

Robert Cravens House & Dairy
Chickamauga and Chattanooga National
Military Park
Historic Structure Report



March 2012

for

Cultural Resources Division

Southeast Region, National Park Service

by

Joseph K. Oppermann–Architect, P.A.

539 N. Trade Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

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Atlanta, GA 30303
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Cravens House
LCS#: 07176

Cravens Dairy ("Kitchen/Dairy")
LCS#: 91219

The historic structure report presented here exists in two formats. A traditional, printed version is available for study at the park, the Southeastern Regional Office of the NPS (SERO), and at a variety of other repositories. For more widespread access, the historic structure report also exists in a web-based format through ParkNet, the website of the National Park Service. Please visit www.nps.gov for more information.

Robert Cravens House & Dairy
Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park
Historic Structure Report
2012

Approved by:

Superintendent, Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park Date

Recommended by:

Chief, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Region Date

Recommended by:

Deputy Regional Director, Southeast Region Date

Approved by:

Regional Director, Southeast Region Date

Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Historic Structure Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Region. A number of individuals contributed to the successful completion of this work, but we would particularly like to thank the Project Team who authored the report, and the staff at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, including Chief of Resource Management James Szykowski, Historian James H. Ogden III, and Museum Curator Denise West for their assistance throughout the process. We hope that this study of the Cravens House and Dairy will prove valuable to park management in ongoing efforts to preserve the buildings and to everyone in understanding and interpreting these unique resources.

Dan Scheidt, Chief
Cultural Resources Division
Southeast Regional Office
2012

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Bibliography

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Executive Summary

The present Cravens House, set high on Lookout Mountain, has long been an iconic image of both the mountain just west of Chattanooga and the Civil War battle that bears the mountain's name. The two-story wood frame and board house, with its stone dependency, have a commanding view of the city below. Indeed, the house, stark white against the dark greens, grays and browns of the mountain, is visible from miles away. However, the history of the house and its association with the famous battle is not as apparent.

Robert Cravens was a prominent civic leader and ironmaster who owned a blast furnace, foundry, and machine shop that manufactured mostly railroad materials. He purchased land on the eastern slope of Lookout Mountain and in 1856 built for his family's residence the original Cravens House. According to sketches and photographs made years later, it was a modest one-story wood frame-and-board house atop a stone basement. It is claimed by some to be one of the first year-round residences on the mountain, identified as "the white house on the hill." A short distance south of the house, Cravens built in 1861 a small stone Dairy.

When the Civil War erupted, Chattanooga was of strategic importance. During the ensuing battles, Confederate General E.C. Walthall made the Cravens House his headquarters, perhaps sharing it with the Cravens family until Union bombardments forced the family to evacuate. In late 1863 Union forces commanded by General Joseph Hooker defeated the Confederates in the Battle of Lookout Mountain. Hooker subsequently used the house and site as his headquarters and field hospital.

Though damaged, the house survived the battle but it did not survive the aftermath. Hundreds of soldiers and news correspondents who had set up camp in the front yard and around the house, virtually dismantled the wood portions

of the house save for a few large framing timbers. According to contemporary accounts, the troops and camped journalists used much of the wood for tent flooring and firewood; a large amount was also carried away by souvenir hunters. The wood-framed gable roof of the dairy suffered the same fate. Two well-known photographs confirm the extensive dismantling.

Cravens returned and built his second residence in 1866. Building archaeology conducted during the preparation of this report confirms construction of the 1866 house at the site of the original 1856 house. Further, the stone north, west, and south foundation walls of the original house remain partially intact within the basement of the 1866 house though the framing of the new house extends well beyond the original main block in three directions. A significant discovery of this investigation was a closed second fireplace on the original south foundation wall, opposite the clearly visible original fireplace on the north wall, matching in its large size and design. The existence of two fireplaces at what the stonework strongly suggests are opposite end walls is important. Paired basement-level fireplaces increase the importance of the basement in the daily functions of the original 1856 household. End wall locations also add a measure of validity to an 1863 drawing of the same design published in *Harper's Weekly*. This drawing is the only known representation of the 1856 house prior to its dismantling and may be more accurate than previously realized. The foundation for the one-story ell extending east from the house shown in the drawing and post-battle photographs apparently was not incorporated into the design of the 1866 house.

The earliest images of the 1866 house are incidental inclusions of two panoramic photographs, one taken in 1867, the other in 1870. Though the resolution is poor and the views partially obstructed, it is clear that the new house was two stories in height and had first-level porches

extending the full width of both the north and west house elevations. Further, there were one-story structures between the house and dairy as well as immediately adjacent in the yards.

An 1871 lithograph seems to contradict the two earlier photographs by excluding the north porch. However, we know this aspect of the lithograph to be incorrect. As a practical matter, the schematic nature of the lithograph indicates it was not intended to be a completely faithful representation.

The first clear image of the 1866 house that provides an accurate depiction is an 1892 drawing. Shortly thereafter, numerous photographs produced through the first half of the twentieth century confirm the information in the drawing. Their abundance is due in part to the popularity of the Cravens House and the battle site, especially after creation of the military park, and in part to the advent of the picture postcard. All these images are consistent in their depiction of a two-story house, a wrap-around one-story porch on three elevations, a brief two-story extension across part of the south elevation, and a long one-story south wing connecting with the old dairy. Furthermore, the dairy is shown with an east-elevation porch and various other frame and board appendages to the west.

This was the general appearance of the Cravens House in 1946, some 50 years after the house and dairy were included in the Chickamauga and Chattanooga Battlefields National Military Park, when the park superintendent recommended the house be demolished. He questioned its connection to the battle, noting its poor condition and the sizable repair funds needed. A decade-long confrontation resulted, local citizens blurring the historical connection of the latest white house with the one of the battle. In 1955 an accord was reached between NPS and the Chattanooga Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA), formed specifically to save the Cravens House. According to the agreement, APTA was to raise the money, contract for the restoration, as they termed it, and provide furnishings; NPS would contribute technical support and oversight.

In our review of records of both entities, APTA was vague as to what was meant by “restoration.” The ambiguity persisted to the end, as evidenced in the

contradictory comments of the APTA Restoration Committee’s completion report of 1959. At one point, the report asserts that the building as restored resembles the house of the battle. Yet the report also claims the house as restored is symbolic of the post-war period.

However decisions were made, the results were dramatic. Though the majority of the 1956-57 house remained, significant portions were removed or rearranged. The APTA records state the removed portions were additions, but no explanation is provided. Nor have any records of the process of removal and construction been found. Further, no removed building fabric was retained. As a result, little evidence of the 1956-57 restoration effort remains that can be reassessed by researchers today.

Nonetheless, some conclusions can be drawn from a comparison of the 1956-57 Cravens House with the late-nineteenth century images of the property, building archaeology, known household living patterns in the nineteenth century, the 1956 pre-restoration scaled drawings of floor plans, the group of pre-restoration photographs and the completion report. This collective evidence points to a 1956-57 transformation into a new identity rather than a restoration to a previous form.

Further, many of the interconnected structures depicted in drawings and photographs prior to the work were probably largely intact dating to the 1866 construction period; these also included some significant but not overwhelming late-nineteenth century additions and modifications. The 1956-57 work created a third Cravens House, one that had not existed previously.

However, the 1956-57 Cravens House and Dairy, which remain largely intact today, are important historical buildings worthy of protection and preservation. While there are challenges for interpretation to be sure, there also are intriguing opportunities. The current 1956-57 house contains remnants of the original 1856 Cravens House that was present during the Civil War battle. The current house also contains a large portion if not the great majority of the 1866 Cravens House, the replacement residence of a family that returned to rebuild their lives after the destruction of the War. Herein lie opportunities to expand upon numerous interpretive themes prior to,

during and immediately after the War. And the 1956-57 Cravens House provides the opportunity to address the hazards of an idealized historical interpretation as was typical in the 1950s and of which it was a product. In contrast, the importance of scholarly investigation and record keeping are the cornerstones of modern restoration efforts.

There are valuable lessons to be learned from a comprehensive interpretation of the Cravens House and Dairy. Retention in current form is cost effective, also. Therefore, the Recommended Ultimate Treatment of the Cravens House and Dairy is the preservation of the interior and exterior of both buildings. It also is recommended that interpretation of these two buildings be comprehensive, using the various evolving building forms to address the issues of the day for each corresponding time period. Interpretation could span from the construction of the 1856 house, through the addition in 1861 of the dairy, the effects of the Civil War, the remaking of both buildings in 1866, and the impact on both buildings

of an historical interpretation based on fervor. Further, it is recommended that interpretation be coupled with the Cultural Landscape Report being compiled as a separate document.

And finally, the Cravens House and Dairy do have pressing maintenance needs. The roofs and chimney flashing of both buildings are in failure and need immediate replacement. There are no gutters or downspouts. Their absence on the upper roof of the house is causing needless but severe damage from runoff to the second-floor windows and thereby the plastered walls and ceilings; gutters and downspouts should be installed, at least at the upper roof. The second-floor windows need repair to be made weathertight. The damaged interior plastered surfaces need repair and repainting. Ground water continues to enter the basement through foundation walls; roof runoff and perhaps other ground water need to be contained and directed away from the house. With timely repairs, the Cravens House and Dairy will be prepared to receive and inform another generation of visitors.

Administrative Data

Locational Data

<i>Building Name:</i>	Robert Cravens House & Dairy
<i>Location:</i>	1060 Cravens Terrace, Lookout Mountain
<i>County:</i>	Hamilton County
<i>State:</i>	Tennessee

Related Studies

Primary

Ray Geerdes. “*A Historic Information Report on the Cravens House.*” Unpublished report, National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, February 1975.

Hanson, Jill K., and Robert W. Blythe. Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Historic Resource Study, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 1999.

Hanson, Jill K., and Robert W. Blythe. National Register nomination Additional Information, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Historic District, 1996.

Lee, Ronald F. The Origin and Evolution of the National Military Park Idea. National Park Service, 1973.

Lewis, J. Eugene. “*Report on the Restoration of the Cravens House.*” Typed manuscript, June 30, 1959.

Paige, John C., and Jerome A. Greene. Administrative History of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1983.

Snyder, Mary. “*Robert Cravens—A Brief History of the Man and his Family.*” Unpublished manuscript, NPS, 1975.

Files and images in the CHCH archives and library.

Photograph database and vertical files in the Local History and Genealogy Department, Chattanooga Public Library.

Real Property Information

Acquisition Date: 1896 by U.S. Department of War
1933 by National Park Service

Numbering Information

LCS ID: Cravens House LCS 07176
Cravens "Kitchen/Dairy" LCS 91219

Size Information

Cravens House

Total Floor Area: 2,700 square feet ±
Basement Floor Area 820 square feet ±
First Floor Area 940 square feet ±
Second Floor Area 940 square feet ±

Roof Area: 2,500 square feet ±

Number of Stories: 3

Number of Rooms: 12

Number of Bathrooms: 1

Dairy

Total Floor Area: 250 square feet ±
Basement Floor Area 135 square feet ±
First Floor Area 115 square feet ±

Roof Area: 350 square feet ±

Number of Stories: 2 + basement

Number of Rooms: 2

Number of Bathrooms: 0

Cultural Resource Data

National Register Status: Listed on October 15, 1966.
Documentation prepared in 1986.
Additional Documentation form accepted November 1998. The house and dairy are both classified as contributing structures at the national level of significance. The dairy is noted as the only building within the park that can with certainty be dated to the battle period.

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park is classified for National Register purposes as a discontinuous historic district comprising 8,000+ acres of land within the park boundary.

Proposed Treatment

Preservation of the exterior and interior of both the Cravens House and the Dairy in their current appearance but in good repair.

I.A Historical Background and Context

The Robert Cravens House was built in 1866 to replace an 1856 house dismantled during the Civil War. The earlier house was at the center of an important Civil War battle on Lookout Mountain. The house is located on a terrace on the northeastern slope of Lookout Mountain in the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (NMP), which was created in 1890. The majority of the NMP is in Catoosa and Walker counties, Georgia, but some sections, including the Lookout Mountain Battlefield, are in Hamilton County in Tennessee.

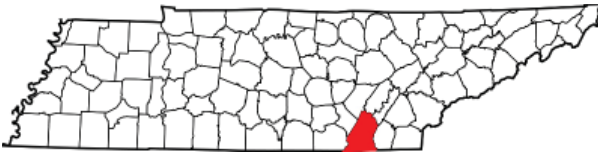


Figure 1. The Cravens House is on Lookout Mountain in Hamilton County near the Georgia border. (freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~prsjr/families/tn/gifiles/hamilton.png; accessed 15 February, 2011)



Figure 2. Hernando de Soto. (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hernando_de_Soto; accessed 15 February 2011)

Development of Chattanooga

Chattanooga lies in a bend of the Tennessee River where the Cumberland Plateau meets the Appalachian Mountains, its downtown surrounded by mountains and ridges. The area has been occupied by American Indians since the Upper Paleolithic period and was visited in 1540 by Hernando de Soto during his travels in search of gold.



Figure 3. Cherokee Chief John Ross (1790-1866). (wikipedia.org/wiki/john_Ross_(Cherokee_chief)); accessed 17 February 2011.

By the eighteenth century, the Tennessee River had become an important part of Mississippi Valley trade, but after conflicts leading to the French and Indian War, the English gained control of the area. By the 1770s the Cherokee had retained a large presence there. In 1810, Cherokee Chief John Ross (*Figure 3*) established a store on the Tennessee River at the present site of Chattanooga, and in 1816 established Ross's Landing along what is today Broad Street. The settlement consisted of a

ferry, warehouse, and landing. It initially served the Cherokee trade and soon became the business center for the region.¹ The small settlement grew.

In 1838, the United States government completed its forced relocation of American Indians from the southeastern United States to present day Oklahoma. Ross's Landing was one of the army's holding camps where Indians were encamped before making the journey west along what became known as the "Trail of Tears." In the same year, Ross's Landing incorporated as the City of Chattanooga.

The city's geographic location on the river led to its quick growth. The port of Chattanooga benefitted from its position between the diverse agriculture of the northern and southern states as it moved products between the regions. Other industries moved to the area including the charcoal iron industry, and Chattanooga became a boom town with the arrival of the first railroad in 1850.

1. In 1819 Ross became president of the Cherokee National Committee, a part of the Cherokee's republican form of government. ("John Ross, Chief of the Cherokee," www.georgiatribeofeasterncherokee.com/chiefjohnross.htm; accessed 17 February 2011).

Robert Cravens

Robert Cravens (*Figure 5*) was among Chattanooga's early iron industrialists. Born in Rockingham County, Virginia on May 5, 1805, his family moved in 1807 to Greene County, Tennessee, then to Selma, Alabama. Orphaned when both of his parents died of a fever in 1821, young Robert with his seven sisters were returned to East Tennessee to live with his aunt and uncle, George and Mary Love Gordon. George Gordon was a successful man,

[an] enterprising businessman of some means, and was one of the pioneers in the iron business in East Tennessee. He founded what was then known as the Legion Iron Furnace in Greene County, also Bright Hope Furnace.... On Chuncky River, 12 miles southeast of Greeneville, he built the first paper mill in Tennessee.²

George Gordon introduced young Robert to the iron business and Robert spent nearly seven years with his uncle at Bright Hope Furnace. In 1828,

2. James R. Cravens, personal letter to Mrs. Charles R. Hyde, 3/11/1918, cited in Mary Snyder, "Robert Cravens—A Brief History of the Man and his Family," (National Park Service, 1975).



Figure 4. "Mocassin Bend and Lookout Battlefield." The Cravens farm is visible in the foreground. (Captain George W. Skinner, compiler, *Pennsylvania at Chickamauga and Chattanooga. Ceremonies at the Dedication of the Monuments Erected by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Mark the Positions of the Pennsylvania Commands Engaged in the Battles, 1897* [Pennsylvania: William Stanley Ray, State Printer, 1901])



Figure 5. Robert Cravens. (CHCH collection)

the two men established the Gordon Iron Works in Rhea County and manufactured cast and wrought iron.³

In the early 1830s, Cravens apparently went into business for himself and began to develop foundries, forges, and blast furnaces. He became an accomplished and innovative ironmaster. In 1838 or 1839 he established the Eagle Furnace in Roane County, Tennessee, about two miles from the Gordon Iron Works, and later began experiments to measure the efficiency of coke compared to charcoal as fuels.⁴ He and a partner also built a flouring mill and foundry where, among other products, they produced household castings such as ovens and pots and shipped them to Tennessee, Kentucky, and Georgia.⁵ The *Chattanooga Times* later praised Cravens' operation:

In 1839 he established the old Eagle Furnace in Roane County, and continued with it twelve years. His work in that connection was a great success and was the only industry of the kind in the state at that time which did not either fall or close down.⁶

Cravens married Catherine Roddye on September 29, 1830, and with her had five children. After her death in 1845 he married Caroline Cunyningham in December 1846. She was seventeen years his junior. Cravens continued his work in the iron industry. The 1850 census shows Cravens, iron master, living with his wife Caroline and children in Roane County, Tennessee; he owned fifteen slaves.

It is not clear when the Cravenses moved to Chattanooga. The completion of the Western and Atlantic Railroad into Chattanooga and the prospect of the city's becoming a railroad center may have prompted his move. There were also untapped natural resources in the area. Sources vary but Cravens is likely to have moved to the city in 1851. He and his family lived on Boyce Street, and he became manager of the East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company.⁷ One of Chattanooga's earliest industrial ventures, the company was chartered in 1847 and became a "seminal force in the industrial development of the city and its surrounding area."⁸ Several men served on the company's board, but Cravens was the only principal partner with experience in iron manufacturing. The remainder were investors. Cravens bought at least part of the business for \$30,000.⁹

In 1853 the company opened a foundry and machine shop near the rail yards, producing rail wheels, engines, and freight cars. The following advertisement appeared in the *Chattanooga Gazette*, January 20, 1855, and indicates the company's capabilities:

We are prepared to manufacture chilled railroad car wheels of the very best quality and freight cars of any descriptions of cars or

3. Some sources give it the name Gordon & Cravens Iron Works. R.N. Price, *Holston Methodism from its Origin to the Present Time* (Nashville: Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1913), Vol. 5, p. 336.

4. Jonathan Kennon Thompson Smith, "Genealogical Abstracts from Reported Deaths, the Nashville Christian Advocate, 1897-1899" (Jonathan K. T. Smith, 1997). *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History & Culture*, tennesseencyclopedia.net; accessed 31 January 2011. John Wilson, *Chattanooga's Story* (self-published, 1980), p. 44. The furnace failed in 1844.

5. Snyder, "Robert Cravens," p. 7.

6. *Chattanooga Times*, 12/4/1886, p. 3.

7. Smith, "Genealogical Abstracts."

8. Rhea County Marriage Records, 1808-1845, p. 75.

"East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company," tennesseencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=419; accessed 31 January 2011.

9. tennesseencyclopedia.net. Louis Parham, *Parham's First Annual Directory* (Knoxville: Whig and Register Steam Print, 1871), p. 53, cited in Snyder, p. 10. R. Bruce Council, Nicholas Honerkamp, and M. Elizabeth Will, *Industry and Technology in Antebellum Tennessee: The Archaeology of Bluff Furnace*. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1992), p. 54.

railroad columns, still and caps of any pattern desired for buildings. Also saw and grist mill castings of the latest and most improved kinds, Hotchkiss' water wheel, gin and crane gear, shafting pulleys and hangers, etc.

A year later another new, greatly improved plant was built on the Tennessee River. This, the Bluff Furnace, in 1856 produced 172 tons of pig iron in thirteen weeks (*Figure 6*).¹⁰ In 1859 it was replaced by a new furnace with technology unique in the South. In 1860 the new furnace produced 500 tons of iron in a month. Bluff Furnace has been recognized in its region as "the first of what would later be considered modern-style coke furnaces."¹¹ Robert Cravens and his rapid success were identified with the expansion and growth of Chattanooga as the city became the iron center of the Southeast and a major railway hub. Cravens' iron products were shipped directly to eastern cities by rail.

