance of original elements remain within the Cravens-Coleman House.

The entrance hall is located within the northeast turret. The entry door is a painted wooden paneled door with a transom and the original screen door. The grand thirty foot entry hall includes the open staircase on the north side and a fireplace in the southwest corner. The stair is in its original condition, with oak treads, spindles, and a mahogany handrail. The porthole is situated about one-third of the way up the stairs in the north wall. A small bath is located under the stairs. The fireplace contains a decorative metal firebox and hearth surrounded by a painted wooden mantel with a wide mantel shelf supported by paired brackets. Three windows in this room are one-over-one light with deep reveals (two and one-half feet) and are surrounded by ball and target trim; two of the windows are in the turret and the third is located in the north wall, to the rear of the staircase. To the west is a door into the formal dining room, and to the south is the formal parlor.

The parlor is a large rectangular room with three windows, one in the east facade, and two in the south elevation. These windows are identical to those in the entry hall with one-over-one lights, wide ball and target trim (painted), deep reveals, and a reeded sill panel. A fireplace is located in the west corner; its metal firebox and white tile hearth are surrounded by a painted wooden mantel, columns supporting the mantel shelf, and a centrally-placed scroll decoration.

The study extends to the west rear with two windows in the south elevation and one in the west rear; they are identical in size and detail to those in the rest of the house. The fireplace in the northeast corner features a painted mantel, a hearth of slate, a metal firebox surrounded by white tile, and plain columns supporting the mantel shelf. Beyond the study, separated by a cabinet extension, is the kitchen. The kitchen is a completely modern facility accentuated by the original beadboard wainscotting. One two-over-two light window is located in the south wall and one small modern window has been added in the western, rear wall.

To the northern side of the study is the large formal dining room with a door to the entry hall, a door to the study, and a door to the rear hall. The dining room's two windows in the north elevation are one-over-one light with painted ball and target trim and deep reveals. This room was

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redecorated circa 1930 in the Colonial Revival style with an oversized corner cabinet and dentilled crown mold added. The wide reeded baseboards and reeded chair rail are original elements.

The rear hall is a T-shaped area with a window in the north wall and the rear stair case in the south side. Beneath the rear stair to the second floor are stairs to the partial basement.

The front staircase leads to the second floor ell-shaped hall. A two-over-two light window with ball and target trim is located at the top of the staircase, on the north side. The ell-hall leads to a bedroom in the turret, a bedroom in the south side, a small bath in the hall's interior, probably originally a closet or storage space, and a family room. The bedrooms are unchanged from their original form. The bedrooms each contain three windows, one-over-one light with ball and target trim and reeded sill panels, identical to those throughout the rest of the house. The bedroom in the south side features a fireplace enhanced by a metal firebox which is surrounded by cream-colored tile, a painted wooden mantel with chamfered trim, and a mantel shelf supported by eave-drop brackets.

The long, rectangular room to the rear of the house, originally a bedroom, has been converted to a family room. The room includes a fireplace in the interior corner, two two-over-two light windows in the north elevation, the stairs to the rear hall, and access to the modern bath. The rear bath is an ell-shaped room with one two-over-two light window in the west rear wall. Within the ell's interior is the staircase to the attic. The attic is a large unfinished open storage space with the central brick fireplace in the middle of the room and the three roof dormers on the north, south, and west elevations.

The remaining rooms on the second floor include a bath and bedroom. The master bedroom is located on the house's south side. This large rectangular room features decorative detail identical to the rest of the house. A fireplace in the northeast corner features a painted mantel surrounding dark green tile and a metal firebox. One one-over-one light window in the south wall and one in the west wall are trimmed with the original ball and target trim. A closet has been added along the west wall. The modern bathroom is a rectangular room with a closet on the north side, a two-over-two light window in the west rear, beadboard wainscoting, and a circa 1910 claw-footed tub.

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The house sits on a lot of approximately one-and-one-half acres on the side of Lookout Mountain. A spring is located near the house, though it is no longer the source of water, and a cistern, presently unused, is in the north corner of the property. Native pines rim the roads of Carolina, Elinor, and Cravens Terrace, and ginko, holly, and dogwood trees surround the house. Fieldstone retaining walls along the southern and western borders of the property blend with natural boulder outcroppings. A circa 1930 detached two-car garage with attached servant's rooms, a contributing building, was designed by a local architect to match the materials and workmanship of the main house. In 1950, the owner, Charles Coleman, had architect Louis Garcia design a modernistic one-story artist studio for Coleman's wife. Located to the north of the main house, it is constructed of mountain stone and deep green board and batten siding; it is non-contributing.

