

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED SEP 17 1975  
DATE ENTERED NOV 20 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

P. M. Craigmiles House

AND/OR COMMON

Cleveland Public Library

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

833 Ocoee Street, N.W.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cleveland

VICINITY OF

Third

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Bradley

CODE

011

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Library

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

City of Cleveland

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cleveland

VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bradley County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Ocoee Street, N.W.

CITY, TOWN

Cleveland

STATE

Tennessee

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built by Pleasant M. Craigmiles in 1866, the Cleveland Public Library, located in Cleveland, Tennessee is a refined and tastefully appointed example of the Italian Villa style of architecture, of fine skillful craftsmanship and of the building practice of that period. With the exception of few minor alterations, the structure remains in its original form.

True to the Italian Villa style, the wide, low-pitched roof planes and asymmetric elements of the rectangular divisions coincide with the forward and receding bays. The vertical divisions of the front facade wall is accented by a full story height Italianate style tower located above the main entrance.

Wooden porches serve as focal points. Their forms create the allusion of arcaded bays, stressing the horizontal alignment of features, symmetrically spaced windows and doors. The horizontal vertical articulation is accented by the ground level location and form of the one story bay window. Within these elements the refined quality of the carpentry, carved enframements, turned balustrades, panels, engaged pilasters and columns, establishes a quality of design and detail carried throughout the structure.

Less than a Norman feature, the arcaded entrance and theme of radiating Voussoirs window enframements, is skillfully accented in the additional gable window.

Located to the right of the central forward bay and above the right, front porch the horizontal depth created by the bracketed and dentilated cornice forms a semi-circular hood above the gable feature. A playful feature, the round windows accent the motif, carvings, delicately pilastered and tastefully ornamented, sculptured encasement of the second story windows.

The structural brick bearing wall, command bond with penciled mortar joints, and round-headed windows are a constant feature of the varied elevations, and informal alignment of the overall plan.

The rectangular, joined chimney stacks feature pierced ceramic pots. Step-Corbie brick detail at the chimney throat is repeated in the tower facade below the cornice and frieze.

The north elevation features a side entrance, accented by three symmetrically spaced, centered second story windows. The low pitch, gable roof suggests the shallow depth of the attic space and arrangement of second story rooms.

The Craigmiles house is in its original location, surrounded by trees planted by Mr. Craigmiles. The old residence of the Craigmiles family serves as the city library, maintained and preserved as a community landmark.

The interior of the Craigmiles House, features large rooms and tall ceilings. The entrance hall is divided by a carved wood arch which serves to highlight the handsomely designed and handcarved curved sidewall staircase. Additional features include the fine Italian marble mantles and window sills. All of these refinements lend an atmosphere of charm and culture, and create an ideal setting for the library, a great source of pride to Cleveland and Bradley County.

# 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1866

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A significantly fine example of Italian Villa style of Architecture, carefully designed and constructed, the Craigmiles House is outstanding for its highly refined degree of attention to architectural detail.

The house is important to the community because it was the former home of Mr. P. M. Craigmiles who was an important person in Cleveland, Tennessee. Mr. Craigmiles was noted for his economic and cultural contributions to Bradley County. The building was presented to the city of Cleveland in memory of Mrs. Sarah Tucker Johnston by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Continuing in the family tradition, Mrs. Clyde Johnston Hardwick made possible the addition, in recent years, of a beautifully furnished, air conditioned room located on the west elevation of the structure, adding much needed space for books and cases.

The structure has been well preserved, and it is an excellent example of adaptive restoration.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interviews with: Miss Elizabeth Fillauer (DAR)  
 Mr. C. L. McAlister (County Historian)  
 Mr. James Corn (Asst. County Historian)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 

16	693220	3892170
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

C 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

D 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gail Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

September 8, 1975

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Tennessee Historical Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

170 Second Avenue North

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Nashville

Tennessee

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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 evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Herbert L. Hays*

TITLE

Acting Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

9/8/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

*Charles A. Jones*

DATE

11/20/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Charles A. Jones*

DATE

11-14-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Acting*