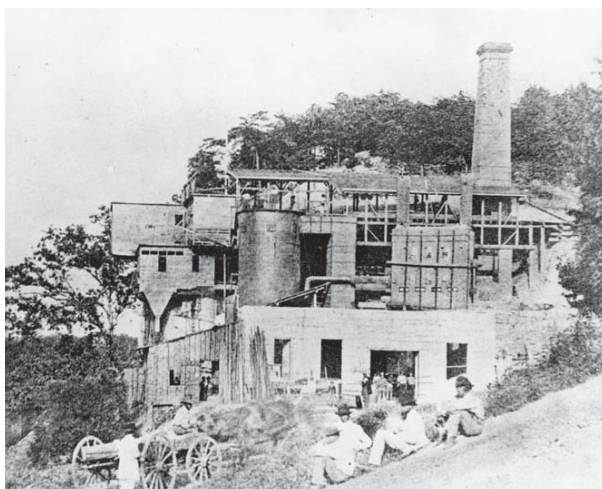


Figure 6. East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company's Bluff Furnace. (tennesseencyclopedia.net; accessed 31 January 2011)

Cravens' interests and influence extended beyond the iron industry. In addition to his furnaces, he was one of the incorporators of the Chattanooga Water Works Company in 1856 and founded with others the Etna Mining and Manufacturing Company, which bought some 16,000 acres of land on Raccoon Mountain for coal mining. In 1860 he leased Bluff Furnace to give his full attention to the mines.¹²

10. *tennesseencyclopedia.net*. Pig iron is raw iron derived from iron ore; it is the form of iron required to make steel...

11. Council et al, *Bluff Furnace*, p. 162.

12. Robert's son James was in charge of operations at the mine. Snyder, "Robert Cravens," p. 12-13.

As a civic leader, his accomplishments were also extensive. Cravens served as city alderman and called for a plan of the town to be surveyed. He was active in the Masonic Lodge and served on the board of the Chattanooga Female Institute. He was a devout Methodist and was a trustee of the Methodist Church, as well as a delegate in 1857 to the convention to set up an Episcopal university (later established in Sewanee as the University of the South). He was as well a generous donor to local institutions.¹³

Cravens, a wealthy man, also became active in real estate, and in about 1854 purchased a large tract of one thousand acres on the north end of Lookout Mountain where he created a summer retreat for his family. He is reported to have built several small cabins there—perhaps some were housing for his slaves—and maintained an orchard and vineyard.¹⁴

Two years later Robert and Caroline built a year-round residence on the mountain, a one-story frame house with two stone chimneys, possibly L-shaped. Completed in about 1856, it was a prominent feature, located on a small outcrop of level land below the crest of the mountain looking out over the Moccasin Bend curve of the Tennessee River. They named it Alta Vista though it was also known as the white house.¹⁵ An assortment of outbuildings certainly accompanied the house, though only the stone dairy remains. The dairy is believed to have been built a year after the house as explained in Section IB below.

By 1860, census records show Cravens, his wife Caroline, and seventeen-year-old son Jesse living in Chattanooga where he owned twelve slaves and listed three slave houses. The census ascribes to

13. Ibid., p. 15-16. Ray Geerdes, "A Historic Information Report on the Cravens House," (Unpublished report, National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, February 1975), p. 19.

14. Carroll Van West, *Tennessee's Historic Landscapes* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1995). Robert Sparks Walker, *Lookout Mountain: Battles and Battlefields* (Chattanooga, Tennessee: Kingwood Publishers, 1941), p. 107. Letter written 1911 by Jesse Cravens, son of Robert. The type of orchard is unclear, perhaps peach, cherry, or apple or more likely all; a note on a postcard identifies "old peach trees;" Walker on p. 250 states there was a cherry orchard there; a c. 1864 photograph shows cherry trees in front of the house; the 1880 census lists apples, peaches, and a vineyard; and a 1975 interview mentions a peach orchard earlier taken over by residential development.

15. Eugene Lewis, "Cravens House, Landmark of Lookout Mountain" *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XX, September 1961 (CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 2). This article was also published in booklet form

him \$100,000 in real estate worth and \$40,000 in personal estate, yet he remained “a plain man in his dress and style of living.”¹⁶

At the onset of the Civil War, after Tennessee seceded, Cravens entered into a contract with the governor to furnish saltpeter and wood for making gunpowder for the Confederacy.¹⁷ Just a few years later, Cravens’ farm would be the site of a pivotal battle of the war.

At Cravens’ death in 1886, newspaper obituaries around the state praised him for his public service and many accomplishments. The Chattanooga newspaper of December 4, 1886, reflects the stature to which Cravens had grown in Chattanooga’s affairs:

Mr. Robert Cravens, who died yesterday at the ripe age of eighty-five years [sic], was a remarkable man. He was a pioneer in the manufacture of pig iron in the South, and in his day a most enterprising and intelligent developer of the latent resources of Tennessee. A man of simple habits, sturdy independence... rugged honesty, and dauntless courage, he commanded the respect and adoration of all who knew him. The... honored few of the race of hardy men who laid the foundations of civilization in this beautiful valley, are fast passing away, and may God rest them.¹⁸

The Battle of Lookout Mountain

In September 1863, the Union’s Army of the Cumberland marched into Chattanooga intent on securing the key railroad hub. Instead, the Army suffered a devastating defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga just below Lookout Mountain. Confederate troops under General Braxton Bragg (*Figure 7*) then ringed the city, establishing themselves on Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and the valley between, holding the Union forces in Chattanooga for many weeks. Besieged by the Confederates, the surrounded Union army survived on reduced rations until the arrival of General Ulysses S. Grant broke the Confederate blockade, and Federal troops took control of Lookout Valley.¹⁹

On Lookout Mountain, Robert Cravens’ house was situated on its nearly level ledge on the steep eastern face of the mountain. By late November

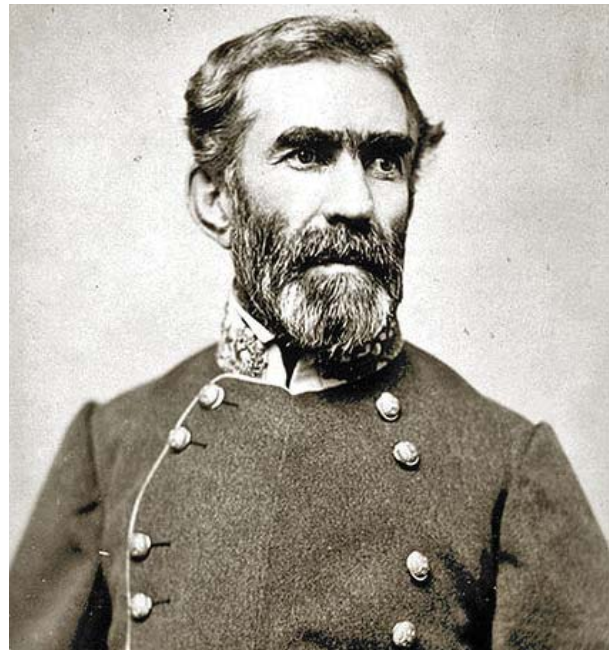


Figure 7. Confederate General Braxton Bragg. (Library of Congress)

a small force of 2,700 Confederates occupied the northern and northwestern slopes of the mountain. Some troops had arrived earlier and built defenses that passed through Cravens’ land close to the house. In a letter of November 3, 1863, Colonel John L. Bratton wrote to his wife,

My Qrs. Are in the Craven House that you probably have seen mentioned in the papers. The enemy gave it a shelling the other day while we were passing this point... and again since. There are two or three holes through the room where I am sitting.²⁰

Confederate General Edward C. Walthall (*Figure 8*) and his troops arrived on the mountain in mid-November. He is believed to have made the Cravens House his headquarters; he and his officers lived inside the house while the enlisted men were encamped in the yard.²¹ However, the Union command knew the location of Walthall’s troops and the house, painted white, remained a target for Federal artillery from Moccasin Bend below.²²

20. “Civil War Letters of John L. Bratton, Colonel 6th South Carolina, October 29 to November 3, 1863,” in Bratton Collection, Special Collections, Woodruff Library, Emory University.

21. Sullivan, James R. *Chickamauga and Chattanooga Battlefields, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park*, 1956 Park Handbook, www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/hh/25/hh25j3.htm; accessed 28 January 2011. NPS brochure, www.tennesseetreasures.net/images/stories/brochures/Cravens%20House.pdf; accessed 28 January 2011.

22. tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=330; accessed 28 January 2011.

16. Price, *Holston Methodism*, Vol. 5, p. 337.

17. Snyder, “Robert Cravens,” p. 25.

18. *The Daily Times*, 12/4/1886, p. 2.

19. Walker, *Lookout*, p. 89-90.

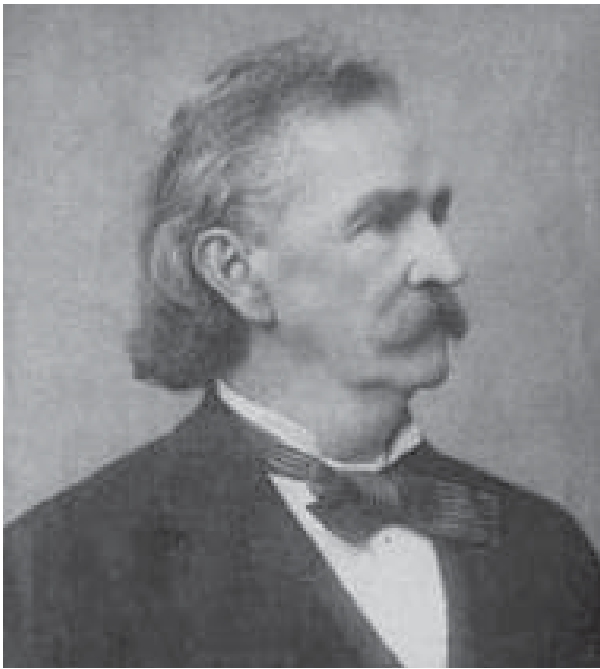


Figure 8. Confederate General Edward C. Walthall. (Library of Congress)

It is not clear how long the Cravens family remained in the house. Local tradition and historical reports vary, with accounts of their departure ranging from late October until the start of the battle in late November. Many people were reported to be living in the house during

the shelling. According to Robert Walker's 1941 history,

The Cravens house was being used as the headquarters of Gen. Edward C. Walthall and staff commanding a brigade of Confederate troops. Besides the officers, there were, beneath its roof, members of the Cravens family, which included Robert Cravens and wife, a daughter, Mrs. W. W. Anderson and two children, Dr. James R. Cravens, a son, and his two children, Mary and Jenny, and Mrs. Margaret Cunningham, mother-in-law of Robert Cravens.... When the first cannonballs hit the house, Mrs. Anderson became so badly frightened, that her brother, Dr. James R. Cravens, placed her on a horse and spirited her away to a place of safety in the valley beyond.²³

Eventually the constant shelling forced the family to flee. They evacuated and moved south to a farm in Georgia.²⁴

The Confederates at "Cravens Terrace" considered their position, high on a steep precipice, to be safe from a ground assault and therefore assigned only a small garrison for defense. However, on November 24, 1863, a large Union force ascended the western slopes of Lookout Mountain and, joined by additional troops, advanced north across the steep rocky terrain towards the Confederate positions

23. Walker, *Lookout*, p. 248.

24. *Ibid.*, p. 249.



Figure 9. "Battle of Lookout Mountain," drawing by Theodore R. Davis depicting the Army of the Cumberland capturing the Rebel works at Cravens House during the 'Battle Above the Clouds,' *Harper's Weekly*, 12/26/1863, p. 820. (Chattanooga Public Library [CPL] Photograph Collection)

near the Cravens House. There, with a dense fog shrouding the mountain, they drove the surprised Confederates from their limestone positions and pressed them from the slopes. Walker's 1941 history dramatically describes the terrain:

The intrepid soldiers...pressed onward... surmounting obstructions every rod of the way, charging over rugged boulders down through rocky ravines, slipping over precipices, ploughing their way through slashed timber and abatis.²⁵

The Confederates were vastly outnumbered and were pushed back to a few hundred yards south of the Cravens House; General Bragg soon ordered his troops to evacuate the mountain. They withdrew from Lookout Mountain on the evening of the 24th and joined the rest of his forces on nearby Missionary Ridge.²⁶ The next day Missionary Ridge was also taken by the Union. These battles were significant losses to the Confederates. They contributed to the Union's gaining control of not only Chattanooga, but nearly all of Tennessee. The following spring, Union General William T. Sherman was able to use Chattanooga as his supply base for his march to Atlanta.²⁷

Though General Grant later downplayed the battle, others found it to be a turning point, boosting the morale of the Union. The battle enabled additional Union divisions to join the attack against Missionary Ridge the next day. A more dramatic assessment, reflective of many veterans' sentiments, was made by Union Colonel A. F. Stevenson in his welcome to the Reunion of the Army of the Cumberland on September 19, 1888:

Many years have passed since we stood in line under our regimental colors; many years have passed since our march from the Ohio to the Tennessee, where the lofty Lookout Mountain uplifts its peak over the flowing waters of the stream below, made historic by the greatest battle of the world's history—a battle so magnificent and so sublime that it will be celebrated for all time to come for the heroism and desperate courage of those who fought.²⁸

25. Ibid., p. 105.

26. Jill K. Hanson & Robert W. Blythe, *Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Historic Resource Study* (National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, 1999), p. 17-18. Sullivan, *Battlefields*. Montgomery Meigs, Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army, later gave the Battle of Lookout Mountain the nickname, "The Battle Above the Clouds."

27. Hanson & Blythe, *Historic Resource Study*, p. 17-18. Limestone fortifications are still present at the battle site.

28. *Society of the Army of the Cumberland, Nineteenth Reunion, Chicago, Illinois 1888*. (Published by order of the Society, 1888), p. 11.

1863: The House Destroyed

When Robert Cravens evacuated his house in 1863 for the safety of his family, he moved them to Peavine Farm at Woods Station, near Ringgold, Georgia, about twenty miles southeast of Lookout Mountain.²⁹ During the battle, Cravens' house came into Union hands. It became the headquarters for General W. C. Whitaker and his command and served as a temporary hospital for the wounded.³⁰ In addition to the troops, there were as well hundreds of soldiers and news correspondents, artists, and photographers from *Harper's Weekly* and other Northern publications who set up camp in the front yard and around the house. The large number of reporters gave the site the nickname "Camp Harper's Weekly." Although the house survived the battle, it did not survive these troops and reporters. During the winter of 1863, they dismantled the house piece by piece, using the wood for tent flooring and firewood.



Figure 10. Post-battle ruins of Cravens House; photograph believed taken in 1864. (CHCH Collection)

The house was also scavenged by souvenir hunters. *Harper's New Monthly* reported,

The white house—a small but handsome cottage built on the 'bench' of the mountain earlier fell prey to this passion for battle trophies.... It was General Geary's headquarters the night of the battle, and the only hospital we had on the field. It was, therefore, of great interest, and was consequently stripped of everything of the slightest value or interest. When the club left camp the 'white house' was in ruins.³¹

29. NPS brochure, www.tennesseetreasures.net/images/stories/brochures/Cravens%20House.pdf; accessed 28 January 2011; Geerdes, p. 22.

30. Peter Cozzens, *The Shipwreck of their Hopes: the Battles for Chattanooga* (Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 1996), p. 190.

31. William Shanks, "Lookout Mountain and How We Won It," (*Harpers New Monthly Magazine*, Vol. XXXVII, no. 217, June 1868), p. 6-7. The "club" was the Bohemian Club, as the group of Northern reporters and artists was known.

Upon his return from Ringgold, Cravens found only the stone foundation, the chimneys, and certain structural members (*Figure 10*). The dairy remained but had lost its roof. Cravens built a new house on the same site, repaired the dairy, and continued to live on the farm with his family until his death in 1886.³²

Post-War Development of Lookout Mountain

In the years after the war, Lookout Mountain maintained its reputation for its healthful environment and flourished as a popular summer retreat, attracting not only wealthy Chattanoogaans but a large number of tourists. Many of those visitors were the men who had fought here, bringing their families with them. Roads and a private park were developed at “the Point” on the crest of the mountain.

Some of the wealthy leaders of post-war Chattanooga came initially as soldiers in 1863 and saw the business opportunities in coal, iron, and transportation. Even before the war ended they

32. *tennesseencyclopedia.net*. In 1870 census, Cravens was still identified as iron master. His sister-in-law Margaret (Maggie) Cunyngham [sic] was living with them. The 1880 census also shows a boarder, apparently a preacher.

were establishing themselves in those industries.³³

By the 1880s and 1890s the mountain saw more intensive development. In 1888 a group of investors built a hotel just beneath the prominent Point overlook which they named The Point Hotel (*Figure 11*). They also built a cable incline railway climbing directly to the hotel from the foot of Lookout Mountain, known later as Incline Railway No. 1 (*Figures 12 and 13*). Narrow-gauge railroads accessed other parts of the mountain and were heavily advertised in Chattanooga.³⁴

The area saw an increase in year-round residents as well and the Town of Lookout Mountain was incorporated in 1890.³⁵ In that year was erected the lavish Lookout Mountain Inn, billed as “the largest hotel of its kind in the South.” It became one of the popular southern resorts and its success led to the construction in 1895 of a second incline railway, known as Incline No. 2.³⁶

33. Interview, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (CHCH) Historian James H. Ogden III.

34. Connelly & Fais, *The Directory of Chattanooga, Tennessee, 1892*.

35. Walker, *Lookout*, p. 255.

36. Carolyn Sakowski, *Touring the East Tennessee Backroads* (Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1993), p. 357. Incline No. 1 was abandoned in 1898; Incline No. 2, The Lookout Mountain Incline Railway, is still in use today, rising at a 72.7 grade and dubbed “the steepest passenger incline railway in the world.” The inn burned in 1908.



Figure 11. Postcard showing the Point Hotel. (Digital image in NPS files at its Southeast Regional Office (SERO) and at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (CHCH)).

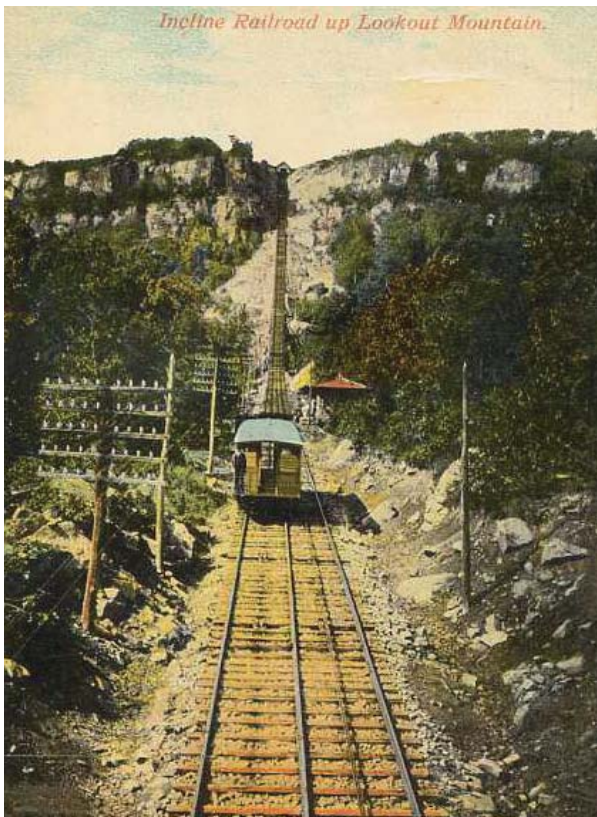


Figure 12. Later postcard view of Incline Railway up Lookout Mountain. (Digital image in NPS files at its Southeast Regional Office [SERO] and at CHCH).

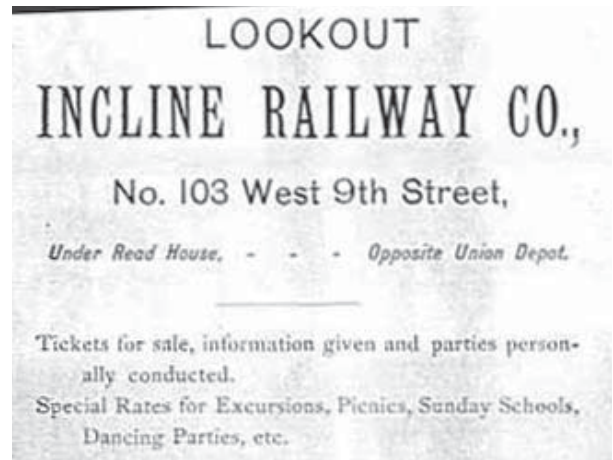


Figure 13. Advertisement for the Incline Railway in 1888 Visitor's Guide, "The History of Chattanooga and Lookout Mountain," chattanooga.freesevers.com/page2.htm; accessed 16 February 2011.