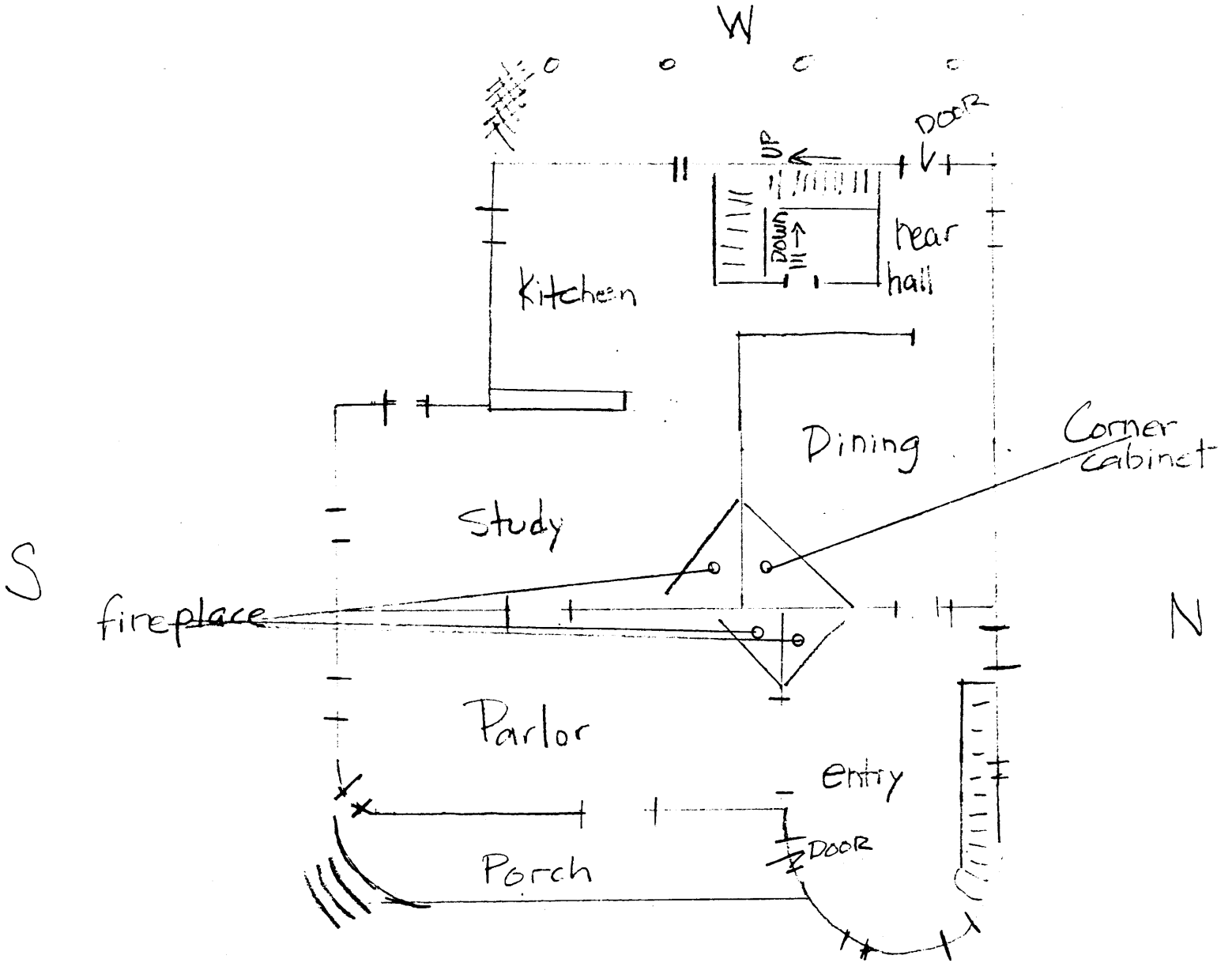
Both the interior and the exterior of the Cravens-Coleman house retain a high degree of historic integrity. The present owners have made every effort to preserve, protect, and enhance the original architecture and its decorative elements. The house has undergone few changes since its construction circa 1880. There are circa 1905 pictures of the house in John Wilson's book, The Cravens Colony, that are dated by the presence of the Lookout Mountain Hotel in the background; the hotel burned in 1910. The house appears as it did in a circa 1940 picture of the rear porch. The photo shows an area enclosed by a dark-colored lattice as well as a service area with a clothes washing machine. Its remote location, perched on the brow of the mountain, protects the Cravens-Coleman House.

