

HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

(Staff Use Only)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT  
DEPARTMENT of CULTURE & HISTORY  
SCIENCE & CULTURE CENTER  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

File No: 7  
Theme(s):  
Neg No(s):  
USGS Quad: Charleston West, W.Va.  
UTM Ref: 7443330/4244110

DISTRICT..SITE..BUILDING..STRUCTURE..OBJECT

1. NAME(S), historic/common: Crawford/Gardner House

2. LOCATION, street/road: 743 Myrtle Road

city/town: Charleston  
(~~incorporated~~/unincorporated)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: residence

original: residence

(public/private,  
restricted)

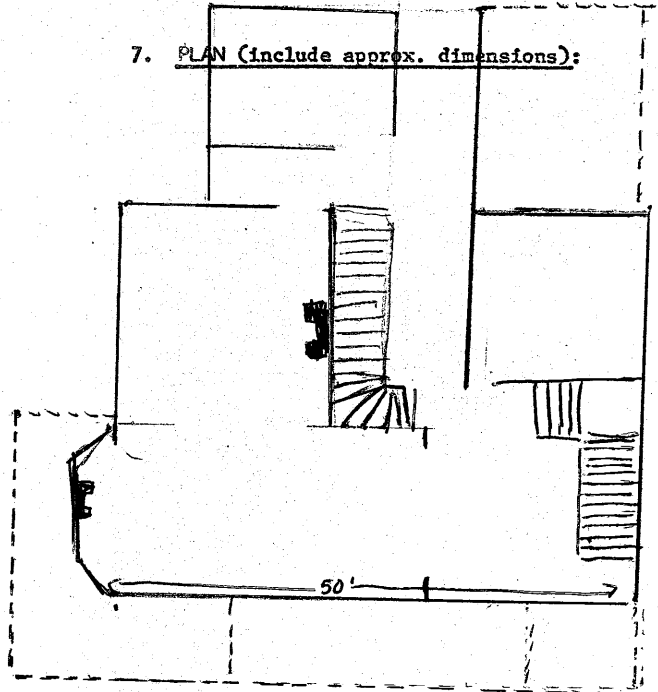
4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Charles Gardner  
(address above)

original: Ellis T. Crawford

(public/private)

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF:

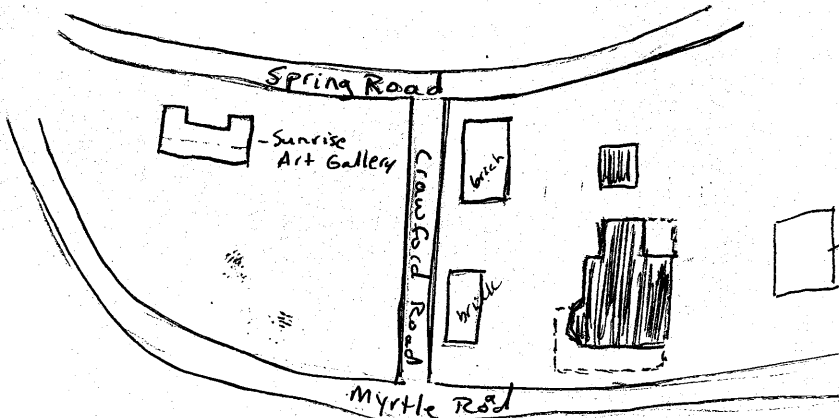
7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):



6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):