1890s: National Military Park

The veterans who visited Lookout Mountain were largely responsible for creation of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. Although reunions of Civil War veterans had begun in the 1870s, they were generally held in larger cities



Figure 14. Veterans on Lookout Mountain on September 18, 1889 during the Chattanooga reunion that began the idea for the national park. (CPL Photograph Collection)

where veterans from the same side gathered at annual banquets. Veterans' reunions became major commercial events for American cities. But by the 1880s a new feeling of nationality was rising and Union and Confederate soldiers began to meet jointly, not only in cities, but also in encampments on their old battlefields. Many of these "Blue-Gray" reunions took place in Chattanooga in the 1880s and 1890s with visits to Cravens Terrace and photographs on the summit.³⁷

The idea of a national park to commemorate the battlefields of Chickamauga and Chattanooga is said to have originated at a joint reunion of veterans, Union and Confederate together, at Chattanooga in September 1889 (*Figure 14*). Plans were initiated by two veterans who believed the battlefields should be "a Western Gettysburg -- a Chickamauga memorial."³⁸ But they envisioned a step beyond Gettysburg, which simply had monuments to the Union army, erected by the state. The veterans believed both Union and Confederate forces should be commemorated, and by the Federal government rather than the state. And they further saw the need not for monuments

alone, but for the concept to be expanded to create a federal park to preserve the battlefields.

A local preservation committee concurred. In September 1889, Confederate and Union veterans joined with the local committee to form the Chickamauga Memorial Association. Early the next year, Representative Charles H. Grosvenor of Ohio, a former Union general, introduced H.R. 6454 to establish the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park. The Military Affairs Committee of the House submitted a favorable report and the bill passed.³⁹

The act states that the purpose of the park is "preserving and suitably marking for historical and professional military study the fields of some of the most remarkable maneuvers and most brilliant fighting in the war of the rebellion...." The act authorized the Secretary of War to acquire approximately 7,600 acres embracing the battlefield of Chickamauga, scenes of maneuvers, and several highways. The national park was placed under the charge of three commissioners each of whom had participated in one of the battles around Chattanooga. Congress, for the first time, authorized the federal purchase of historic property from private owners and, if necessary,

37. David W. Blight, *Race & Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001), p. 172.

38. H.V. Boynton, compiler, *Dedication of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, September 18-20, 1895* (Senate Report No. 637, 54th Cong., 1st Sess.), p. 318, cited in Ronald F. Lee, *The Origin and Evolution of the National Military Park Idea* (National Park Service, 1973), Chapter III.

39. The name was National Park, only later named National Military Park. Lee, *Origin and Evolution*, Chapter III. This was a joint effort by the federal and state governments.



Figure 15. 1897 Birdseye view of Chattanooga and Lookout Mountain, with inset of Lookout Mountain. (American Fine Art Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1897)

use of the power of eminent domain to protect such property for the whole nation.⁴⁰ Owners of the land were permitted to occupy and cultivate their holdings upon condition they “will preserve the present buildings and roads, and the present outlines of field and forest....” The commission was authorized to employ an “assistant in historical work,” and states were authorized to place markers where their troops had been engaged.⁴¹

Land was bought in stages beginning with several tracts along Missionary Ridge in 1892. In 1893, after the death of Cravens’ widow Caroline, seventy acres of Cravens property were acquired for inclusion in the national park, but did not include the house. This became Lookout Mountain Battlefield Park.⁴² And on September 4, 1896, the house and surrounding acreage was sold to the United States government to become a part of the park.⁴³

On September 18-20, 1895, the park was dedicated in an impressive national observance. Vice President Adlai Stevenson attended with a delegation from both the House and the Senate. Twenty-four states were represented, fourteen by their governors. A large tent with seating capacity of ten thousand was filled on separate occasions by veterans’ reunions. On the day of dedication, called “one of the most spectacular reunions,” it was conservatively estimated that forty thousand veterans were in attendance.⁴⁴

This idea of the Nation’s acquiring a battlefield and preserving it for historical purposes was new in 1890, but was popularly received and quickly followed by additional battlefield acquisitions.⁴⁵

Between 1890 and 1899 Congress authorized the establishment of five major Civil War battlefields as national military parks. The first was the Chickamauga and Chattanooga authorized in 1890, followed by Antietam, also in 1890, Shiloh in 1894, Gettysburg in 1895, and Vicksburg in 1899.⁴⁶

40. Ibid.

41. Ibid. Several markers were later placed near the Cravens House.

42. John C. Paige and Jerome A. Greene, *Administrative History of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park* (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1983), Chapter II B.

43. Lewis, “Cravens House, Landmark,” p. 13; Hanson and Blythe, *Historic Resource Study*, p. 34.

44. Blight, *Race & Reunion*, p. 205.

45. Lee, *Origin and Evolution*, Chapter III.

46. Ibid.

These five were the beginnings of the nation’s battlefield park system. The two primary purposes were to preserve the major battlefields for historical and professional study, and to exhibit the sites as memorials to the armies of both sides.⁴⁷

Buoyed by the initial popularity of the national park, the commercial and residential development of Lookout Mountain was robust. A further boost occurred after World War I when the introduction of the automobile and construction of a new road brought thousands to the area. A housing development was built near the top of the mountain, a new hotel opened, and new kinds of tourist attractions were developed. The opening of major tourist sites, especially Ruby Falls in 1928, Lookout Mountain Caverns in 1929, and Rock City in 1932, solidified the region’s tourism industry. In 1928 another elaborate hotel was built on the mountain, designed as a castle topped by an observation tower. Grand as it was, the hotel was short-lived and closed with the abrupt arrival of the Depression in 1929.⁴⁸

Few details are known of the use of the Cravens House during the thirty-seven years of War Department ownership, but the house apparently served as a residence for a park employee for most of that time.

1933: National Park Service

On August 10, 1933, responsibility for the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service. This was part of a larger movement in which, by Executive Order 6166 of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the War Department transferred all its historic properties, including national military parks, battlefields, national cemeteries, and historic sites, to the National Park Service. Along with the historic sites and buildings themselves, the records and files of the 1926-1933 national survey of battlefields were also transferred.⁴⁹

The National Park Service initiated a new era of park development using funds from the National Recovery Act to help upgrade

47. Ibid.

48. Sakowski, *Touring*, pp. 353, 360-61.

49. Lee, *Origin and Evolution*, Chapter IV.

interpretation programs and improve landscaping and maintenance in parks. The success of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP continued despite the Depression, and additional land was acquired as early as 1935.⁵⁰ During most of the NPS ownership, the house and dairy have been

50. Paige and Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter III.

open to visitors. Today, the NMP comprises four primary units: the Chickamauga Battlefield, the Lookout Mountain Battlefield, the Missionary Ridge Battlefield, and the Moccasin Bend National Archeological District.⁵¹

51. Ogden, personal communication, 25 August 2011.

I.B Chronology of Development and Use



Figure 16. Ruins of Cravens' 1856 house seen from the northwest; photograph believed taken in 1864. (*Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, Vol. 37, Issue 217, p. 7, June, 1868. In CHCH Collection)

February 1, 1864: Went to the summit of Lookout...and had Melainotypes [tintypes] taken....Stopped at the "Craven House" [sic] on our way back and had a fine time. The house is destroyed now but the owner must have been well to do, and very comfortably fixed. There was a large basin and water was conveyed to it in pipes and the water was splendid. Returned to camp. Splendid day.¹

At the close of the war in 1865, pioneer iron manufacturer Robert Cravens left his Georgia farm and returned to Lookout Mountain. There he found only the ruins of his dismantled house. Two photographs taken probably in 1864, one printed later in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* in 1868, show the remains (*Figures 16 and 17*).² The stone foundation walls of the east ell remains in place, though damaged. All that remain of the wood-framed first floor are some of the vertical wall

framing and ceiling joists. None of the exterior siding, interior finish material, or roof structure remains in place.

One photograph (*Figure 16*) is taken from the northwest. The photograph is difficult to decipher because the photographer was at grade and several critical elements are visually aligned. A dominant feature is a large chimney with firebox, apparently the south end-wall chimney. On its stack are ghost marks of the gable roof of the one-story house. The smaller chimney of the ell is to the east and attached to it wall framing with window opening, the end wall for the ell shown in earlier images. The base of a collapsed third chimney, apparently the north end-wall chimney, appears to be in the photograph's foreground, the perspective aligning it with the chimney stack of the ell.

To the right in the photograph, south of the house, is the stone dairy with its roof missing. Farther right (southwest or more likely south) is a smaller

1. Chesley A. Mosman, *The Rough Side of War; the Civil War Journal of Chesley A. Mosman, 1st Lieutenant, Company D, 59th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment*, edited by Arnold Gates (Garden City, NY: The Basin Publishing Co., 1987), p.162.
2. Geerdes, p. 22.



Figure 17. Ruins of the 1856 Cravens House seen from the southeast; photograph believed taken in 1864. (CHCH Collection)



Figure 18. Enlarged section of the 1863 *Harper's Weekly* sketch shown earlier. The Cravens House is prominently featured. (CPL Photograph Collection)

unidentified structure. No other outbuildings are visible in the photograph.

The second photograph (*Figure 17*) may have been taken later, after even more building material has been removed, or perhaps the steep angle blocks

all but the ell. The view is from the southeast, well below the house looking uphill. In this view, the smaller chimney is clearly centered on a short end wall of an ell, the window frame again visible to its north. A large hole, perhaps from Union artillery, can be seen in the foundation.

The *Harper's Weekly* sketch made in 1863 shortly after the battle, depicting the fighting on Cravens Terrace, shows the intact house as viewed from the northwest (*Figure 18*). Though subject to artistic license, the drawing nonetheless seems to confirm what appears to be visible in the two post-battle photographs. The ell and its chimney are depicted as are two chimneys at the north and south gable ends of the main house block. The chimneys are positioned at the ridgeline of the gable roof; however, though perhaps the effect of perspective, the gable end appears asymmetrical.

1866: The Second House is Built

Cravens, who had been a pioneer in the impressive industrial development of Chattanooga prior to the war, worked quickly to reestablish himself. Soon after the war, much of the Union's surplus equipment was sold at auction in Chattanooga,

including several thousand army wagons sold in large lots. A shrewd businessman, Cravens bid on many of the goods, among them a lot containing about one hundred of the wagons which he knew few people could afford in such quantity. He resold them individually at a profit. R.N. Price reports that Cravens, when later asked how much profit he made, answered, "Not much; only this house I live in. I retained one wagon, which I keep on my back porch."³

Cravens' iron works, known as the East Tennessee Manufacturing Company, had been destroyed during the war. In its stead Cravens organized the Southern Manufacturing Company. He also was elected president of the Chattanooga Leather Manufacturing Company. He served as a director of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad and continued as trustee of his church.⁴ Cravens additionally retained large acreage on Lookout Mountain. Census records indicate that after the war he had a vineyard and large orchard of 300 trees.

Apparently by 1866 the Cravens were building a new house above the foundation of the original. The 1866 reuse of the 1856 foundation is curious. Several walls of the 1856 foundation remain. However, only small portions were reused as support for the second house. The original north foundation wall remains in place, but does not support the main block of the house. Instead, it supports the north edge of the north porch. In this retained foundation wall is an original 1856 firebox, its chimney truncated. This is the collapsed north chimney seen in the ca. 1864 photograph of the ruins (*Figure 16*). A similar firebox is located in the retained 1856 south foundation wall. Infilled and plastered, its presence is not readily apparent but small cracks outline the firebox beneath the large lintel. These two 1856 fireboxes, at that time part of the two end chimneys of the house, indicate the basement of the first house was occupied space. In contrast, no heat source was provided for the 1866 basement: the two new chimneys of that construction lacked fireboxes at the basement level,

and the earlier fireboxes were obsolete as their chimneys no longer existed.

As noted above, the original north foundation wall was not used to support the new house. In fact, the north wall of the 1866 house rests on a wood sill spanning the east and west sills and supported at mid-section by a shelf in the north chimney base. The west foundation of the 1856 house also remains; however, the west wall of the new house does not sit on this foundation. Rather, it is located farther west, using the 1856 west foundation only as an intermediate perpendicular support for floor joists. The 1866 west wall rests on a wood sill, supported irregularly by small single-stone piers.

The east foundation of the old house is not present. A new east foundation wall was built in 1866 to support the east exterior wall of the replacement house. Its north end butts the 1856 north foundation wall. In 1866 new stone posts were built farther east to support the east porch of the second house. Only the south wall of the 1856 foundation was used as a support wall directly beneath a wall of the 1866 house, that between the middle and south rooms. The 1866 chimney at that wall was added to the south surface of the earlier south foundation. New sections of foundation were also built in 1866 beneath the southernmost room.

These configurations give clear evidence that the second Cravens House of 1866 was built anew, larger and with a new footprint, using only small portions of the foundation of the earlier house. Rectangular, it was longer than the first house and has two framed stories, not one. The first-floor level contained three principal rooms, and the second floor was accessed by an interior stair. The reconfigured basement also contained three principal rooms, though not aligned with those of the first-floor level. Outside, along the new east basement wall, was a covered area beneath the east porch. There was no ell.

For its first couple of decades, less can be said about the Second Cravens House beyond its current footprint. Apparently, as indicated by early photographs, several one-story structures were built to the north, east, and west sides of the dairy. Their exact original configuration and how they functioned as part of the Second Cravens House is not certain. Unfortunately, one-story structures

3. Robert Sparks Walker, *Lookout: The Story of a Mountain* (Chattanooga: Geo. C. Hudson & Co., 1952; second edition; originally published 1941), p. 249-250. R. N. Price, *Holston Methodism from its Origin to the Present Time* (Nashville: Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1913, Vol. 5), p. 337-8.

4. Mary Snyder, "Robert Cravens--A Brief History of the Man and his Family" (unpublished manuscript, NPS, 1975), p. 33.

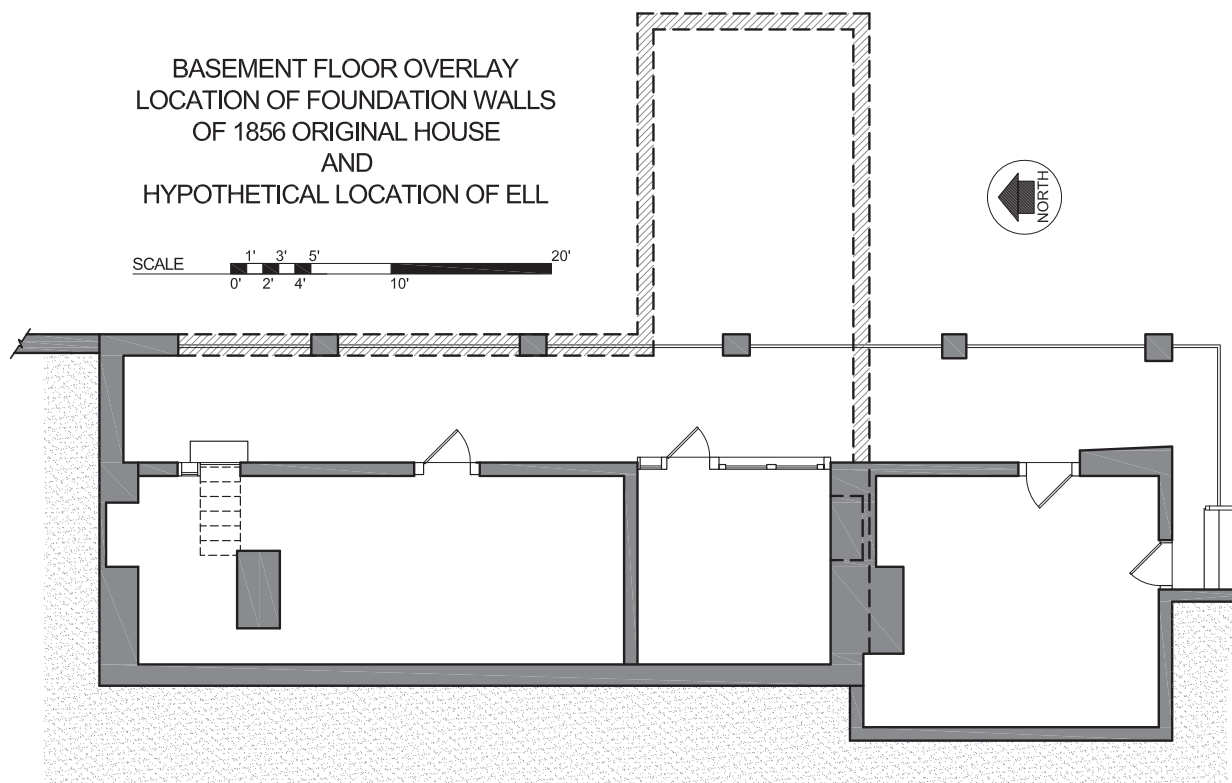


Figure 19. Basement-floor overlay showing location of foundation walls of 1856 original house and hypothetical location of ell. These drawings can be found in Appendix A.

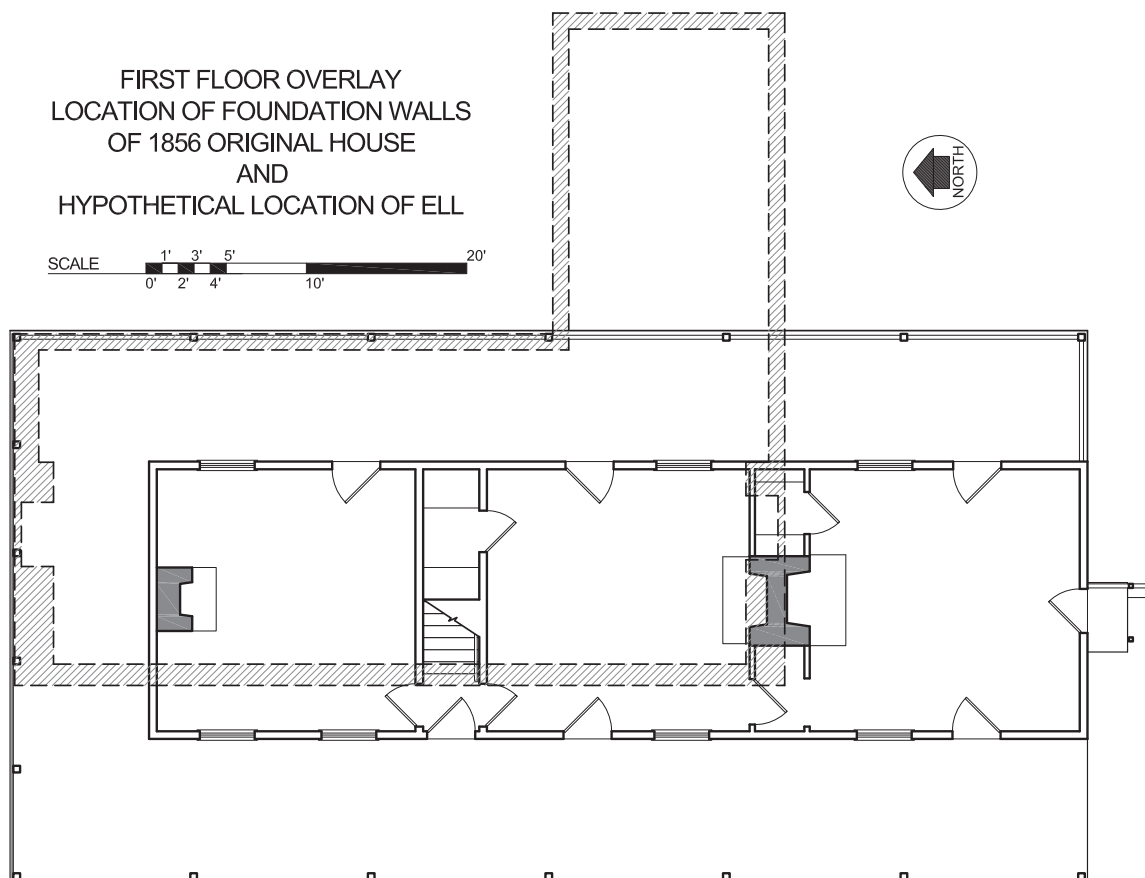


Figure 20. First-floor overlay showing location of foundation walls of 1856 original house and hypothetical location of ell.