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CRAVENS-COLEMAN HOUSE



1st floor

E

Not to scale.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1880
ca. 1930

Significant Dates

ca. 1880
ca. 1930

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

For its contribution to Chattanooga and Hamilton County in architecture as an unusual example of the Queen Anne style constructed of locally-quarried stone, the Cravens-Coleman House is nominated to the National Register under criterion C.

The Cravens-Coleman House on Lookout Mountain, Hamilton County, Tennessee, is an unusual example of locally-articulated Queen Anne architecture with Craftsman influence. The house, circa 1880, was built for Jessie Roddye Cravens from sandstone taken from a quarry, probably owned by the Cravens family, which was located less than a mile from the house. The Cravens name is synonymous with the founding of industry in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Jessie Roddye Cravens' father, Robert Cravens, pioneered the manufacture of pig iron in the South, and was one of Chattanooga's industrial, civic, and religious leaders. Robert Cravens built "Alta Vista," the first year-around home on Lookout Mountain in the Cravens Colony. The entire Cravens Colony area was a popular vacation spot and summer retreat for veterans of the Civil War.

According to John Cravens, son of Jessie Roddye, his father enlisted in the Confederate Army and fought at Gettysburg and Chickamauga. After the war, he returned to his home town, Chattanooga, and was associated with several enterprises: the Fire and Life Insurance Company of Chattanooga, a mercantile business on the corner of Walnut and Fourth streets, an investor in the first Incline Railway which went by the Cravens-Coleman House, and owned and gave the right-of-way to the Tennessee Electric Company for the second, present, Lookout Mountain Incline Railway (NR 4/26/73).

Upon his retirement, around 1905, Cravens sold his home to a prominent local attorney and successful businessman, Lewis Minor Coleman. The Cravens-Coleman House stayed in the hands of the Coleman family until 1987.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Patrick, James. Architecture in Tennessee 1768-1897. The University of Tennessee Press. Knoxville, Tennessee 1981.

Walldorf, Charlie. Interview March 1990. Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Wilson, John. Chattanooga's Story. The Chattanooga News-Free Press. Chattanooga, Tennessee 1980.

_____. "The Cravens Terrace Colony." The Chattanooga News-Free Press. Chattanooga, Tennessee 1989.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1 1/2 acres

UTM References

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The Cravens-Coleman House is bounded on the east by Carolina Street, on the South by Elinor Street, on the North by private property line, and on the South by Cravens Terrace. See accompanying Hamilton County Tax Map #155.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are sufficient to protect the historical and architectural significance of the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynn Hulan, consultant
 organization Hulan Johnson, Inc. date September 1990
 street & number Box 245 telephone (615) 389-6131
 city or town Wartrace state Tn zip code 37183

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The Cravens-Coleman House retains its original elements which characterize it as a house of the Queen Anne style. The materials and the workmanship and construction methods are unaltered and evoke a feeling of a craftsman builder working with the owner to produce a structure unique to the locale. Chattanooga experienced a construction boom in the 1880s and 1890s, and many fine homes were built during this time. The well-to-do sought the good and healthy life in the countryside of Lookout Mountain as a statement of success, ecumenically and socially. What sets the Cravens-Coleman House apart, in fact, is its location, perched as it is on the brow of Lookout Mountain, plus its materials and construction techniques. The mountain stone enhances both the natural landscape and the architectural elements of the period. On the exterior, the decorative detail is restrained of necessity, as it is executed in masonry and stone. The turret and the porthole within the turret are the only fanciful elements. The interior fairly gleams with polished oak and pine floors, a mahogany handrail, oak stair treads, painted ball and target trim around the doors and windows, reeded sill panels, and painted mantels, all original features.