8. ACREAGE (approx):

1 acre



COUNTRY: Kanawha  
Survey Region: \_\_\_\_\_  
Planning District: \_\_\_\_\_

9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate):

a. Exterior Fabric

stone \_\_\_\_\_  
 brick X \_\_\_\_\_  
 concrete \_\_\_\_\_  
 stucco \_\_\_\_\_  
 weatherboard \_\_\_\_\_  
 clapboard \_\_\_\_\_  
 board & batten \_\_\_\_\_  
 shingle \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

b. Structural System

masonry X \_\_\_\_\_  
 frame \_\_\_\_\_  
 log \_\_\_\_\_  
 metal \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
 foundation \_\_\_\_\_

c. Roofing Material

wood \_\_\_\_\_  
 metal \_\_\_\_\_  
 slate \_\_\_\_\_  
 tile \_\_\_\_\_  
 asphalt X \_\_\_\_\_  
 composition \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

d. Associated Structures (use/type):

outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 garage \_\_\_\_\_  
 dependencies \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated \_\_\_\_\_  
 alterations fireplace added,  
 side porch removed \_\_\_\_\_  
 additions NONE \_\_\_\_\_

f. Condition:

excellent \_\_\_\_\_  
 good X \_\_\_\_\_  
 fair \_\_\_\_\_  
 deteriorated \_\_\_\_\_  
 abandoned \_\_\_\_\_

g. Threats: NONE

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:  
Andrew Calderwood  
 b. Style/Period: American  
Four Square  
 c. Date(s): 1904

This home is significant as the residence of Ellis Thayer Crawford, a leading developer in coal and timber lands, and as a notable example of Charleston's early twentieth century architecture.

Ellis Thayer Crawford was the senior member of Crawford and Ashby, a real estate firm dealing in coal and timber lands. He and his wife, M. Katherine Burroughs, known as Katie Belle to the neighborhood, built this South Hills home around 1904.

Andrew Calderwood was hired to build the house. Calderwood was well respected in Charleston for his construction

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Laidley, William S. History of Charleston and the Kanawha County. Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Co., 1911.

Interview with Betty Brown Gardner, June 26, 1983.

12. FORM PREPARED BY Alice Carter ; DATE Sept. 1983

a. Address 4011 Kanawha Ave. Charleston, WV 25304  
 b. Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Crawford, E.T./Gardner, Charles house  
743 Myrtle Road

CONTINUED

of the old West Virginia State House, the Roman Catholic Church and the Ruffner Hotel.

The most distinctive feature of the Crawford house is its intricately patterned wood floor. The front parlors (now one room) and dining room each have different patterns of alternating strips of various shades and types of wood.

13. Verbal Boundary Description.

Situated on 1 acre lot, 200 by 200 feet, on the southern side of Myrtle Road, one lot west of the corner of Myrtle Road and Crawford Road; on lot No. 7, Kanawha County Tax Map No. 5, 15th Ward-16 (4-5-65).

ATTACHMENT TO HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY  
THE CULTURAL CENTER  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

1. Name(s) Historic/Common: Crawford-Gardner House  
(South Hills Multiple Resource Area)  
Kanawha County  
West Virginia

#7. Description

The gable-roofed single-bay garage was constructed in the early 1940's; although compatible in terms of brick coloration and scale, the building is of too recent construction to be eligible for the National Register. No other out-buildings exist on the grounds.

#8. Significance

The Crawford-Gardner House is significant because it is one of the largest and most imposing examples of the brick American Four-Square-style house type found in the whole of the South Hills area. Its tree-shaded lawns and elevated site, accentuated by the structure's rock-faced raised basement, lend it an imposing air. The front elevation is dominated by a one-story porch that crosses the entire facade. Its Classical wooden columns and balustrade with turned spindels are typical details of this house style which are commonly found in Charleston proper but rarely seen in South Hills. The interior feature of noteworthy design is the parquet flooring which includes a multitude of West Virginia hardwoods laid in intricate geometric patterns. The floor is thought to be the finest remaining example of its type in South Hills.

The builder of the Crawford-Gardner House, Andrew Calderwood, built several of the state's most famous structures, including the West Virginia Capitol (1885), the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church (Co-Cathedral, 1895), and the Ruffner Hotel, among the most famous hotels in the history of the state. Few residences built by Mr. Calderwood are extant, thereby lending the Crawford-Gardner House additional distinction.