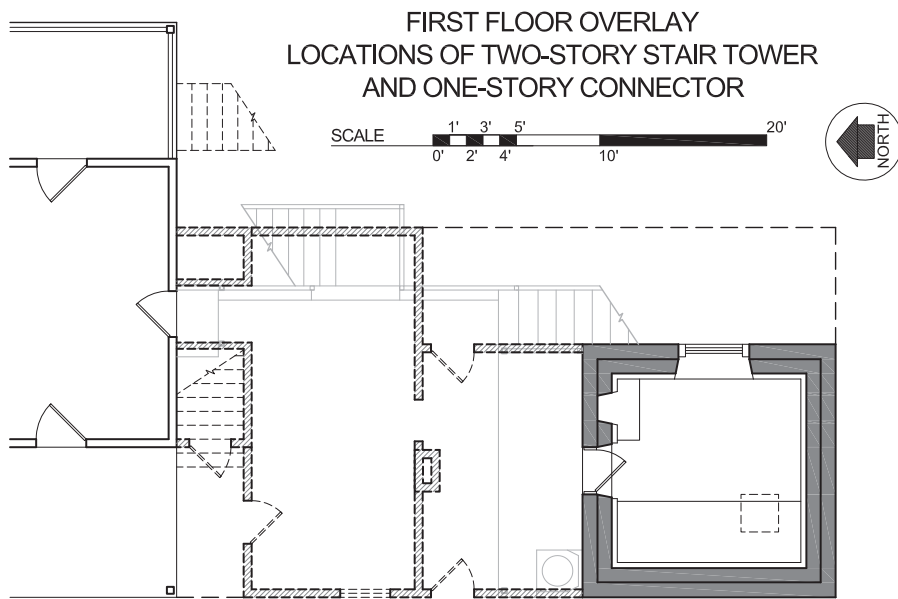


Figure 21. First-floor overlay showing locations of two-story stair tower and one-story connector.



Figure 22. Enlarged section of March 1867 photograph after the flood of March 6th to 14th. (CHCH Collection)

in place in the mid-twentieth century, as well as a two-story section on the south end of the house, were removed. The limited documentation of early exterior photographs and sketches, in addition to documentary photographs from the 1950s, are the principal sources of information now available.

Cravens' new house first appears in a March 1867 photograph, a coincidental inclusion in a panoramic view of a record-setting flood of the Tennessee River valley (*Figure 22*). In the far right corner of the photograph is the new house, substantially completed. The west (front) and north covered porches are visible. A series of rooftops for one-story building sections extending south from the main house block are less distinct

but appear to connect to and include the stone dairy.

The next known photograph of the house was taken a few years later in 1870, again observing the effects of a flood (*Figure 23*). This image more clearly shows the house with its north and west porches. At the south end of the two-story house is a one-story, side-gabled wing, again appearing to connect to and include the stone dairy. A tree in the photograph blocks a clear view of this connector. Southwest of the connector is a low gabled building, perhaps a freestanding outbuilding. Its ridgeline runs roughly northeast-to-southwest. Another outbuilding, perhaps a barn, is downhill east of the house. A low structure of some sort extends north of the north porch. Its purpose is unclear and it is not shown in other images.



Figure 23. Enlarged section of 1870 photograph taken after a flood. (CHCH Collection)



Figure 24. Enlarged section of 1871 lithograph. (J. Eugene Lewis, "Report on the Restoration of the Cravens House," typed manuscript, 6/30/1959, in CHCH Collection)

Some confusion results from a lithograph made the next year in 1871. This drawing shows the house without the north porch. However, the porch is visible in photographs taken before and after the drawn lithograph (*Figure 24*). The south connector, however, is shown with its one-story gable roof similar to the 1870 photograph. No outbuildings are depicted in this lithograph.

The two photographs, though indistinct, give the best evidence of the connector's date and character. Additional information is provided by later photographs and floor plans, but because the connector no longer stands, physical inspection is not possible. It seems likely that the small room with flue immediately north of the dairy was the kitchen for the 1866 house; a covered breezeway probably extended from the east side kitchen porch to the door on the south side of the dining room in the house. In that arrangement, the kitchen was kept an appropriate distance from the house to protect the house from fire. Some enclosing, shuffling of functions, and later adjacent construction of an enclosed staircase followed. This configuration is speculation based on the limited evidence available.

A drawing made by Theodore Davis about twenty years later in 1892 shows a different angle of the house (*Figure 25*). Davis was an artist for *Harper's*

Weekly employed to illustrate scenes from the Civil War, though several, including this sketch, were never published.⁵ The sketch gives considerable detail. Drawn from the southeast, it shows the east and south façades of the two-story house and its east porch. Outside, a tall staircase climbs to the south end of the raised first-floor east porch. The gable roof of the house extends to the south beyond the porch, covering a two-story enclosed staircase between first and second floors. This is the first time this portion of the house and the two-story stair tower are clearly visible; the stair tower may have been a post-1870 addition as suggested by the earlier images.



Figure 25. Enlarged section of a sketch by Theodore R. Davis of *Harper's Weekly*, 1892, drawn from the southeast. (CHCH Collection)

Attached to the south end of the stair tower at the first-floor level is a one-story gabled wing that connects to and incorporates the stone dairy. The form and location appear similar to the connector in the three earlier images. The northernmost section of this connector appears to be of frame construction; at its south is the stone dairy with a raised porch on its east elevation. The area beneath the porch, at the lower dairy level, is covered with lattice and contains a doorway opening. South of the dairy is a small gable-roofed one-story building, the slope of the land setting it below the dairy. This building also has a porch on the east façade. It does not appear to be the same structure as that shown in the 1870 photograph. Further downhill bounding the south and perhaps the east parameters of the house yard is a board or picket fence with gateway.

5. Membership letter of 2/3/1992 from David Estabrook, Executive Director of the Chattanooga Regional History Museum (today's Chattanooga History Center).



Figure 26. Photograph dated 1897. Note smoke emitting from the north chimney of the connector. (CHCH Collection)

This 1892 sketch is remarkably similar to an 1897 photograph and to photographs taken in 1956 before major changes were made to the house. This suggests that the sketch is accurate in its depiction.

The photograph, which is labeled 1897, shows the house with its first-level gable wing to the south, again appearing to connect to and incorporate the dairy (*Figure 26*). The view is from a similar angle as the 1892 sketch and shows that the trim and siding of the wing and dairy is a dark color. In contrast, the trim and wood siding of the house is very light, perhaps white. The two-story stair tower is shown clearly in the photograph. Its south window holds two-over-two sash, another suggestion that the stair tower was constructed after 1870.

A close look at the southwest corner of the dairy reveals a one-story board-and-frame shed-roofed section extending to the west. A one-story gabled wing or outbuilding is shown farther west, though it is not clear whether it is connected to the shed extension. The stone chimney at the front of the dairy is visible as is a chimney in the connector between house and dairy. Significantly, smoke is coming from the connector's chimney but not

from that of the dairy or from the two chimneys on the main block of the house. The use of a single chimney, one near the main house block, suggests that it was not being used to heat the space, but that the kitchen was located in this frame connector. This location is logical. It is close to living quarters and adjacent to a fresh water supply and the dairy, both presumably still in use at the time.

Another photograph, a panoramic overlooking Moccasin Bend, was taken from the Lookout peak in 1901 looking down at the house. Again the one-story south wing is shown, this time from the southwest (*Figure 27*). This image is relatively clear and shows details also depicted in two 1934 photographs (*Figures 29 and 30*). The stair tower is in place with its south-facing window. The one-story side-gabled connector extends to the south, incorporating the dairy. The roofline of the southernmost portion of the connector extends on its west elevation to create a shed-roofed covering. In this photograph, exterior walls are bright in tonal value, apparently freshly painted or perhaps whitewashed. Perpendicular and abutting the west elevation of the stone dairy is a gabled one-story wing, probably the wing shown in the photograph dated 1897 (*Figure 26*). It is connected to the west shed extension of the dairy. A large outbuilding is visible to the south-southwest.

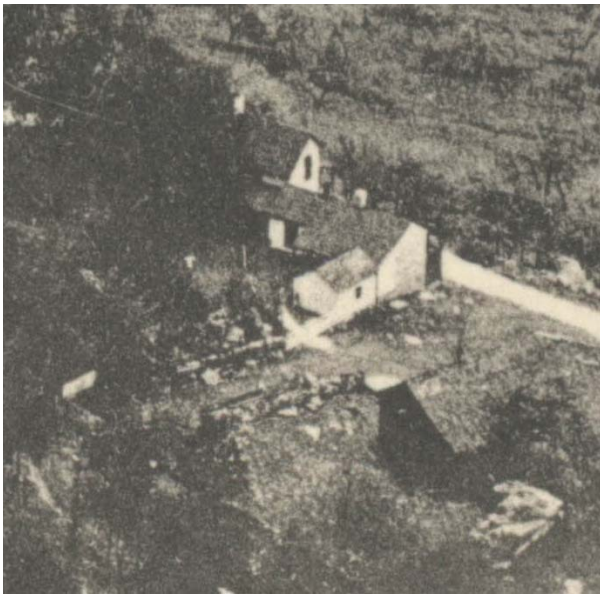


Figure 27. Enlarged section of 1901 photograph titled "Moccasin Bend and Lookout Battlefield." (George Washington Skinner, *Pennsylvania at Chickamauga and Chattanooga: Ceremonies at the Dedication...1897*. Harrisburg: W. S. Ray, State printer, 1901)



Figure 28. Postcard mailed in 1906. (CPL Photo Collection)

And a postcard based on a 1902 photograph shows additional details of the south wing (Figure 28). Visible are the weatherboarded north section, the latticed porch, and the dairy, all beneath a continuous roof.⁶ The connector appears little changed from earlier images. The north porch is in place and the railing of the east porch is evident. This and other postcards show that by this time, the door and window trim had been painted a dark color.

The Stone Dairy

The terms "dairy" and "kitchen" are both used by NPS today to identify this building; however, the

6. Photographer William Henry Jackson; original photograph at Library of Congress LC-D4-14293.

earliest sources refer to it as a dairy, and its physical elements point to that use. A 1911 report makes a clear distinction between the stone building and the kitchen. The term dairy is therefore used in this report. The reference to the upper level as a kitchen was popularized in the 1950s and 1960s by the APTA when they furnished and interpreted the house and demolished an appendage that probably served as the kitchen.

It is unlikely that an architect was involved in the design of the main house, and its builders are not known. On the other hand, the builder of the stone dairy has been documented. Jesse Cravens, son of Robert, wrote of the builder in a 1911 letter.

Prior to and during the war there was an old Irish stone mason living in Chattanooga, Dan Hogan was his name; ...[He] was an uncompromising Union man who...never failed to express himself. ...My father...one day met old Dan on the street with his head, face and eyes terribly disfigured; ...Confederate soldiers...had given him a beating on account of his Union proclivities. My father told him to go on the Mountain and stay there until he came home and keep his mouth shut until meal time. ...The following morning father turned over a stout negro to old Dan and put him to building the stone dairy, which Dan was more than a year completing, together with other little jobs my father gave him.⁷

The dairy was built by Hogan and his helper in 1861. It is further described in Walker's 1941 book: "Robert Cravens piped running water into his home from a spring that flowed from under a cliff. He carved a bowl of red sandstone and placed it in his kitchen where running water gurgled incessantly."⁸ The sandstone bowl remains today just outside the stone dairy on its north wall, placing it in the attached connector, which probably served as the kitchen.

1896: Department of the Army

In late 1886 Robert Cravens died at the age of 81; his wife continued to live in the house until her death in 1893. Three years later in 1896 the house and surrounding acreage were bought by the Department of the Army to be a part of the military park.⁹

7. Geerdes, p. 21, cites Jesse R. Cravens in letter dated 3/24/1911 to Major W. J. Colburn, Commissioner, Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP.

8. Alice W. Milton, "Cravens House Notes, 1970, from old newspapers" (typed pages in CHCH Accession 212, Folder 10). Walker, *Lookout*, p. 250.

9. Hanson and Blythe, p. 34; Geerdes, p. 25.



Figure 29. Photograph accompanying 4/29/1934 report form. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38)



Figure 30. Second photograph accompanying 4/29/1934 report form. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38)

The Army's commissioners worked to preserve the Cravens House and several other houses on the various battlefields under their control. The War Department credited the Cravens House with being important to the history of the Battle of Lookout Mountain. In 1910, the park commissioners directed that the old structures, including the Cravens House, be kept "in repair, with like dimensions and material."¹⁰

10. Paige and Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter II B.

Work was apparently undertaken at the house the following year. In a memorandum of April 24, 1911, D. F. Brandon, General Contractor, wrote to E. E. Betts, Engineer of the Park, offering to complete the following work on the Cravens House for \$265.00:

Porch, East of Stone Building: repair the floor, joist, lattice, and post supporting porch.
Front Porch: Renew rotten sills, lay new floor of I I.8 heart flooring. Renew casing of porch sills, erect new balustrade on front. Repair

lattice on north end. Renew gutter. Extend kitchen flue to a foundation on the ground. Renew weatherboarding of two gables of stone building and on upper side of kitchen. Straighten and point up stone chimney on north end of house. Build a closet size 6 x 8 with partition in center.¹¹

This is a significant description. It highlights repeated work on the building in the years to follow. The description also indicates quite clearly that the stone building did not contain the kitchen. The kitchen was in the connector between the house and dairy, shown in early photographs.

It appears that both interior and exterior modifications to the house were made in the early-twentieth century, though perhaps not all at the same time. At the basement level, the sill and some of the masonry of the east foundation wall were reworked, and the paired windows fronting the middle basement room appear to date from that time. At the second floor, the window lighting the staircase was hinged with hinges popular during that period.

The current plaster-and-stud cross walls on the second floor between the stairs and the middle room, and between the middle and south rooms, may have been added then as well. Stylistically, the door at the stair landing dates from the late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century. Interestingly, the door was installed upside down to allow the wider, bottom rail to accept the deep cut necessary to fit the slanted doorway opening. The date of the walls is not known, but both walls post-date the wooden tracks above and below the windows of the second floor. The tracks may be original to the house. They run uninterrupted from end wall to end wall and were exposed and painted before the cross walls were built. Whether the plaster walls replaced earlier board walls is also not known. As late as 1956, a board wall separated the northernmost second-floor room from the staircase.¹² Perhaps the plaster walls were built to provide more privacy for residents.

Two photographs of 1934 indicate that the house continued to be maintained by the War Department when it served as a residence for a park employee (*Figures 29 and 30*). The house is shown from the uphill, west side. It appears to be

in good condition with a neat, well-kept yard. One photograph shows that the porch wraps the north side of the house, presumably connecting with the east porch as shown in the 1902 postcard. The photographs also give an unobstructed view of the gabled connector, with its kitchen chimney, south of the house and adjoining the stone dairy. The dairy itself has the western extension beneath an engaged gable or shed extension, and west of that is a small one-story building with east-west gable roof, apparently of frame construction. This might be the building shown in the 1897 photograph. A post-and-wire fence supporting vines encloses a flat area in the west yard in front of the house, and the corners of two shake-roofed sheds—one may be a woodshed—are visible west of that yard (*Figure 29*).¹³

The second 1934 photograph (*Figure 30*) shows a closer view of the front façade of the house. Gutters are on both the main roof and the porch roof, and a system of at least three downspouts descend from the main roof, across the porch roof to connect to the porch gutters, and then down to grade. This water dispersal system was an important feature that helped prevent splash on the second-floor windows and on the porch deck and masonry perimeter.

The photograph also shows six-over-six-light sash on the first floor, and at least one four-panel door (the others are screened or unclear). Second-floor windows are six-light single sash.

Former outbuildings on the property have not been documented though initially there would have been a complement of buildings to support the Cravens farm and household. There is, similarly, no documentation on when various outbuildings and developed site features were removed. No reference to extant outbuildings is mentioned in documents associated with a 1950s project, and by that time the gabled building west of the dairy had been removed. In a 1975 interview, local amateur historian Penelope Allen reported that “there was a barn located on the southeast below the house. Just below the Ohio monument there was a cow barn. They [presumably the Cravens] would go down to the barn to milk and bring the milk up to the dairy. A rail fence fenced off the cow lot.”¹⁴

11. Geerdes, p. 26.

12. The board wall is shown in a 1956 drawing.

13. Photographs accompanying 4/29/1934 report form.

14. Allen interview conducted by Phillip Noblitt & Mary Snyder of NPS 1/22/1975 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 4, Box 1).

According to the Allen interview, the spring house was uphill behind the current location of the New York monument. It fed the stone basin on the upper level of the dairy; the water was then piped into the lower portion of the dairy and from there down to watering troughs in the cow lot below.¹⁵

1930s: National Park Service

Little is known of changes to the house before the Depression and before the 1933 transfer of the Cravens House to the National Park Service; however, its 1934 condition indicates it had been well-maintained.¹⁶ In the 1930s, perhaps as before, the house was rented with the monthly rental fee on a scale determined by the tenant's salary. In 1935, the salary of the tenant was "only \$1,860 per year, therefore, the tenant should be charged only 80 per cent of the appraised value, or \$12.00 per month."¹⁷

During these years the park benefitted from the programs of the New Deal. Just two months before the transfer to NPS, two camps were established for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). A total of four camps ultimately employed 800 workers.¹⁸ These CCC crews worked on improvements in the park, including work on roads in the Cravens House area. At the Cravens House they built trails, a parking area, steps, and constructed stone retaining walls behind the house.¹⁹



Figure 31. Photograph accompanying 6/18/1946 Quarters Report showing the poor condition of the house. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38)

15. Ibid.

16. In the 1920s, the Army Quartermaster's Office had an aggressive records disposal policy leaving a gap in records. Ogden interview.

17. Superintendent Richard B. Randolph, "Supplemental schedule of appraised values of quarters," 12/11/1935 (CHCH Acc 207, Folder 68, Box 5).

18. Hanson & Blythe, p. 47. The ruins of Camp Demaray remain on Lookout Mountain.

19. Ibid., p. 46-7. The last CCC camp at the park closed in 1942.

In 1935, the National Park Service drew up plans for completing the trail maps and prepared development plans for the Cravens House and Point Park. In 1937 the CCC built a foot trail from the Cravens House up to Point Park.²⁰

1940s: The House is Threatened

In 1936 one signed blueprint sheet had been prepared for "proposed improvement of Craven [sic] House."²¹ It is unclear whether this work was carried out, but by the mid-1940s the Cravens House was not faring well. In contrast to the photographs of 1934, a "Quarters Report" of June 18, 1946, declares the house with "general condition poor," and an accompanying photograph bears that out (*Figure 31*).

The photograph is taken from the southwest and shows the west elevations of house and connector. The porch and wing west of the connector and dairy are gone. The photograph shows gutters and downspouts on the building though the gutters are misaligned. Some details of the buildings are visible. The roof of the connector meets the front of the west porch roof of the house. The west façade of the connector is, on the northern portion, horizontal weatherboards with a large window. The southern portion, which abuts the stone dairy, is sided with flush vertical boards. A four-panel door accesses this section of the connector and its chimney is visible. To the south

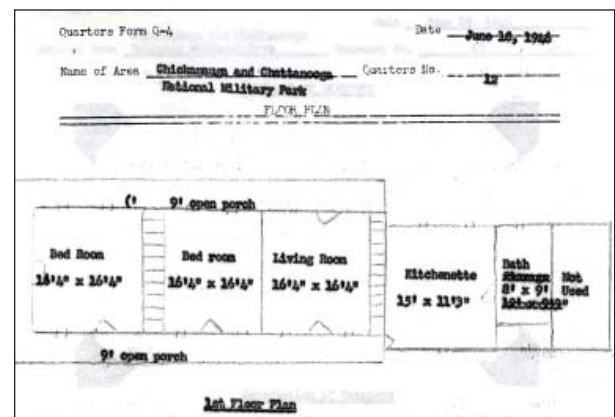


Figure 32. Sketch associated with 6/18/1946 Quarters Report. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38)

20. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter III-B and III-E, cite Superintendent's Monthly Narrative Report, December 2, 1935.

21. Memo from Dudley G. Bayliss, Assistant Chief Architect of NPS Plans & Design Branch, Washington, June 25, 1936. The sheet has not been found.

is a six-light window, hinged on the south side. This window would allow access to the stone basin from the outside; the stone base of the basin is exposed beneath the window. The roof is sheathed in stamped metal shingles.

