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	Court" is a brick Georgian colonial mansion house painted white
	adjoining wings. The wings and the main unit are two and one-
	ies and are covered by a gable roof. Six dormers, front and back,
	line of the roof, and a huge chimney rises at each end of the
main port	ion and at the end of each adjoining wing. A small railed obser-
vation pl	atform surmounts the roof of the central unit. The plainness of
the front	is relieved by a small flat-roofed portico with Ionic columns at
	nce. Wide galleries extend the length of the first and second
stories i	in the rear of the main part of the house, and a glass sun porch
adioins t	he north wing. Two smaller two story brick buildings with
	ofs pierced by square central chimneys are joined to the main
house by	small walled courts. All of the bricks are of Flemish bond and
	$x 2\frac{1}{2}$ ") x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ "), in size.
"Claymont	Court" is definitely placed in a beautiful setting. The
	spacious lawn is planted with an assortment of shrubs and trees.
Unfortuna	tely, two terraces are all that remain of the original seven-
	garden; however, these two terraces adequately add a crowning
	the gracious estate.
	can be determined from existing records, the entire building was
finished	in c. 1840.
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** after fire in 1838

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AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appr	opriate)	Funkhouser)
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Claymont Court is not only historically significant because it was built by George Washington's great nephew, Bushrod Corbin Washington, who later became a local justice of the peace, representative in the Virginia House of Delegates, and representative in the General Assembly, but also because

it became the home of one of America's greatest authors, Frank Stockton,

It is also architecturally significant because it is the most pretentious of the Washington homes in Jefferson County, far surpassing its neighbors

and in 1943, the home of the well know philanthropist, R.J. Funkhouser.

in size, luxury, and grounds.

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Bushrod Corbin Washington built "Claymont Court" in 1820. It was estimated at \$30,000 in value. In 1838, while Bushrod was in his first week of service in the General Assembly at Richmond, his beautiful home was completely destroyed by fire. It is believed that the fire started when the sparks of shelled corn cobs, which had been thrown into a fireplace, were carried to the roof and ignited. However, this fire or a second one which started shortly after, were not entirely disastrous because Bushrod rebuilt his ante-bellum mansion, making it into the beautiful house it is today. The exact date of its final construction is not known, but it is believed to be around 1840.

The Washingtons lived here for many years, and during the Civil War, were joined by many of their relatives when hostilities threatened the neighboring homes.

> In June 1899, Frank Stockton, who is best remembered for his classic short story "The Lady or the Tiger?" bought the property and remained there until his death in April 1902. Stockton, who was born in Philadelphia in 1834, worked for nearly fourteen years in Philadelphia and New York as a wood engraver; in 1873, he became assistant editor of Saint Nicholas, and in 1879, he made his first outstanding success as the author of Rudder Grange. Among his noteworthy works, mostly humorous, are "The Lady or the Tiger?" (written in 1882), The Rudder Grange Abroad (written in 1884), The Casting Away of Mrs. Lecks and Mrs. Aleshine (written in 1886), and its sequel, The Dusantes, (written in 1888, The Adventures of Captain Horn (written in 1895, and Mrs Cliff's Yacht (written in 1896). While living at "Claymont Court," he composed many other popular novels including Kate Bonnet, the famous romance of a pirate's daughter.

In 1943, R.J. Funkhouser, whose life can be compared to that of Horatio

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"Clay	ymont Court," MA(GAZINE OF THE JEF cember 1949, pp.	FERSON COUNTY HISTOR	CAL SOCIETY,	
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N/	TION/	۱L	REGIS	TER	OF	HISTORI	IC P	LACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
West Virginia	•
COUNTY	
Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 2 5 1973	

(Number all entries) 8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued) No. 1

Alger, bought "Claymont Court." He had risen from the poor son of a country store-keeper to the owner of the O'Sullivan Rubber Corporation and had interests in such enterprises as the Funkhouser Company and the Victor Products Corporation. From his home at "Claymont Court," he did such acts for the community as establish the Blakeley Bank and Trust Company and donated generously for the construction of a local hospital.