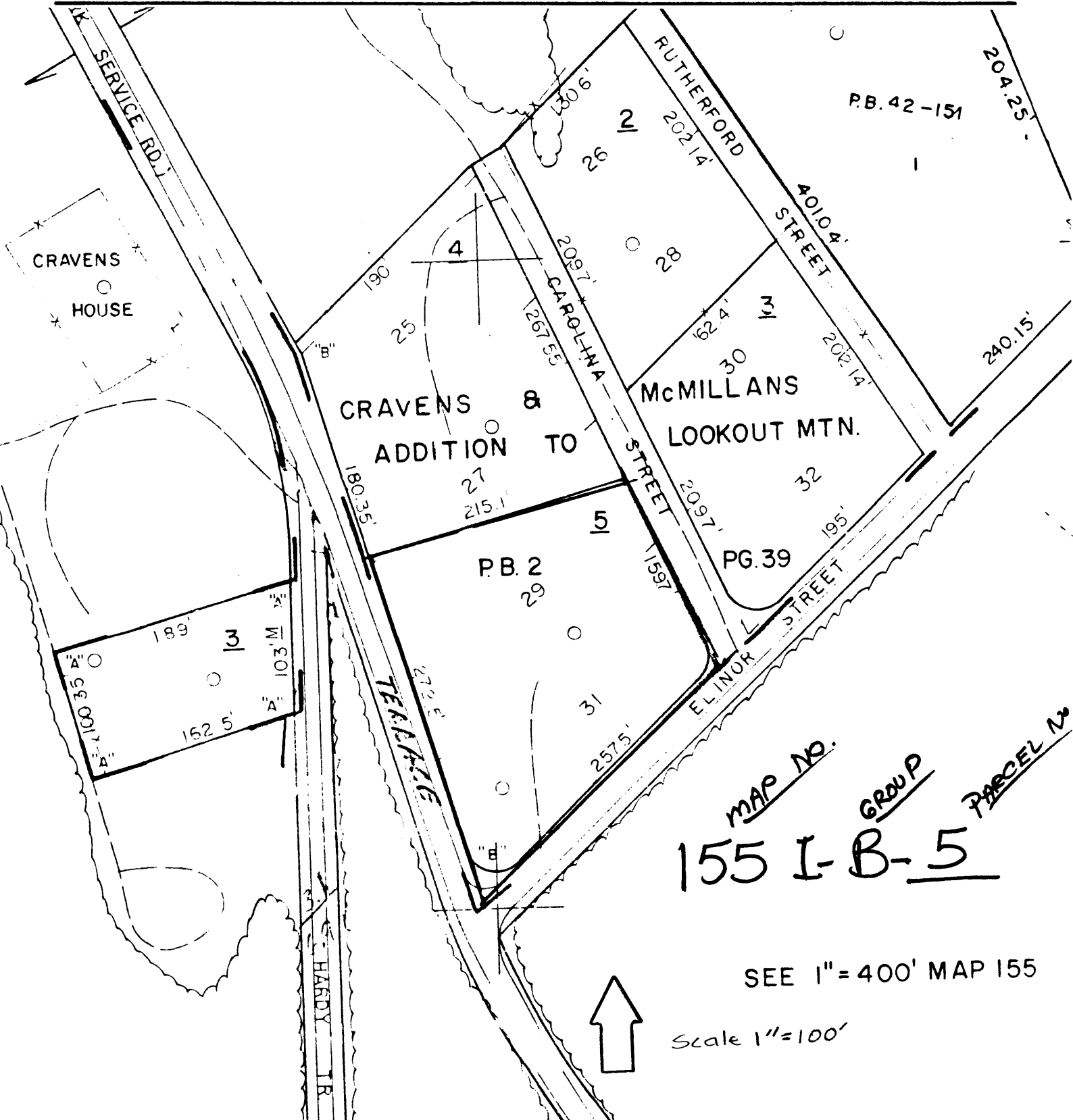
The elements which the Cravens-Coleman House retain as typical of the Queen Anne style are its one-story wrap porch across the facade and the two-story turret at the northeast corner of the facade, which contribute to the illusion of asymmetry; its differing wall textures, in which the extensive use of stone is balanced by brick window and door detailing; the hipped roof with the ridge running front-to-back; and dormers in three elevations. The stone arches supporting the porch across the facade are a rustic Romanesque variant.

For its contribution in architecture to the Chattanooga area as an unusual regional example of the Queen Anne style with Craftsman Influence, the Cravens-Coleman House is nominated to the National Register under criterion C.

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MAP No.
155 I-B-5
GROUP
PARCEL No.

SEE 1" = 400' MAP 155

Scale 1" = 100'



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Continuation Sheet**

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CRAVEN-COLEMAN HOUSE
CHATTANOOGA, HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PHOTOS BY: Charlie Walldorf
DATE: April 1990
NEGS: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

Facing west, east facade
#1 of 10

Facing north, south elevation
#2 of 10

Facing east, west elevation
#3 of 10

Facing southwest, north elevation
#4 of 10

Outbuilding, garage
#5 of 10

Outbuilding, artist's studio
#6 of 10

First floor, entry hall, staircase
#7 of 10

Window detail, first floor
#8 of 10

Detail, entrance door, east facade
#9 of 10

Mantel, parlor, first floor
#10 of 10