The 1946 report also includes a rough floor plan sketch of the house and connector with only the first floor in use (*Figure 32*). The sketch is not to scale, omits several features such as interior and east exterior doors, and inserts others, including extra west windows and door. The accompanying photographs show these representations to be inaccurate, but the sketch is useful in identifying the use of rooms. The north and center rooms are shown as bedrooms. The south room of the house is labeled as the living room, and the two rooms in the connector leading to the dairy are labeled kitchenette (15' by 11'3") and bathroom (8' by 9'). A small room south of those is labeled as unused; this is the stone dairy. The poor condition of the house explains the notation in the report that the "three 2nd floor rooms and one small room on 1st floor are not suitable for living quarters, and are not used by employee."

The "Description of Quarters" portion of the 1946 report reads:

Two story, frame building, dirt floored basement not used, metal shingle roof, building constructed about 1870, general condition poor, interior decoration poor; 4 rooms and bath used as quarters, 4 rooms not suitable to live in. Living quarters consist of living room, 2 bed rooms, kitchenette and bath, old plumbing fixtures, no closets; no screened-in porches; electric lights; heated by coal burning stoves; running water furnished through City Water System; water for domestic purposes is automatically heated by electricity; no restrictions on use of utilities; no garage; quarters furnished with electric water heater, electric cooking range, garbage containers and window shades. Employee furnished his own 6 cu. ft. electric refrigerator; grounds are not landscaped.²²

It is likely that the water heater and plumbing were in the connector where the kitchenette and bath were located.

It seems that no significant repairs were made at that time, for in a letter of April 30, 1947, Superintendent Dunn wrote to the Regional Director that the house was "in such a dilapidated condition that it is not suitable for further use as

quarters without extensive repairs." He continued, "It is believed that it is not economically repairable, and it is our recommendation that no further extensive repairs be made and that the building be removed when it again becomes vacant."

Dunn stated further that there was some question as to the historical significance of the house, and recommended that the stone foundations be retained to mark the site. The recommendation to demolish was approved by Acting Director Hillory Tolson on June 9, 1947.

This correspondence caused an uproar. The word got out, local residents objected, a newspaper article was written, and on September 12, 1947, a letter to the editor argued that the house should be saved. The writer was D.N. McMillin, great-grandchild of Robert Cravens, who cited the NPS's claims that the house was damaged by termites and that it was not "the original." McMillin argued that the stonework was "unquestionably the original. So to say that the house is not the original is true only in the sense that no house is the 'original' if it has had a new roof put on, or broken windows repaired."²³

McMillin's argument was based on either a misunderstanding of actual circumstances or an exaggeration. The post-war photographic evidence is conclusive. The framed sections, which comprised the majority of the original house, were almost completely dismantled and removed after the war, though portions of the stone basement walls were incorporated into the larger second Cravens House of 1866.

McMillin continued that "the expense of restoration probably would amount to little more than the cost of razing the building, removing the debris, and landscaping the grounds to make a presentable site for a marker."

Activities following the letter are not known; however, McMillin's plea had no immediate success. Two years later on September 23, 1949, NPS Regional Director Thomas J. Allen sent a memo to the Director of the National Park Service with the short note "Removal approved....Stone foundations to be left to mark site." This memo apparently crossed in transit with a September 22

22. Form archived in CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38.

23. CHCH Acc 212, Folder 13.

memo from the Acting Assistant Director asking for the status of the Cravens House and stating, "If demolition contemplated, suggest deferring action pending historical and architectural study and report."²⁴

Throughout the month of September, local residents and Cravens family members had sent numerous letters protesting the demolition. A debate ensued. Telegrams were sent to the director and newspapers published articles and letters. By September 26th the newspaper reported, "Assurance that the old Cravens House on the side of Lookout Mountain probably will not be razed, but rebuilt, eased the minds of many Chattanoogaans. . . ." The caveat was that funds had to be appropriated by Congress.²⁵

The following day an interesting memorandum was sent from Associate Regional Director Cox to the Superintendent confirming a conversation that "the protest must have originated from a misunderstanding. This misunderstanding presumably arose from your action in moving a park employee out of the Craven [sic] house into better quarters in the park. . . . You should take no action toward demolition of the Craven house until you receive further advice from this office."

The local residents had saved the house. On September 29, NPS Director Newton B. Drury wrote to the Southeast Regional Director:

In view of our delicate public relations in the Chickamauga and Chattanooga area. . . the building should be preserved and probably again used as quarters, if it is reasonably possible to do so.²⁶

There followed several letters from the Director to residents assuring them the house would not be demolished, pointing out the dilapidated condition and stating his understanding that "repairs would have to be extensive and, therefore, costly." He hoped that funds would be appropriated to "repair the Cravens House and the old dairy." But he also hoped that the solution would "not involve the complete rebuilding of the house."²⁷

Local concern apparently remained strong. In 1951 Chattanoogaans, Incorporated, a local group, wrote to the National Park Service regarding "this unpleasant local feeling about the condition of the Craven's [sic] House, its abandonment, etc." Director Arthur E. Demaray's response shows another change in the Park Service's thinking about the house, its significance as well as its future:

The presence of this structure constitutes an anachronism in the historic scene. It is not a survival from the time of the important military engagements for which the Park constitutes a memorial. The dairy building is all that remains from that era. The Craven House is not a building of such fine or distinct architectural merit as to warrant its retention even though not of the historic period. Its present very poor physical condition makes of it, of course, an undesirable neighbor for adjacent properties. . . . I am very hesitant to encourage its indefinite retention by having it rehabilitated for some purpose such as an employee residence. Except for such purpose as that, I know of no good use to which it could be put.²⁸

Considering the severe deterioration of the building that apparently occurred between 1933, when transferred from the Army in reported good condition, and 1947, when NPS first recommended demolition in great part because of its poor condition, one could assume that maintenance had been hampered in large part by lack of funding during World War II.

1955: APTA

The community was determined to save the house. In March 1953, a local Chattanooga Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) was formed for the purpose of preserving the Cravens House. APTA asked the U.S. Department of the Interior to turn the house over to them for the purpose of restoration.²⁹ According to a 1954 newspaper article, the plan was to restore the house "as it was during the battle." A new caretaker's house was also proposed. The Association was ambitious, as the project was "expected to become one of the leading historic restorations south of Williamsburg."³⁰

24. Memorandum to Regional Director, NPS, Richmond, Virginia, from Miller, Acting Assistant Director, September 22, 1949 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 37)..

25. CHCH Acc 212, Folder 13.

26. Geerdes, p. 28.

27. Letters from Newton B. Drury, NPS Director, to Mr. E. Y. Chapin and Mrs. Elizabeth L. Williams and others, 9/30/1949 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38).

28. A. E. Demaray to Mr. Paul S. Mathes, 5/25/1951 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 38). Demaray had a brief tenure as NPS director from April to December, 1951.

29. Louis Fort, "Tennessee Society votes to Save Cravens House," *Times*, 3/29/1953 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 13). Another source reports the Chapter was formed in March 1952. The statewide APTA was formed in 1951.

30. "Restoration of the Cravens House to Make it Historic

The building was described as “the rambling, nine room house” that “took its place in American history on November 24, 1863,” apparently blind to the fact that the current house was not the same house. Despite this fact, in 1956 the house was celebrated “during its 100th anniversary.”

Within the APTA Chapter, the Cravens House Restoration Committee was created in June 1955 with Eugene Lewis as chairman and Penelope Johnson Allen as vice-chairman. The house was seen as important not only for its Civil War history, but also as the oldest surviving landmark on Lookout Mountain and the first of a series of houses there built for wealthy industrialists.³¹

A cooperative agreement was worked out with the Department of the Interior patterned after a similar agreement permitting a private group to preserve the General Schuyler summer house at Saratoga National Park. The agreement was signed in 1955. No monies were involved and the work was to be undertaken at APTA expense under NPS supervision. Under the cooperative agreement the APTA would conduct the restoration, furnishing, and exhibition of the house.³² The Cravens House was one of only three such cooperative agreements in the United States whereby a private restoration group worked in cooperation with the National Park Service.

1956: Pre-Restoration

The APTA took a number of photographs of the building before restoration. Most were taken in 1956. One of these (*Figure 33*) shows a portion of the east elevation of the south wing viewed from the northeast. The wing is strikingly similar to the 1892 sketch and 1897 photograph. The one-story gable connector is on a raised basement, extending southward from the south gable end of the main house. The roof appears to be stamped metal shingles, and the north section has board-and-batten siding. At the south end of the connecting wing is the stone dairy. A raised porch extends along the east elevation of the dairy and part of the frame connector. The porch on both levels was sheathed with uniform open lattice strips

Spot in South,” *Times*, 7/11/1954 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 13).

31. Lewis, “Cravens House, Landmark,” p. 14.

32. Elizabeth Bryan Patten, “The House ‘Above the Clouds,’” undated typed report (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 40).



Figure 33. Pre-restoration photograph taken in 1956 showing portion of east elevation of south connecting wing. (CPL Photograph Collection)



Figure 34. Pre-restoration photograph taken in 1956 showing stair tower and stone steps leading to the back porch of the house. (CHCH Collection)

appearing to be wood. On the lower level, a doorway opening was cut in the lattice as shown in the 1890s images.

Northeast of the connector is a set of stone steps rising to the north and leading up to the south end of the east porch of the main house (*Figures 33 and 34*).

Another 1956 photograph (*Figure 35*) shows the west side of the south connector as a one-story gable structure extending from the end of the west porch of the house to the stone dairy. The details of the connector are similar to those shown in the “Quarters” photograph of 1946. The west façade is made up of two sections. The northern portion is sided with horizontal weatherboards and has a boarded-over window. The southern portion, which abuts the stone dairy, is sided with

flush vertical boards, has a doorway with screen door, and the window above the stone basin. In earlier photographs, the window has a side-hinged six-light sash, but now has also been boarded over. The roof remains sheathed in the stamped metal shown in the 1946 photograph.

This photograph shows for the first time the north facade of the connector where it meets the house porch. That end is board-and-batten with a centered door. An adjacent door leads from the porch to the two-story stair tower (*Figure 35*).

Another photograph of the west elevation shows half-round gutters on the house and porch, although portions of the gutters and downspouts are missing. Doorways and windows are covered with horizontal boards nailed to the surrounds, hiding the sash and door patterns (*Figure 36*).



Figure 35. Pre-restoration photograph dated 9/7/1956 showing northwest view of the south connector. The door to the left opens to the stair tower. (CHCH Collection)



Figure 36. Pre-restoration photograph taken in 1956 showing west elevation of the connector. Doors and windows are boarded over. Porch and gutter system in poor condition. (CHCH Collection)



Figure 37. 1955 photograph of the APTA's Restoration Committee looking at the building before the project began. (Bob Sherrill, photographer; CPL Photograph Collection)

The Restoration

During the four years of its existence from 1955 to 1959, the Restoration Committee researched the history of the house and conducted an extensive rehabilitation. Despite the war-era interpretative goal stated in earlier newspaper articles, the committee's research was to include investigations that would indicate "either the pre-Civil War, Civil War, or post Civil War appearance of the house."³³ Various documents indicate the committee approached the building with a view to creating an idealized example of how a Civil War-era Tennessee house might have looked. (Though they do not meet today's definition of restoration, the words restore and restoration are used in this report to be consistent with the terminology used by the APTA regarding the 1950s work.)

Though little documentation remains from the period of the restoration, later reports and physical investigation provide additional information on the work conducted. The project was officially completed in 1957. In 1959, Eugene Lewis, chairman of the Restoration Committee, wrote a history of the restoration. Lewis reported that the committee determined through its research to

33. J. Eugene Lewis, "Report on the Restoration of the Cravens House" (typed manuscript, 6/30/1959), p. 1. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 29)

restore the house to the Civil War period: “[these findings] led the Committee to feel that the present structure, as restored, must very [sic] resemble the appearance of the house at the time of the ‘Battle Above the Clouds’.”³⁴ Yet later in the same report, Lewis states that the house “stands as a symbol of the post war period of this Chattanooga area.”³⁵

From its 1955 research, the Restoration Committee claimed that Robert Cravens rebuilt his postwar house by making use of the original basement walls of stone, the stone chimneys, and part of the wooden framework of 1856.³⁶ The committee further determined that Cravens must have rebuilt the house

in much the same architectural fashion as the prewar house. The type of woodwork, pattern of doors, and size and style of windows in the two upper floors of the main portion of the house conformed identically to those both in the prewar stone dependency and in the basement floor of the main house. Furthermore, by use of the prewar foundations, the size of most of the rooms in the postwar house must conform in size to those in the prewar structure. These factors led the Committee to believe that the present house, as restored, except for a room extending toward the valley, must very much resemble the appearance of the Cravens home at the time of the “Battle Above the Clouds.”³⁷

Their conclusion that the rooms conformed to those in the prewar house was based on the belief that the earlier foundation was reused in full. As noted earlier, physical investigations of the house confirm that both conclusions are incorrect. Only a small part of the 1856 foundation was used to support the new 1866 house. The second house was longer, its rooms did not conform to the earlier foundation, and chimneys of the new house were built in new locations. The earlier chimneys were not reused.

Especially helpful to current research is a set of plans of the three levels of the house drawn in 1956. These show the house, the stair tower, the two sections of the connector with east porch, and the dairy as they were before the project began (*Figures 38, 39, and 40*). Actual restoration work began in September, 1956 when many of the “before” photographs were taken.³⁸ At the suggestion of Superintendent Charles Dunn,

E. D. Varnell was employed as “superintendent of the restoration.” Records do not identify him as an architect. He probably was instead a contractor. The chairman of the Restoration Committee, Eugene Lewis, reported that Varnell was experienced in the restoration of old buildings and his workmen exhibited high craftsmanship.³⁹ He was not listed as a registered architect in Tennessee during this period.

In addition to Varnell, some involvement and recommendations on the project were contributed by E. W. Aschmann, NPS Regional Architect. Chairman Lewis reported that, as the project began, the committee’s decisions were approved by Aschmann.⁴⁰ In a meeting of December 14, 1955, Aschmann met with Elizabeth Patten about restoration of the Cravens House and, according to notes of the meeting, recommended that the committee “make restoration as pure as possible” if restoring to the existing 1866 house rather than the earlier 1856 house. The notes indicate that no decision had yet been made on the interpretative period for the restoration. Aschmann recommended that the APTA keep records during the project, such as to “keep cards to notate changes such as from wood lath to gypsum or metal lath.” Unfortunately, these records, if they were made, are found in neither the CHCH collection nor the microfilmed APTA records in the Tennessee State Library and Archives.⁴¹

The general list of work reported to be recommended by Aschmann termed most of the tasks as repair: repair porches, cap chimneys, patch or replace plaster, refinish floors, install floor joists as necessary. However, the work also called for certain replacements: repair or replace window sash, replace doors not of original period, replace hardware as required; he suggested the committee “check antique shops for hardware of period.” Aschmann also counseled the committee to remove additions and remove “later chimneys” (probably referring to the chimney of the connector), install

34. Ibid., p. 4.

35. Ibid., p. 11.

36. Lewis, “Cravens House, Landmark,” p. 16.

37. Ibid.

38. Lewis, “Restoration,” p. 4.

39. Lewis, “Cravens House, Landmark,” p. 17. Ray Geerdes reports that Varnell was an historical architect, Geerdes, p. 31. There are other indications that Varnell was not an architect: one recommendation was to “get a draftsman in an architect’s office” to make a set of as-built plans. The as-built plans do not identify a draftsman or architect.

40. Lewis, “Restoration,” p. 5.

41. “Notes made in Conference with Mrs. Elizabeth B. Batten [sic] and E. W. Aschmann, etc.” 12/14/1955 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28).

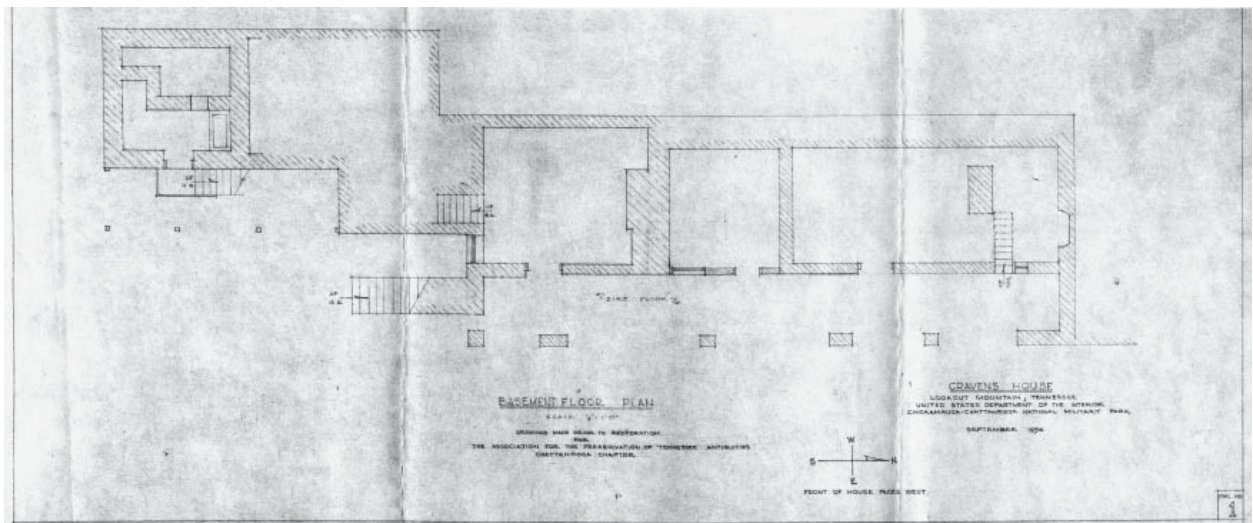


Figure 38. Floor plan of 1956, basement level. (CHCH Collection)

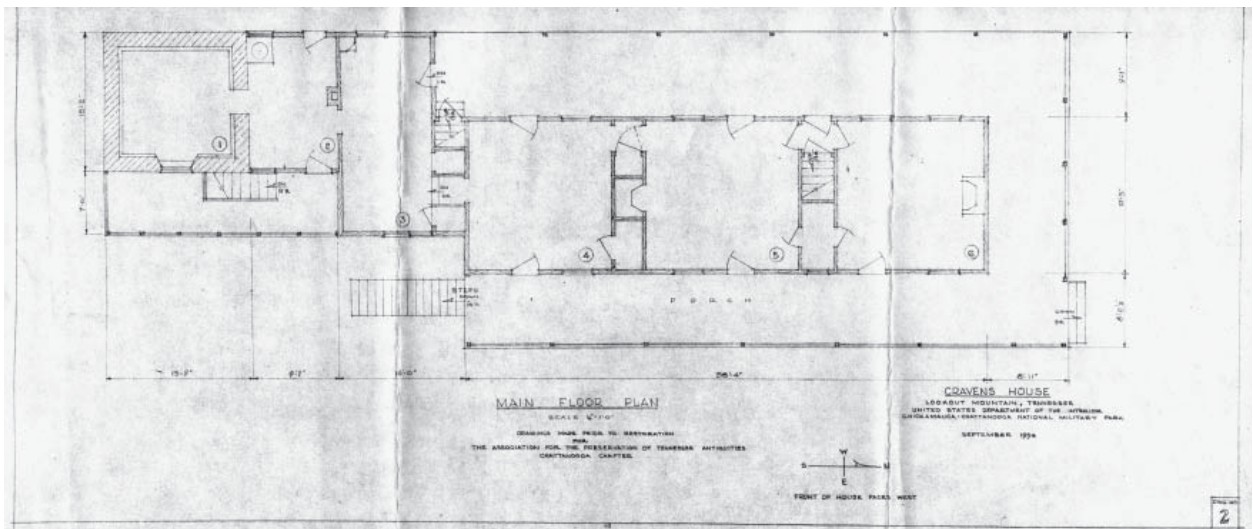


Figure 39. Floor plan of 1956, first-floor level. (CHCH Collection)

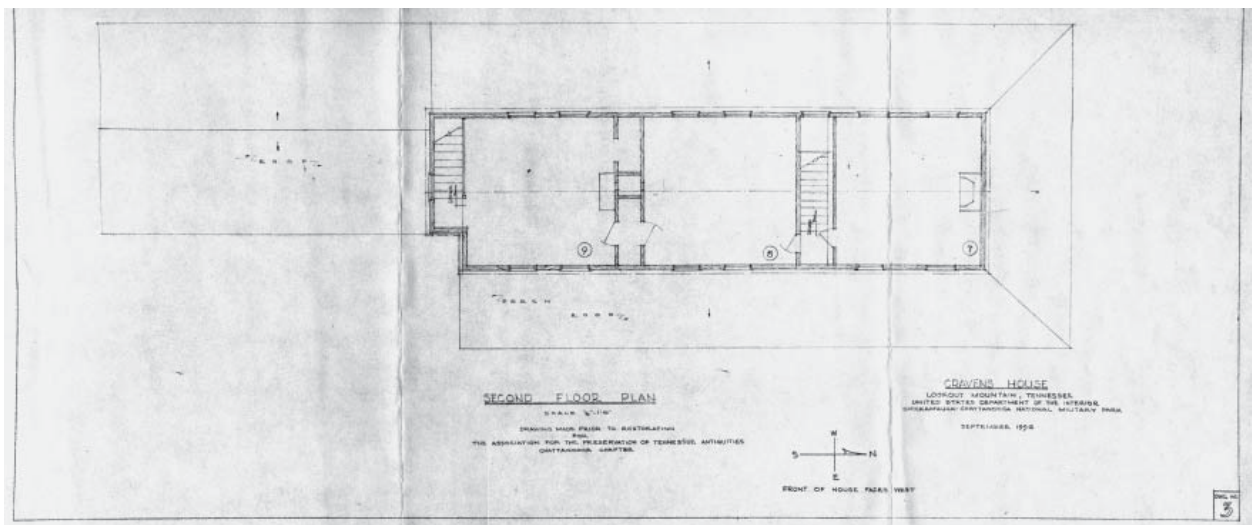


Figure 40. Floor plan of 1956, second-floor level. (CHCH Collection)

new gutters, and add new wallpaper as desired. “After” photographs show that gutters were not installed, an unfortunate decision that continues to harm the house today.



