

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 E. H. Crump House

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number 1962 Peabody Avenue not for publication

city, town Memphis vicinity of congressional district Eighth

state Tennessee code 047 county Shelby code 157

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name James C. Shepherd

street & number 1962 Peabody Avenue

city, town Memphis vicinity of state Tennessee 38104

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Shelby County Register

street & number Shelby County Courthouse

city, town Memphis state Tennessee 38103

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Memphis Landmarks Commission Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date January 1978  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Memphis Landmarks Commission, Suite 923, Falls Building

city, town 22 North Front Street, Memphis state Tennessee 38103

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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

The E. H. Crump House was built for Edward Hull Crump in 1909, the year Crump was first elected mayor of Memphis. Set back forty feet from Peabody Avenue on a lot which measures 119.1 feet by 189.97 feet, the house faces south, stands four and one half feet above street level, and is approached by a flight of steps and a walkway leading from the street to the front porch. Residential lots border the house on the north, east and west.

The two-story Colonial Revival building, of frame construction with a brick veneer laid in stretcher bond, is five bays wide and originally had a glass-enclosed one-story porch on the east end with clusters of three Doric columns at the outer corners. However, the glass has been removed and a frame second-story room with a bellcast hip roof over a cornice with brackets and modillions was added. The one-story front porch is supported by ten Doric columns grouped in pairs and two responds; the wood trim above the columns is Greek Revival. On the first story rectangular one-over-one double hung sash windows enclose the single leaf main door, that is accented by sidelights and a transom. Above the window in each of the two end bays is a flat stone arch. The second story features nine-over-one double-hung sash windows and a large center window with sidelights. Across the first-story of the facade (south elevation) runs a water table; a stone belt course surrounds the base of the second story.

Both the bellcast hip roof and the bellcast hip dormer in the center of the south elevation are covered with asphalt shingles. Beneath the roof is a bracketed entablature that has triglyphs and modillions. Two brick chimneys--one with three terra cotta chimney pots and the other with two--are located on the rear section of the hip roof. On the west side of the house, a hip roof with a classical cornice rests above a one-story tripartite bay window with transoms.

The interior plan of the E. H. Crump House features large, spacious rooms. At the rear of the reception hall is the main staircase. To the east of the reception hall is the living room that opens onto a sunporch. To the west of the hall is the dining room. Both the living room and the dining room are trimmed with large crown moldings. Behind the dining room is a breakfast room and the kitchen. Also on the first floor are an elevator and two bathrooms that were added after the house was built. The fireplace in the living room has inlays of white marble. The brass hardware on the doors is original and matching. On the second floor there are four bedrooms and three bathrooms. The sitting room, a later addition built above the sunporch is east of the master bedroom. The attic is completely floored and insulated. In the basement of the home there is a half bath and a maid's dressing room.

A paved driveway is located near the west property line. A one-car, frame garage stands near the northwest corner of the tract.

# 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Edward Hull Crump bought the property from S. W. Moore in 1907; the construction of the home was completed in 1909; city directories show the Crump family was living in the house in 1910.

The son of an ex-Confederate soldier, Crump was born in Marshall County, Mississippi on October 2, 1874. He attended public school in Holly Springs where he lived until he moved to Memphis in 1893. Crump became interested in local Democratic politics; in 1901 he was elected a delegate to the Shelby County Democratic Convention. The following year he was a delegate to the state convention. In 1905 he was elected to the Memphis Board of Public Works, in 1907 he became police commissioner, and in 1909 he was elected mayor of Memphis and he served for five years. In 1916 he was elected county trustee, an office that he held for eight years. In November 1927, Crump led the successful election of Watkins Overton as mayor; and "Mr. Crump"—he was also called "Boss Crump"—handpicked every Memphis mayor after that until his death in 1954. He was elected to the U. S. Congress and he served from 1931 to 1935.

One of E. H. Crump's most significant accomplishments was the establishment of Memphis Park System. He acquired several pieces of property for the city and these were developed into public parks. Audubon Park, Tom Lee Park, at the foot of Beale Street, and Thomas A. Edison Park on Madison Avenue were among his many projects. Always mindful of ways to improve Memphis, Crump purchased the property for the Fairgrounds.

Crump was the first mayor to serve under the commission form of government in Memphis. He led the fight for a municipally owned gas and electric utility. Among his creations was the City Beautiful Commission which helped repeatedly win for Memphis the title of "Nation's Cleanest City."

Crump's political influence reached all parts of Tennessee. His control over Memphis and Shelby County politics was almost total for four decades, and his organization was called the "Crump Machine" by his enemies. Under Crump's leadership (or those selected by him) Memphis prospered and grew. His political power was first successfully challenged in 1948 when Estes Kefauver was elected to the U. S. Senate, although Crump opposed him.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

The Commercial Appeal, 18 October 1954, 27 April 1957, 30 June 1978, 26 September 1978.  
 The Memphis Press Scimitar, 26 April 1957.  
 Miller, William, Mr. Crump of Memphis. Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Louisiana State University Press, 1964.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .5  
 Quadrangle name Northeast Memphis Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 6	2 2 7 0 1 0	3 8 9 1 5 9 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property nominated is a rectangular tract which contains approximately .5 acre. A description of the boundary may be found in Shelby County Deed File No. P39468-813. The property nominated is the entire tract owned by James A. Shepherd.

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 Dayna Caldwell, History Intern  
 organization Christian Brothers College date May 28, 1979  
 street & number 650 East Parkway South telephone (901) 278-0100, ext. 231  
 city or town Memphis state Tennessee 38104

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert E. Singer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 10/18/79

For HCRS use only  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Sally G. O'Leary date 12/26/79  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristin J. O'Connell date 12/11/79  
 Chief of Registration