Figure 41. Photograph of north elevation taken in 1956 before the restoration. Flush siding can be seen beneath the latticed north porch. (CHCH Collection)



Figure 42. Photograph of north elevation taken 4/21/1957 during the open house celebrating the restoration. The north porch has been replaced by an open deck with railing protecting a stair opening, and the flush siding has been replaced by weatherboards. (Burton Jones, photographer; CPL Photograph Collection)

The notes show that Aschmann’s list included a recommendation to “open exterior stairs to porch.” This apparently refers to a set of stairs shown in the 1956 plans. The stairs were accessed from the northernmost basement door and climbed east-to-west to the north porch. However, the drawing shows no opening in the porch floor. The drawings together with Aschmann’s comment suggest that the stair opening had been covered at some time before 1955. The committee made significant changes here, removing the latticed porch, replacing it with an open deck, and opening the deck to the steps. A railing was built at the east and north sides of the stair opening (*Figures 41*

and 42). The project included the removal of an exterior set of steps leading from the east bay of the north porch down to the north yard. The porch and deck sat above the portion of the basement that had been beneath the 1856 house.

The committee made an additional significant alteration in this area. A pre-restoration photograph (*Figure 41*) shows that the wall beneath the north porch was sheathed in flush siding. That suggests the north porch was original to the 1866 house. The earliest photographs also identify a covered north porch (*Figures 22 and 23*). Nevertheless, during the restoration, the flush siding was replaced with weatherboard to match the second level and to protect the newly exposed wall from rain. Lewis’s report does not mention the removal of that porch or construction of the deck.

Aschmann further recommended that restrooms for men and women be provided, “probably in the basement.” Later records give no information as whether a bathroom was installed during the 1950s work, and more recent changes to the basement have masked earlier conditions.



Figure 43. Postcard showing deck at north elevation in 1963. (Digital image in NP5 files at SERO and CHCH)

Details were given for suggested treatment of lumber, with creosote treatment for sills, foundations, and wood in contact with earth, and all other lumber to be treated with a pentachlorophenol treatment. Whether Aschmann’s recommendations were followed could not be confirmed.⁴²

Lewis’s 1959 completion report assures that “scrupulous care” was taken to preserve the building, and if substitution was necessary,

42. Ibid.

duplicates were made. Lewis explained, “For example, if a hand hewn timber had decayed and had to be replaced, a hand hewn timber of the same kind of wood was used.”⁴³ Lewis may have been referring to replacement beams between the stone piers below the east porch. Some of the beams and girders are hewn with a broad axe and probably date to the 1866 house. Others are hewn with the much smaller strikes of a hatchet and appear to date to the 1956-57 work. Lewis does not indicate whether records were kept during the work as Aschmann recommended.

Lewis reported that a roof of red cedar shingles was applied to the main portion of the house. He also reported on a major feature of the house: “Before the roof was placed, an unsightly outside covered stairway leading to the second story was also removed. It too proved to be of modern construction.”⁴⁴ How Lewis defined modern is not known. This was the large weatherboarded stair tower shown in the 1892 drawing and in the 1897 and 1901 photographs. Lewis did not elaborate, and made no reference to the earlier images. A photograph taken in 1956 before the stair tower was removed shows an interior view of the stairway



Figure 44. Photograph taken in 1956 looking southwest towards the stair of the south stair tower as it reached the second-floor south room. The two-over-two south window is boarded over. (CHCH Collection)

where it reached the second-floor south room (*Figure 44*). The stairway was open to the room, separated only by a railing with newel post.

Removal of the stair tower therefore required a new weatherboarded south wall of the house to be built in that location.

Design characteristics of the stair tower strongly suggest that the tower was added after the 1866 construction of the house. These include its location beyond the house footprint, its odd shape spanning only part of the gable end wall, and the tall narrow two-over-two light sash window. Therefore, the presence of the interior railing and flooring with trim board, not a pierced wall, is difficult to understand. The addition of the tower, built open to the second-floor room as it was, would have required demolition of the upper south exterior wall of the house and its supporting studs. Creating a stair tower open to the room and finished as it was would have been a much more complicated task and a curious choice. Perhaps it was feared that a single window could not adequately light the narrow stair passage and needed light from the room's other windows.

During the project, unspecified repairs were made to windows and doors. Inside, fireplaces were opened and two missing mantelpieces were copied to replace the originals.⁴⁵ The missing mantel in the south room, labeled the dining room, was replaced with a mantel matching the original still in place in the living room (*Figures 45-48*).



Figure 45. Photograph of “living room” taken in 1956 before the restoration. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28A)

43. Lewis, “Restoration,” p. 5.

44. *Ibid.*, p. 6.

45. *Ibid.*



Figure 46. Photograph of "living room" taken in 1956 after the restoration. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28A)



Figure 47. Photograph of "dining room" taken in 1956 before the restoration, showing evidence of the former firebox and mantelpiece. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28A)



Figure 48. Photograph of "dining room" taken in 1957 after the restoration. The replacement mantelpiece matches that of the living room. (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28A)

A replacement mantel was also installed in the south room of the second floor. All infilled fireboxes were opened.

Wallpaper was removed and the interior replastered to duplicate the lime white believed to be the original.⁴⁶ Woodwork and doors were scraped to reveal a grey color which was duplicated, and antique hardware replaced missing pieces, though Lewis did not specify their locations. Some doors of later design were removed and replaced with copies of the originals though again these doors were not identified. A modern flooring, not described, was removed from the dining room. Scrapings from the exterior woodwork convinced the committee that the building had been painted entirely white and not trimmed in green as when their restoration began.⁴⁷ Outside, Lewis reported that a stone walk was laid from the door of the dining room to the stone front landing of the dairy building, which the committee now called the kitchen and dairy.

A photograph taken in 1956 before the restoration shows many elements of the south end of the house and the east elevation of the connector and dairy (Figure 49). Centered above the two-over-two window in the south stair tower is a tall wood flagpole strapped to the upper gable end and extending high above the roof ridge. East of the stair tower, at basement level, is a small six-light single sash. To its immediate east is an exterior stone staircase leading down to the lower yard from the south end of the east porch.

This view of the connector shows the latticed porch spanning the east elevations of the dairy and connector, its roof, supports, and lattice all in



Figure 49. Photograph taken in 1956 showing the south end of the house and east elevation of the connector and dairy before the restoration. (CHCH Collection)

46. Ibid., p. 7.

47. Ibid.



Figure 50. Photograph of south elevation taken while the project was underway. Demolition debris is stacked in the lower yard. (CHCH Collection)

deteriorating condition. Beneath the porch, a portion of a stone staircase is visible, rising to the north to the main level of the connector.

Major alterations were made to these areas during the restoration. The exterior stone steps leading to the east porch were removed. One of the few “during” photographs shows the house after the staircase had been dismantled, with the stones lying on the ground. The photograph also shows, on the south basement wall of the house, that stones had fallen or been removed where the single-sash window had been. It was not replaced. Also visible are boards and lattice slats remaining from demolition of the porch of the connector and dairy (Figure 50).

It appears that the stones of the large staircase were reused in construction of a new stair, this one oriented to climb from north to south up to the level of the upper terrace. The stone slab steps of the earlier staircase were reused as the steps of the new staircase, with six-inch stone spacers added to make the staircase wider.

A second staircase was built, or rebuilt, along the east elevation of the dairy, also connecting

the lower yard to the upper terrace, ascending to the north from the east entrance of the dairy. These apparently were built using stones from the uneven stone staircase seen in the 1956 photograph. Though in the photograph (Figure 49) that stair appears to be located farther north and appears steeper, Lewis’s report states they were “repaired.”⁴⁸

The committee determined that an earlier porch had been at the north front of the dairy by the position of a stone entrance landing, and a new covered full-front porch was constructed to conform to the size of the landing. The pitch of the new porch roof was designed to match the pitch of the porches of the house.⁴⁹ Another conclusion based on a similar architectural feature determined the pitch of a new shed roof placed above the outside door leading to the dining room.



Figure 51. Photograph from the southeast taken in 1957 after the restoration, showing removal of the connector, its porch, and the stone staircase to the house porch. Visible are the two replacement staircases ascending to the upper terrace. (CPL Photograph Collection)

City water apparently was supplied to pipes that connected to the first-floor stone basin. Lewis reported that the work was careful to avoid damage to early piping leading from the spring. He explained that from the stone basin, water flowed into a cistern on the lower level and into an adjacent second stone basin, a shallow trough, from which it then left the building.⁵⁰

The committee also undertook work on the upper level of the dairy, the level they called the kitchen. A wood floor was removed to reveal a floor of pine and stone. The committee removed the

48. Ibid., p. 8.

49. Ibid.

50. Ibid., p. 9.

ceiling believed to be a later addition. Whether a replacement ceiling was installed is not known.⁵¹ Two poplar cornice boards served as models for two replacement cornices, and patches were made to the “original hog-hair and lime” plaster applied to the stone walls. The walls were whitewashed, and woodwork was painted a blue-green revealed through scrapings as the original color.⁵² The committee opened a small fireplace east of the door, finding the stones of the opening and the hearth to be intact. Above the stone mantelpiece was an “original opening” for a stove pipe. This led the committee to determine that the Cravens used this level as a kitchen with cooking facilities of both a fireplace and a cast iron stove,

as this was the pattern of the kitchens in East Tennessee during this period. The next two decades marked the final transition from fireplace to stove cooking. As one of the pioneer ironmasters of the south, undoubtedly Robert Cravens must have been familiar with the most modern cast iron stoves during this period in which he contributed much.⁵³

From the time of the APTA restoration until the present, the top floor of this building has been referred to as the kitchen and the lower floor as the dairy.

The committee found the lower level of the dairy intact and so undertook little work there. At the same time, they were careful to retain a significant feature. The committee “scrupulously restored” the frame of the lower east door, into which Union soldiers had carved their names and regimental numbers during the winter of 1863.

Funds for the restoration came from private foundations, the Tennessee Historical Commission, and the State APTA, totaling \$34,750. On Easter Sunday, April 21, 1957, an Open House was held to show off the restored house (*Figure 52*).

Lewis’s report does not reference early images or documents, nor does it reveal whether such sources were studied. Both the kitchen label and the physical isolation of the two-story dairy as a separate building are most likely quite inaccurate for any period of the 1866 Cravens House except after the 1956-57 restoration. Floor plans, household functionality, photographs, and artists’ renderings all point instead to the dairy building’s

51. The date of the current ceiling is not known.

52. Lewis, “Restoration,” p. 10.

53. *Ibid.*, p. 11.



Figure 52. Open House held Easter Sunday 4/21/1957. The man next to the porch post is Eugene Lewis, chairman of the Restoration Committee. (Burton Jones, photographer; CPL Photograph Collection)

always being one part of several interconnected building sections near to if not connected to the main house block.

Several of the 1956 photographs show the two wood-framed sections of the connector between the dairy and the two-story stair tower. They may represent separate construction periods with their differing exterior wall sidings; the flush board siding of the south section of the west elevation reflects its location beneath the shed roof seen in early images while the narrow weatherboard of the north section of the west elevation suggests a later construction period than 1866. Curiously, the adjacent north wall is covered with board-and-batten siding, a third siding material that is also found on part of the east wall.

Other appendages around the dairy, including a porch to the east, a shed attachment to the west, and a barn-like building attached still further west, were erected and some removed, attesting to a vibrant and changing household complex.

Cumulatively, the evidence suggests a wood-framed room was constructed at first-floor level on the north side of the stone dairy as part of the 1866 house design. This room of the connector held both a stone basin with a documented spring as the source for water, as well as an active chimney. This room, rather than the top floor of the dairy, likely housed the kitchen stove as well. The 1956 drawings show the flue in this room with no base or hearth, suggesting that the flue connected to a stove. The top floor of the dairy could have served an ancillary function.

The dairy function of the basement level probably continued for some time as it had since its 1861 construction. The upper-level covered porch across the east wall of the stone dairy and frame kitchen was likely constructed when the kitchen was built. It probably connected the dairy and kitchen to the south elevation doorway of the house via a breezeway providing protection from the weather. Notably, the south doorway is not centered on the south wall of the house; it is off-center to align with the east porch of the dairy and kitchen.

As noted above, the second room of the connector, attached to the north end, or house side, of the kitchen, was probably added later, perhaps constructed or at least modified when the two-story stair tower was added. All of these frame sections, including the porch, were removed during the 1956-57 work.

The sources listed above are the principal sources of information for evaluating the restoration of 1956-57 and give only the general parameters of the project. What records of both APTA and NPS that have been located, both at CHCH and in the TSLA microfilms, are sparse and sorely inadequate. Among those records, evidence is neither documented nor described, and there is no record of physical samples having been retained. The more detailed records created during the project have not been located. These would have included contracts, bills, APTA communications and the like, and were probably kept in the homes of APTA members.

Many photographs were taken before and after the restoration, but only a few “during” photographs of the exterior have been found. Deliberations about the evidence is not discussed. Only the conclusions are stated and on occasion they are contradictory, even within the same document. Whatever the reasoning, the end result was dramatic and largely unconvincing. While some parts likely are accurate representations of the 1866 Second Cravens House, which itself contains parts of the foundation of the original 1856 Cravens House, as a whole the restored house is yet another design. The design of what might be called the Third Cravens House was as much driven by an ideal as by evidence.

Procedural aspects of the project appear for the most part to have been circumvented. In a letter of October 3, 1956, after the project had begun, E. M. Lisle, Acting Regional Director, wrote to Superintendent Dunn reminding him that reports must be submitted before rehabilitation could be undertaken. “You and the officers of the association realize that any work, other than reroofing or routine maintenance, must have the approval of the Secretary.” Dunn responded in November that the project consisted of only roofing and maintenance other than removal of the portion between the house and dairy. He also enclosed a sketch of a proposed office and caretaker’s quarters.⁵⁴

1962: A Garden

The grounds of the Cravens House had not been included in the cooperative agreement between the APTA and the Department of the Interior, and no records are available describing the grounds immediately after the restoration. However, in the spring of 1961, the Lookout Mountain Garden Club proposed to develop a garden at the house with the help of landscape architect R. A. “Bill” Wilhelm, formerly with NPS.⁵⁵ The Garden Club raised the money to pay for his work and for the planting of the grounds. The following year Wilhelm designed a planting plan, herb garden, and placement of a picket fence to identify an area which the Garden Club could maintain. The remainder of the property would be left “for others to maintain.”⁵⁶ The fence was installed in 1962, and “the plants that have been chosen for authenticity as well as beauty will soon frame the house in a manner quite sympathetic.”⁵⁷ All plantings did not fare well, however. The new cherry trees that were planted where earlier trees had stood, for example, did not grow well.⁵⁸

Willhelm helped design the position of the parking lot and suggested that it be made of “sturdy stabilized turf so that there is no sharp line of

54. Lisle to Dunn, 10/3/1956 and Dunn to Regional Director, 11/21/1956 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 41).

55. Wilhelm retired from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

56. R. A. Wilhelm to Mrs. Robert S. Killebrew, 7/6/1962 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 41).

57. Mrs. Cartter (Elizabeth) Patten, 11/28/1962 article for Garden Club of America Bulletin.

58. Elizabeth Bryan Patten, “The House ‘Above the Clouds,’” undated typed report (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 40).

distinction from lawn to parking area,” perhaps to be paved later.

1963: Celebrating the Battle Centennial

The focus of the park in the 1960s was on the Civil War Centennial. In preparation, in 1962 the National Park Service with the APTA dismantled an 1860s-era log house across from park headquarters, earlier used as a tea room and restaurant, and reused its timbers to build a caretaker’s house and office on a newly-graded site near the Cravens House (*Figure 53*). The caretaker was to be available for conducted tours.⁵⁹



Figure 53. Former caretaker’s residence. (Oppermann, 2011)

Also during 1962 the Cravens House remained opened on a limited basis for public visitation under the cooperative arrangement with the APTA. Attempts were made by park interpretative personnel to increase public contacts at other visitor concentration points on the battlefield as well, such as at Wilder Brigade Monument, Snodgrass Hill, and the Brotherton House.⁶⁰

The Centennial brought tourists in record numbers to the park. Celebrations were scheduled throughout November 1963, the anniversary month of the Battle of Lookout Mountain. The Cravens House was opened to commemorate its role as alternate headquarters for Union and Confederate forces during the fighting. A

reenactment of the Union assault on the mountain was scheduled for November 24, 1963. However, this and other activities were cancelled after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22. Despite the other cancellations, a tea was held at the Cravens House.⁶¹

By 1962, even before the Centennial, the APTA had furnished the house for interpretation to visitors. Most of the furnishings were given by Chattanoogaans interested in the house, and were said to be “in keeping with the way the house might have been furnished in the first place,” though the interpretative time span is not stated.⁶² The first floor was filled with furniture, rugs, pictures on the walls, and ornaments on tables and mantelpieces. The second floor had curtains in the windows and was “in the process of being restored to life again,” with plans to furnish one as a master bedroom, the other a children’s bedroom.⁶³ During the late 1960s the APTA continued their efforts to acquire furnishings for the house, reporting “Cravens House has never been completely furnished,” and holding annual antique auctions to raise funds.⁶⁴

Interpretative improvements at the NMP continued as visitation increased, and in 1964 exhibits were installed on Signal Point interpreting



Figure 54. Dining room as furnished by APTA. (undated photograph, CHCH Collection)

59. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter III-B, and Ogden interview.

60. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter V, cite Superintendent’s Monthly Narrative Reports, August 7, 1962, and September 7, 1962.

61. Ibid., Chapter VII. *Chattanooga News-Free Press*, November 22, 1963; Superintendent’s Monthly Narrative Report, December 5, 1963. (Superintendent’s Narrative Reports, 1943-January 1967)

62. Helen McD. Exum, “Historic Home Restored,” *Chattanooga News-Free Press*, 11/17/1968 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 12).

63. Ibid.

64. “APTA Papers 1951-1994,” microfilm collection of the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA), microfilm accession number 1577, roll 4, sheet 2032.

the role of communications during the Civil War. That year also saw the addition of firing demonstrations using Civil War period rifle muskets at Chickamauga Battlefield.⁶⁵ The popular rifle firings were later presented by park rangers at Cravens House in conjunction with lectures about the fighting in that area.⁶⁶

The members of the local APTA chapter actively participated in both the upkeep of the property and the activities there. In February 1968 they had “plans to lay a brick walk up to the house,” and by April had raised the funds for the walk. They also planned to redo the herb garden between house and dairy.⁶⁷ The monthly minutes of April 13, 1968, reported that they had in hand “the money for the paint for the fence and [had] set Tuesday as the day for painting by volunteers from the board.” The members recognized the benefits of publicity, and “suggested that a photographer be called.”⁶⁸ They had distributed 10,000 brochures advertising the house in 1967 and were printing an equal amount for the coming year.⁶⁹ Visitation to the house increased until by 1969 a local newspaper reported, “...more visitors were recorded this year than the combined total since the white frame dwelling was opened to the public in 1956.”⁷⁰

1970s: Transition from APTA

The final elements of APTA’s restoration were completed in 1961. A 1972 report by an unknown author, probably Eugene Lewis, stated that “only one faux-pas” occurred after 1961 when original stones “as laid by Robert Cravens” between the house and stone dependency were replaced by brick, and when brick or churt was added “to the first floor of the lower level,” presumably meaning the basement level.⁷¹

The report concludes with the hope that other improvements might be made, “particularly the

restoration of several dependencies which adjoined the mountain residence. . . . Restoration of these buildings would add to the educational experience of the visitor. . . .”⁷² The term restoration apparently meant reconstruction as no outbuildings remained save the dairy. In 1974 the APTA reported that an archaeological dig was anticipated “to enable authentic development of outbuildings and grounds;” however, no record of such investigation has been found.⁷³

In 1971 the APTA asked that the exterior stones of the dairy be repointed. It is not clear whether this was done, but it is known that the Park Service installed a fire alarm system in 1971 or 1972 and installed a telephone in a closet.⁷⁴ In 1971 or early 1972, the porch was repaired and painted and other areas of the house were painted.⁷⁵

The Cravens House received its share of attention in 1973. The house was completely wrapped in plastic and fumigated for powderpost beetles and termites that “had perpetrated not only the building but also the furniture.” At about the same time, the house was visited by Dave Hansen, Curator at Harpers Ferry Center, to help with preparation of a Furnishings Plan.⁷⁶

Also in 1973, NPS Regional Historical Architect John Garner inspected the Cravens House and made several recommendations, including replacement of the roof.

During this time the management of the house remained under the cooperative agreement between the APTA and the NPS by which the house was operated and interpreted by the APTA. A local caretaker and custodian lived at the caretaker’s log house, and the APTA charged an admission for visits to the furnished house. In May 1973 the cooperative agreement was renewed, with some changes, for the first time since the original agreement of 1955.⁷⁷

Operations under this new agreement were just beginning to be implemented in the spring of 1974

65. Superintendent’s Monthly Narrative Report, August 6, 1964. *Chattanooga News-Free Press*, February 11, 1964; *Chattanooga Times*, August 12, 1964; *Chattanooga News-Free Press*, January 9, 1965.

66. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter V, cite *Chattanooga Times*, February 2, 1965.

67. TSLA microfilm 1577, roll 4, sheets 2023, 2025.

68. *Ibid.*, roll 4, sheets 2023, 2032.

69. *Ibid.*, roll 4, sheet 2032.

70. Myrna McMahan, “Cravens House—an Historical Treasure,” *Chattanooga Times*, 11/2/1969, p. D1.

71. “Cravens House Restoration Report, 1972” (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 28).

72. *Ibid.*

73. Newsletter, 11/20/1974 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 55).

74. Report of telephone call 6/23/1971 from Superintendent Guiton to Mrs. Killebrew.

75. Report of telephone call 3/27/1972 from Superintendent Guiton to Mrs. W. O. Spears.

76. Superintendent’s Annual Report, 1973.

77. Geerdes, p. 3.

when the caretaker of the house, Mrs. Osborne Morgan, for health reasons was no longer able to perform her duties there.⁷⁸ A 1974 newsletter of the Association reported that the caretakers had left and in their place the NPS provided a custodian and guides. As the Park Service assumed interpretative duties, it adapted the caretaker's residence into an office.⁷⁹ In the late 1970s a seasonal interpreter, Teddy Pyke, was employed to be stationed primarily at the Cravens House. He "became" Robert Cravens and had the principal house keeping responsibilities for the house.

Because of this major change in management, and at the request of APTA, it was determined to be in the best interest of both parties to cancel the cooperative agreement and replace it with a Special Use Permit which would allow for the continued exhibition of the furnishings of the house—both owned by and loaned to the APTA—and further provide for their continued cooperation for operation of the house.⁸⁰ The APTA would continue to maintain the garden and to add to the furnishings of the house.⁸¹ The retention of APTA's furnishings made the interpretation possible.

Under the Special Use Permit and with some hesitation, NPS took over complete responsibility for the maintenance and interpretation of the house.⁸² As stated at the time by Superintendent Guiton, "We have agreed to assume the responsibility of on-site protection and the interpretive service at the Cravens House somewhat reluctantly, inasmuch as we are not currently staffed or funded for the operation."⁸³

There followed several visits by NPS specialists regarding interpretation and furnishings. In 1974 a Mini-Interpretive Prospectus was prepared by Ray Geerdes, Environmental Education Coordinator for the Southeast Region, and the furnishings section of the report was referenced by Mark Sagan, Manager, the Harpers Ferry Center.

78. Ibid.

79. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter III-B, cite Superintendent's Annual Report for 1974. The cabin later became a law enforcement ranger's residence.

80. Geerdes, p. 3.

81. Newsletter, 11/20/1974 (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 55).

82. Geerdes, "Mini-Interpretive Prospectus," Section I (CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 1).

83. Guiton memorandum to Regional Director, Southeast Region, 6/10/1974.

In April 1975 a visit was made to the house by David Wallace, Chief, Division of Reference Services of the Harpers Ferry Center, to review the interpretation and furnishings plan and other aspects of the house. He stated that the interpretation of the house, and therefore furnishings, would focus on the 1866-70 period to reflect the period just after the Cravens family built the present house and to reflect the way the family would have lived after the war. This is the first documentation of a stated time period for interpretation. He concluded his report by adding, "The lack of the kitchen, presumably in the portion of the house removed in 1956, particularly hampers interpretation."⁸⁴ Wallace had concluded that the kitchen had been located in the connector, not in the stone dairy.

During this time the condition of the house continued to deteriorate. In a November 1974 memorandum, Superintendent Donald K. Guiton reported that the house "currently is in deplorable condition. . . a new roof was recently completed prior to any extensive interior damage. However, the remaining portions of the exterior are in dire need of immediate work. The reconstruction of the porches is a priority one item." Guiton explained that the work needed on the porch included the construction of new porch decks, new joists due to extensive rot and termites, a new porch roof, railing repairs, the installation of guttering on the porch roof, and complete exterior painting.⁸⁵

Guiton also called for construction of a new section of porch on the north end of the house. Though the reasons for this proposal are not stated, it seems certain that the new north porch was added to replicate the similar porch in place before the 1950s restoration. The new porch would replace the open deck constructed during the restoration. Guiton requested completion of the work by May 1975 because NPS planned a much expanded interpretative program which was to involve use of the porches for some of the visitor contact. An attached unsigned handwritten note written in response to Guiton's memo reads, in part, "Unbelievable—the photos clearly indicate

84. 4/21-22/1975 trip report by David Wallace (CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 1).

85. Geerdes, p. 2.

gross lack of concern for basic maintenance...such a level of deterioration.”⁸⁶

In February 1975, a memorandum asked for a review of the proposal for repairs, “otherwise we are in danger of losing the building by neglect.”⁸⁷

As a result, drawings were made in 1975 for construction of the covered porch on the north end of the house connecting the two existing east and west porches, and for work on other porches and roofs. The drawings call for:

- Construction of a new roof structure for the new north covered porch, with 2 x 4 rough-cut rafters to match those on the east and west porch roofs. A galvanized iron ridge cap was proposed for the ridge between north and east porches. Lattice was proposed for the north perimeter of the new porch with a note stating, “This lattice work is not intended as restoration, the original size is undetermined.” When installed, the lattice filled all of the north bays of the porch, whereas earlier photographs show the easternmost bay of the porch with only a narrow horizontal strip of lattice below the roofline.
- New 1 x 4 tongue-and-groove quarter-sawn pressure-treated porch decks on the east, north, and west sides;
- Reuse of existing balustrade on east porch, reuse of posts on the east and west porches, and installation of matching posts on the new north porch;
- Increase of the west porch depth by the addition of a joist and new porch deck. The rafters above were to be spliced to increase the length of the roof. The existing porch posts were to be moved to the west to support the lengthened porch roof;
- Grading and a new berm on the west side of the west porch to guide water away from the house.
- Gutters were not indicated.

These improvements were made. The weatherboard siding introduced in 1956-57 was retained, rather than being replaced with flush siding beneath the porch to reproduce the

original, and apparently the steps leading from the basement to the north porch were removed. Subsequent repairs, replacements, and reroofing have removed or obscured much of this 1975 work. For example, new rafters on the west porch replace those extended in 1975.⁸⁸

Interpretative activities continued at the house as suggested by Wallace and others, and visitation again increased. During 1975 the soldier demonstrations at Point Park remained popular, attracting some 337,000 visitors during the year, while below at the Cravens House young women gave demonstrations of period needlepoint, cooking, butter churning, and other aspects of mid-nineteenth-century living. One popular program in 1974 and 1975 was “Pioneer Days,” which brought hundreds of children from youth centers around Chattanooga to hike, bicycle, make candles, and watch the history demonstrations at the Cravens House.⁸⁹

In July 1975 Robert L. Deskins became superintendent. His 1976 annual report indicates that the interior of the house was painted that year by the Thompson Company under contract for \$3,400, and an “ultrasonic intrusion alarm system” was installed in June by LOPECO Alarms for \$1,200 to detect movement in any room in the house. An earlier system activated only when an outside door was opened.

In February 1977, Ralph W. Sheetz, NPS Conservator, supervised the removal of the frame of the lower doorway of the dairy. These had been carefully maintained in place by the APTA during the 1956-57 restoration but had since deteriorated. The large planks, believed to be of poplar, measured 3” x 16” x 6’. In the pieces were inscriptions carved by Federal soldiers, including their names and regimental numbers. The planks had been damaged by water and termites and were removed for treatment at Harpers Ferry conservation laboratories.⁹⁰ The planks are today wrapped and stored in the CHCH archives.

It was a over a year before the frame and door at the dairy “were finally replaced.” This “once again

86. CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 1.

87. Memorandum from Associate Regional Director, Park System Management, SER, to Associate Regional Director for Professional Services, SER, 2/5/1975.

88. Superintendent’s Annual Report, 1973, and 1975 drawings.

89. Paige & Greene, *Administrative History*, Chapter V.

90. Memorandum from Museum Specialist Sheetz, Division of Museum Services, to Chief, Division of Museum Services, 3/24/1977 (CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 1).

allowed the visitors to peek inside and view the fine stone work of Dan Hogan.”

Archaeological investigations conducted in 1978 beneath the east porch of the house revealed the presence of a camp site apparently occupied by the Bohemian Club, the group of Northern newspaper writers, photographers, and artists assembled during the war. Artifacts showed evidence of their post-battle occupation, consisting of a rough circular stone hearth and a scattering of artifacts. Fragments of burned planks and 103 machine-cut nails found in the fireplace indicate that planking from the house was burned as fuel, corroborating earlier reports. Also identified were pieces of pencils and artists’ brushes.⁹¹

By 1979, visitation to the Cravens House had increased to the extent that docent-led tours of the house were ended and instead, tourists visited the house at their own pace with rope barriers installed in key rooms.⁹² The APTA Chapter remained involved, and the same year, requested that NPS install proper bathroom facilities at the house. An earlier bathroom apparently was in place by 1970.⁹³ (The bathroom used by tenants before 1949 was within the demolished connector of the house, as shown in the 1946 Quarters Report discussed earlier.)

In 1980, the house, “in desperate need of re-roofing,” was reroofed by Todd Roofing Company for \$13,500. In that year the house had a total visitation of over 27,000, a ten percent increase over the previous year. A supplemental alarm system was installed, this one an infrared system to alert docents to any intrusions past the rope barriers.⁹⁴

During just the first ten months of 1981 visitation had grown to almost 35,000 and herbs were planted or replanted in the area between the house and dairy. In that year NPS started two new programs for visitors to the house, one showcasing Civil War music played by a staff member, the second demonstrating craft projects.⁹⁵ In 1981 the

APTA reported that “the National Park Service is actively maintaining the house. The roof has been repaired and negotiations are proceeding for repairing the porches and the kitchen floor and for installing bathrooms downstairs. This summer Jesse Sims developed the herb garden.”⁹⁶

A list of projects completed at the house from 1981 to 1986 included in a letter from Lawrence S. Steeler, the new Lookout Mountain Unit Manager, to Mrs. Rosemary F. Roberts of APTA:

- 1980-86 Pest control \$600
- 1981 Paint exterior (contract) \$3,200
- 1981 Replace roof (contract) \$15,000
- 1981 Remodel restroom \$875
- 1981 Repair exterior \$1,875
- 1981 Refinish interior walls in kitchen (upper floor of dairy) \$350
- 1981 Replace floor in kitchen \$975
- 1981 Replace window & frame in kitchen \$250
- 1982 Seal chimney \$300
- 1982 Replace interpretation sign \$275
- 1982 Repaint porch and first floor exterior \$810
- 1982 Repair kitchen door \$275
- 1983 Relay cobblestone walkway \$250
- 1983 Replace handrail outside steps \$250
- 1984 Repaint both gable ends \$370
- 1984 Remove dirt from porch seal \$200
- 1985 Remove tree limbs from house \$100
- 1985 Repaint exterior doors \$125
- 1986 Replace defective beam on porch \$753
- 1986 Repaint exterior (contract) \$4,887

The 1987 General Management Plan called for the landscape at Cravens House to be maintained “as at present.”⁹⁷ The Garden Club’s picket fence was removed in 1989 or 1990 because it was not historically appropriate to the house and was in poor condition.⁹⁸

As the members of the APTA reduced their participation, their interest in the house dwindled, and with it the activities of their local chapter. After months of correspondence and meetings with the state APTA, the Chattanooga chapter was

91. Jeffrey I. Brown, “The Camp Site beneath the Cravens House Porch,” 1978 (CHCH Library, Cravens House Box 1).

92. Annual reports, 1978 & 1979.

93. Memorandum from Unit Manager to Superintendent, 2/1/1979.

94. Annual reports, 1980. Each room alarm unit included a photo cell, a beam cell, and a control box (CHCH Acc 212, Folder 48).

95. TSLA microfilm 1577, roll 4, sheet 2131.

96. Ibid.

97. CHCH “General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan, Environmental Assessment,” 1988 (nps.gov/history/history/online_books/chch/chch_gmp_1988.pdf).

98. Interview, Ogden and Mike Dalton, CHCH Facility Management Systems Specialist, 3/30/11. Most information on 1990s and 2000s repairs was learned from this interview.

terminated in July 1989 by state APTA resolution.⁹⁹ And, after several years resolving questions of ownership, APTA in 1991 made a gift of the then non-NPS-owned furnishings remaining in the Cravens House to the NPS.

1989: Worsening Conditions

In about 1989 the NPS seasonal employee, Teddy Pyke, left after serving as housekeeper for ten or twelve years. He was the tours interpreter, acting as Robert Cravens; he also cleaned the house and winterized it at the end of the tourist season. Each fall, he carefully folded newspapers and filled the spaces around the windows. This was believed to reduce the moisture entering the building. After his departure the house was opened to visitors for less time each year and NPS took over day-to-day management. A rotating NPS staff worked there and Pyke's regular reporting of maintenance needs ended.¹⁰⁰

Despite Pyke's attentions and the repairs of the 1980s, the condition of the house continued to be of concern. Water damage was noticed in the ceilings and walls of two upstairs bedrooms. In 1991 the house was found to be in "imminent danger" as the result of water leakage and drainage problems, and was in immediate need of a new roof, drainage corrections along the house foundations, repair of a failing exterior basement wall, and repair of the leaks and water damage in upstairs rooms.¹⁰¹ These conditions were caused in part by the lack of gutters.

Water penetration beneath the house had also become a noticeable problem. A memorandum of June 24, 1991 from the state APTA headquarters reported, "Due to circumstances beyond our control and that of the National Park Service, it has become necessary to remove all surplus items from Cravens House immediately. A severe mold and mildew problem has developed in the basement where most of the items are stored."¹⁰²

Repairs were made in 1992 and 1993, though whether the basement received attention at that

time is unclear. Memos, Section 106 compliance documents, and change orders give a list of projects, which included repairing and painting the exteriors of the house and dairy, plaster repair and painting the second-floor interior, replacing wood shingles and flashing, repointing the chimneys of house and dairy, and repairing the stone retaining wall and stone steps at the south end of the house.¹⁰³

It was recognized that a section of the east basement wall was in danger. The portion of the wall between the two southern doors failed and was bulging. That section was taken down and rebuilt by Mike Dalton, at that time a CHCH maintenance worker who had completed a preservation masonry course at Harper's Ferry.¹⁰⁴

At about the same time, work was conducted on the south end of the house. Park staff replaced the siding on the upper portion of the south gable end and most of the lower portion, and an eight-foot section of the large timber sill was replaced with a new timber. The new sill was milled at a sawmill in Chickamauga, Georgia.¹⁰⁵ This was the new weatherboarding installed in 1956-57 after demolition of the stair tower.

The 1990s work also included the rebuilding and leveling of the south stoop roof to include extension of posts, removal of shingle roofing, reinstallation of sheathing and installation of temporary covering. Other work included the rebuilding of damaged steps (unspecified), replacing the wood balustrades along all stone steps and walls, replacing the south wood balustrade railing along the east (rear) porch, and repainting all exterior wood elements. This work was called for in 1992 but may not have been undertaken until 1997 or 1998.¹⁰⁶

A change order of December 1992 detailed the extreme problems with the roofs of both buildings: "Due primarily to reoccurring leaks in their main roofs, the Cravens House and Kitchen Building

99. TSLA microfilm 1577, roll 4, sheet 2092.

100. Ibid.

101. Superintendent Patrick H. Reed to Deputy Associate Regional Director for Cultural Resources, 9/9/1991 (CHCH Resource Management Records II, Folder 13, Box 2).

102. TSLA microfilm 1577, roll 5, sheet 357.

103. CHCH Resource Management Records II, Folder 13, Box 2.

104. Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

105. Ogden and Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

106. Contract bid schedule of March 1992 and FY97 Contract Documents within memorandum of 8/8/1997 to CHCH Administrative Officer from the Historic Architect, South Architectural Cyclic Division (MX-5500N-20110831-164116.pdf on CHCH CD created 8/31/2011).

(dairy) will have been reroofed three times within fifteen years. An average wood shingle roof, much like these roofs, lasts 15 years.” Investigations revealed that the main roofs had space sheathing beneath the main roof sheathing while the porches had solid wood sheathing beneath their shingles. Because the porch roofs held up better than the main roofs, the NPS Regional Historical Architect called for the replacement of the spacing sheathing with plywood sheathing and felt.¹⁰⁷

Section 106 clearance procedures of February 1993 give details of the reroofing project: replace the shingle roofs and replace all space sheathing on the main roofs with solid ¾” plywood sheathing and install 30# felt (other information calls for 15# felt) over all solid wood sheathing including porches. This work was completed by June. Roof flashings were also replaced.¹⁰⁸

Sections of the recently completed plaster in the second-floor rooms had to be replaced because the work did not match the texture of the existing plaster.

In the early 1990s, electric resistance heaters installed in the house by the APTA were removed as a safety measure.¹⁰⁹

In the mid-1990s, portions of the dairy stonework were repointed, and areas were replastered by NPS staff using a horsehair-lime mixture to imitate the existing.¹¹⁰ Also in the mid-1990s, a dry-pipe fire suppression system was installed in the house.¹¹¹

It is not known when the southernmost room of the basement was subdivided into the current four-room configuration, but may have been during this time period. The exterior door and framing appear to date from the 1956-57 restoration, perhaps with later repairs.

A proposal was made in 1995 to rehabilitate the basement of the house for use as administrative offices of the Eastern National Monument

Association and to provide restrooms for the public. This was not done.

In 1996 a contract bid schedule called for repair or replacement of thirteen wood windows and sills and patching of water-damaged plaster. Interior plaster damage was concentrated above and around windows and chimneys. There is no documentation on which windows were replaced or repaired, however.¹¹²

An undated handwritten document described serious water damage to the dairy: “The plaster is falling off the walls in large chunks. The entire kitchen floor has rotted through. The door riser... has rotten completely through and the boards are falling apart. The window frame has completely rotted out... The window base has also rotted through.” It is possible that the six-over-four east window sash was replaced at this time with the current six-over-six sash.

In the late 1990s, most of the railing and pickets on the east porch were replaced.

In early 2000, Facility Management Specialist Mike Dalton repointed, capped, and reflashed the chimneys of the house and dairy. Also in 2000 a contractor installed new window sills on the second floor of the west façade. However, the contractor cut the sills out; they were not joined properly and caused increased damage to the sills and walls and the need for follow-up repairs.¹¹³

Changes were made to the herb garden between the house and dairy in late 2001. The walkway between the front porch and the dairy had become a visitor safety concern as the bricks had become uneven and slippery. The bricks and herb garden were removed and replaced with a layer of wood chips. The area was later seeded for grass.¹¹⁴

In about 2001 the dry pipe sprinkler system froze and burst in the basement; to prevent future problems a heater was placed and remains in the basement near the system controls.¹¹⁵

107. Requisition, 12/2/1992. The architect’s signature, Daniel ___, is not legible. (CHCH Resource Management Records II, Folder 13, Box 2).

108. CHCH Resource Management Records II, Folder 13, Box 2.

109. Ogden interview, 6/24/11.

110. Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

111. Ogden interview, 6/24/11.

112. CHCH Resource Management Records II, Folder 68, Box 4.

113. Ogden and Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

114. Impact Assessment and Project Approval Form (CHCH Library, Cravens House files) and Ogden interview, 3/30/11.

115. Interview, CHCH Museum Curator Denise West, 3/29/11.

Through these years, splash from rain runoff from the upper roof damaged the house, and in 2004 the exterior siding was replaced on the west upper level. The associated Impact Assessment and Project Approval Form of December 2003 stated, “Without immediate attention the integrity of the structure is in jeopardy.”

During the 1990s and 2000s two efforts were made to expand the French drain in front of the house but neither was completed. An earlier French drain, probably installed during the 1950s restoration, extended from the south end of the porch and ran along the front edge of the porch, just turning the north corner. Its performance was inadequate, perhaps in part because of the quantity of water reaching it and in part because it required greater depth. Its failure was believed to contribute to flooding of the basement.

Instead of a deepening or extension of the existing drain, a dry well was dug about ten to fifteen feet north-northwest of the northwest corner of the porch. The well is a 6' x 6' pit about six feet deep filled with river stone, pea gravel, and top soil. A pipe was run from the French drain to the dry well. This helped but did not fully correct the drainage problems at the house. There is some thought that much of the ongoing groundwater problem is caused by heavy runoff from the parking lot above the house.¹¹⁶

A second effort in 2003 proposed to extend the French drain southward along the west edge of the dairy; however, an accompanying archaeological investigation found foundation and other stones that prevented the trench from being dug.

Water penetration of the west façade remained a problem. In 2006 or 2007, interior plaster repairs were made by a contractor in the west wall beneath the first-floor windows and around the chimneys on the second floor. The upper window problem continued and in 2008, six of the second-floor sash were taken out and repaired by NPS staff with a fiberglass-type resin. A 1" x 1" strip of wood was

placed inside the frame housing of the sash and Plexiglas panels were installed on all second-floor windows. These efforts reduced but did not stop the leaking.¹¹⁷

In 2009 the lattice on the north end of the porch was replaced. Over the years locksets have been repaired or replaced after being vandalized or stolen.

2010s: Current Status

The house is currently used as a Visitor Contact Station during the summer, although the grounds are open year round. Both the house and the dairy are believed to be in only fair condition and need a significant amount of repair and rehabilitation, especially the reroofing of main house and porches and the installation of gutters to help prevent further damage.¹¹⁸

The Park is currently developing an amendment to the General Management Plan for the Lookout Mountain Battlefield Unit of the NMP.¹¹⁹ Plans call for painting the house and replacement of the roof with wood shingles. The work is anticipated in the next several years but has not yet been funded.¹²⁰

As with all historic areas administered by the National Park Service, the Park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Nomination documentation was prepared in 1986, and a lengthy Additional Documentation form was accepted in November 1998. The house and dairy are both classified as contributing structures at the national level of significance. The dairy is noted as the only building within the park that can with certainty be dated to the battle period.¹²¹

117. Ibid.

118. The log ranger's residence has been vacant since 2004 when the last occupant, Law Enforcement Ranger Charles Spearman, left the house. West interview, 3/29/11.

119. NPS Scope of Work.

120. Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

121. Jill K. Hanson and Robert W. Blythe. National Register Nomination Additional Information, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Historic District, 1996.

116. Ogden and Dalton interview, 3/30/11.

Timeline

5/5/1805	Robert Cravens born in Virginia. Moves with family to Tennessee, then Alabama.
1821	Cravens is orphaned. He and sisters then live with aunt and uncle in East Tennessee. Uncle is iron manufacturer and trains Cravens.
early 1830s	Cravens goes into the iron business for himself; becomes accomplished and innovative ironmaster.
1830	Cravens marries Catherine Roddye; they have five children.
1845	Catherine dies; in 1846 he marries Caroline Cunnyingham.
ca. 1851	Cravens moves to Chattanooga and becomes manager of East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company, which expands several times.
ca. 1854	Cravens buys large tract of land on Lookout Mountain; is said to have built small cabins to create summer retreat for his family.
ca. 1856	Cravens builds one-story frame house on small outcrop of level land on Lookout Mountain.
ca. 1861	Stone dairy is built just south of house.
1863	Federal troops take control of Chattanooga and Lookout Valley.
fall 1863	In October or November, Cravens and his family leave Lookout Mountain for Georgia.
11/24/1863	Battle of Lookout Mountain, later known as “The Battle Above the Clouds.” Heaviest fighting occurs on the Cravens plateau. After Union victory, the house becomes Union headquarters.
1863-1865	House survives the battle but is later destroyed when hundreds of soldiers and news correspondents set up camp around the house, dismantle the house, use the wood for tent flooring and firewood. Souvenir hunters also take pieces.
1863	<i>Harper’s Weekly</i> sketch shows the house during the battle.
c. 1864	Two photographs show the dismantled house.
1865	Cravens returns to Lookout Mountain, finding only the stone foundation, sections of chimneys, and some wood structural members. The dairy stone remains but with no roof.
ca. 1866	Cravens builds a new house using some portions of the foundation of the original house. The new house is two-story frame with three rooms on each floor.

Post-war	Tourists and former soldiers visit the area.
1867	Panoramic photograph shows the new house with north and west porches visible, and series of rooftops extending to the south.
1870	A second panorama shows similar features.
1871	Lithograph shows house connecting to dairy and no apparent porch on north side.
1886	Lookout Mountain begins rapid post-war development as a tourist destination. Incline railway is built up the mountain to access a tourist hotel; other rail lines also built as development continues.
late 1886	Robert Cravens dies.
1889	Civil War veterans initiate the idea for the National Park.
1890	Congress establishes national park under the Department of War (Army).
1892	Sketch of house shows south wing connecting to the dairy and projecting gabled building to the southwest.
1893	Caroline Cravens continues to live in the house until her death in 1893.
1893	Seventy acres of Cravens property is acquired for inclusion in the park, not including the house.
1895	Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park dedicated, later named National Military Park (NMP).
1896	Cravens House is acquired by Army for the national park.
1897	Photograph dated 1897 shows details of east elevation of south wing connecting to the dairy, and latticed east porch. Similar to 1892 sketch.
1901	Panoramic view of battlefield shows house.
1902 & later	Photograph and postcards show the house.
1933	NMP and Cravens House transferred to National Park Service.
1934	Two photographs show details of the house and its gutter system. House and yard neat and well-kept.
1937	CCC builds foot trail to the Cravens House.
post-WWI	Tourism and development continue on Lookout Mountain; roads improved.
1946	Photograph associated with “Quarters Report” documents the poor condition of the house.
1947	Condition of house deteriorated; demolition suggested.

- 1950s Superintendent of NMP again proposes demolition of Cravens House and others. In response, prominent residents of Lookout Mountain conceive a partnership to restore the Cravens House. The Chattanooga Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) is formed for this project.
- 1956-1957 Extensive “restoration” of Cravens House by APTA includes major alterations. Connector between house and dairy is removed; north porch removed; south end enclosed staircase and exterior stone stairs removed, many features replaced. APTA records document neither the decisions nor details of the work; photographs are taken before and after the restoration, but no ‘during” photographs have been found.
- 21 April 1957 Open House held to show off the restoration. APTA operates and interprets the house under an agreement with NPS.
- 1959 Written report of the restoration by Chairman Eugene Lewis.
- 1962 Lookout Mountain Garden Club develops grounds, adds picket fence.
- 1962 Caretaker’s residence built nearby using logs brought in from a dismantled 1860s house.
- 1966 NMP is listed in the National Register of Historic Places with passage of National Historic Preservation Act.
- 1968 Brick front walk installed by APTA.
- 1970 NPS takes on more responsibility but APTA still involved.
- 1971-72 Fire alarm system installed; telephone installed in closet. Porch repaired & painted and other areas of the house painted.
- 1973 House wrapped in plastic and fumigated for powderpost beetles & termites that had “perpetrated not only the building but also the furniture.”
- 1973 Roof replacement recommended by NPS Regional Historical Architect John Garner; apparently is completed.
- 1974 NPS takes over full maintenance and interpretation; APTA handles furnishings and garden.
- 1974 House is deteriorating. New roof recently completed; however, remaining portions of the exterior are in need of work.
- 1975 New covered porch is built on the north side of the house; similar porch had been removed in 1950s restoration and replaced with an open deck. All roofs are replaced with new wood shingle roofing, west porch is extended, repairs are made to east and west porches, and a berm is created west of the house to guide water away from the house.
- 1976 Caretaker leaves; day-to-day management turned over to NPS.
- 1976 Interior painted.
- 1976 Ultrasonic room-intrusion alarm system installed.

1977	Planks inscribed by Federal troops are removed from dairy's lower doorway for protection; sent to Harpers Ferry conservation labs.
1978	New frame and door at dairy installed.
1980s	Repairs, repainting, and re-roofing continue throughout the decade.
1986	National Register documentation prepared.
1987	General Management Plan calls for house to be maintained "as at present."
1989	Chattanooga Chapter of the APTA is terminated by resolution of state APTA.
1989-90	Picket fence removed.
1991	House found to be in "imminent danger" as result of water leakage and drainage problems. Severe mold and mildew found in basement.
1992-93	Extensive repairs.
1993	Interior plaster repairs to second floor; reroofing.
ca. 1994	Repairs to dairy; portions of stonework repointed.
mid-1990s	Dry-pipe fire suppression system installed.
1995	Proposal to rehabilitate the basement into offices; never carried out.
1996	"Repair or replacement" of 13 unspecified wood windows and sills.
1998	Additional documentation for the National Register nomination is accepted in November. House and dairy are both classified as contributing structures at the national level of significance. Dairy is noted as the only building within the NMP that can with certainty be dated to the battle period.
1990s & 2000s	Two efforts are made to expand French drain at front of front porch.
1990s & 2000s	Over the years locksets are repaired and replaced after vandalized or stolen.
2000	Chimneys of house and dairy repointed, capped, and reflashed.
2000	New window sills poorly installed, increasing damage to sills and walls.
2001	Brick walkway between house and dairy removed.
ca. 2001	Heater is placed near system controls after dry-pipe sprinkler system freezes and bursts in basement.
2004	Exterior siding replaced in upper level west (front) side of house.
2004	Last occupant, a law enforcement ranger, leaves the former caretaker's cabin. Remains vacant.

2006-07	Interior plaster repairs.
2008	Six second-floor sash repaired with fiberglass-type resin.
2009	Lattice replaced on north end of porch.
2011	Historic Structure Report.

I.C Physical Description

General Description

Unless otherwise noted all photographs were taken by the author in 2011.



Figure 55. Lookout Mountain Battlefield map - NPS.

The Site

The Cravens House is situated on Lookout Mountain in southeastern Tennessee, just outside the city of Chattanooga and just north of the Georgia border. The house is part of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, the majority of which is located in northern Georgia.



Figure 56. Access road leading up to the Cravens House.

The house sits on a terraced lot on the northeastern face of Lookout Mountain. While the yard is relatively level, approximately twenty-five feet east of the house is a steep drop to the road below, known as Cravens Terrace. A small asphalt access road south of the house brings visitors from Cravens Terrace to the main parking lot located approximately sixty-seven feet west of the house. Hiking trails continue up Lookout Mountain from the access road. A second, smaller parking lot is off-site, situated northeast of the house on Cravens Terrace Road. Stone steps lead from this parking lot up the hill to the northeast corner of the Cravens House site.



Figure 57. New York Monument and other historical markers. The former caretaker's residence is visible in the right background.

Near the house are three tall columned monuments constructed between 1899 and 1917. At about the same elevation, to the south is a monument to Ohio troops, and to the north is a monument to New York troops. Downhill to the east across Cravens Terrace is the Iowa monument. The Cravens House and the New York monument are clearly visible from the city sectors to the east at the base of Lookout Mountain. The Ohio and Iowa monuments are sufficiently large enough to be clearly visible, too, but trees currently obscure their visibility. Additional stone monuments, historical markers, and Civil War cannon dot the site.



Figure 58. East side of house with drop-off to Cravens Terrace Road below.

The Cravens House site, which has slight undulations in grade, exists on roughly two terraced levels; the west terrace is slightly below the first-floor level of the house and the east yard is at basement level. A dry-stacked fieldstone retaining wall extends north from the northeast corner of the basement foundation wall and tapers to grade about fifty feet north of the house. The landscape is mostly grassy and dotted with deciduous trees. There are some natural rock outcroppings.

Adjacent to the east side of the main parking lot is a stone apron, roughly forty feet by ten feet, made of Crabapple Orchard sandstone. It was probably installed in the 1960s during installation of the parking lot. A 3'-4" wide basket-weave patterned brick walk connects the sandstone area to the front porch of the house. APTA records indicate this walk was installed in 1968. Flanking the brick walk is a gravel-filled French drain, approximately 1'-8" wide, that extends the full length of the house; it is edged with a soldier course of brick.

An 1861 Crabapple Orchard stone building, the dairy, is located approximately twenty-five feet



Figure 59. Cravens House site viewed from the northwest.

south of the house. A late-nineteenth century artist's sketch and several photographs indicate that the house and dairy were connected; during the 1950s restoration the single-story section connecting to the dairy and other appendages were demolished. Today, the dairy has a shed-roofed porch on the north side. Two sets of exterior stone steps connect the west or upper terrace between the house and dairy to the basements of each structure. The north stair descends south-to-north to the house basement. It was built during the APTA's 1956-57 restoration. The south stair descends north-to-south down to the entrance of the dairy basement. A low dry-stacked stone wall along the north side of the access road, connecting to the southwest corner of the dairy, and another stone retaining wall, along the eastern edge of the yard, help to delineate the property around the house and dairy.



Figure 60. West elevation of the House.

The Building's Exterior Organization & Characteristics

This house is in some ways the Third Cravens House. The second was built atop part of the original stone foundation immediately after the Civil War. It then was greatly modified in the 1956-57 restoration to an idealized design that apparently had not existed previously.

The house has a rectangular footprint measuring approximately seventeen feet by fifty-eight feet. The long front elevation faces west-southwest towards the parking lot and the hiking trails beyond, while the back of the house faces the valley and has views down the mountain to Chattanooga below. For the purposes of this report, the front or main elevation is referred to as the west elevation.

The house is a two-story wood frame structure with board siding on top of a single-story fieldstone masonry basement and foundation. The current north basement wall, the north portion of the west basement wall, and the current south wall of Room 002 are reused foundation walls of the original 1856 house; the other basement/foundation walls were added for construction of the Second Cravens House and portions were modified still later. A cedar-shingled shed-roofed porch, approximately nine feet deep, wraps around the first floor of the house on the east, north, and west sides. The west side porch sits roughly at grade, while the east side porch is a floor level above grade. Modern lattice work runs along the north side of the porch. A cedar-shingled gable roof runs the length of the house; its ridgeline is intersected by two internal stone chimneys.

The east and west elevations at first floor are clad in random-width horizontal flush siding. The north, south, and all of the second-floor elevations are clad in weatherboard with five-inch exposure. All four corners of the building are delineated with a pair of unadorned plank corner boards.

The house is one room deep and has an asymmetrical seven-bay front (west) façade consisting of four windows and three doors at ground level. Seven windows on the second story are stacked above the first-floor openings. The east elevation has six openings, three windows and three doors at first floor, with six window openings stacked above at second floor. Below the east side of the porch, where the grade drops, are four door openings that provide access to the basement rooms. The northernmost opening has



Figure 61. Northeast oblique of house.

an inoperable fixed panel. At the bottom of the exterior stone staircase on the south side of the house there is an additional door to the basement.

At first-floor level the south elevation has one doorway, roughly centered in the wall, with a modern shed roof over a stone stoop measuring approximately two-and-a-half feet deep by four-and-a-half feet wide. At one time, this opening was an interior doorway connecting the south room through a stair tower to a single-story wood-framed structure. This portion of the building was removed during the 1950s restoration, and the opening became a doorway on the newly constructed exterior wall.

The north elevation has no window or door openings.

The first-floor windows are six-over-six light, double-hung sash. The second-floor windows, which sit directly above the porch roof, are six-light sash windows that slide horizontally, the exception being the third window from the north on the west elevation. This window, located above the stairwell, is side-hinged rather than sliding. The exterior doorways have four-panel wood doors with raised panels on the exterior sides and flush panels on the interior sides. During the 1950s a great deal of repair work was done on the windows and doors; some appear to have been rebuilt, while others were replaced. (See the following section, *Construction Characteristics, Exterior Features: Doors.*)

The Building's Interior Organization & Characteristics

The narrow two-story frame house is made up of three primary rooms, set side-by-side on both the first and second floors. The basement is similarly divided into three primary rooms with two masonry, as opposed to frame, sub-dividing walls. The southernmost basement room has been further subdivided in recent years into mechanical spaces, a restroom, and a hallway with modern framing. A stairwell, which climbs west to east between the first and second rooms from the north side of the house (Rooms 101 and 103), connects the first and second floors. There is no access between the first floor and basement from within the house.

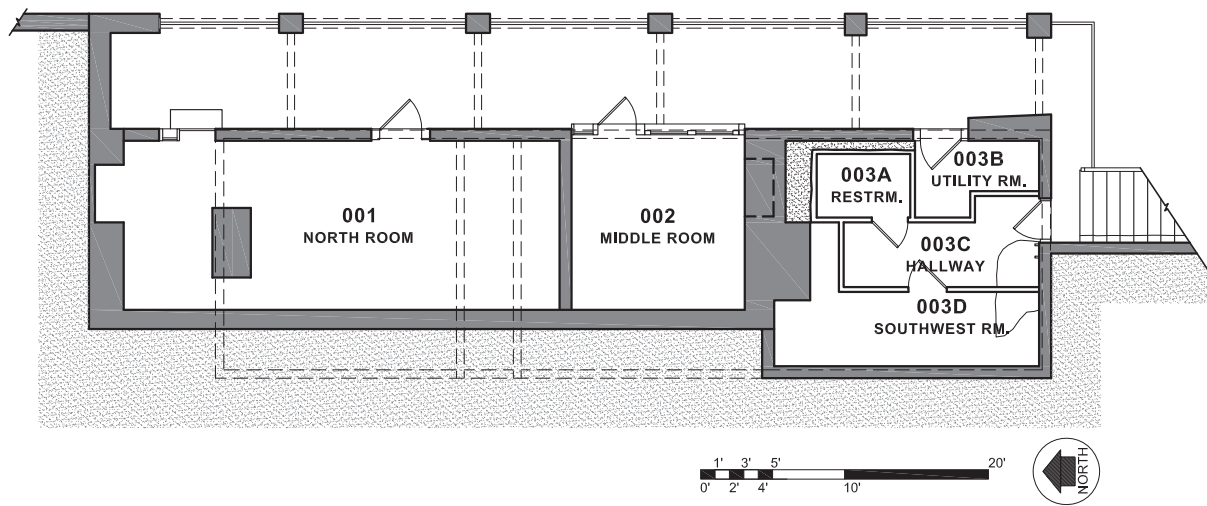


Figure 62. As-found basement plan.

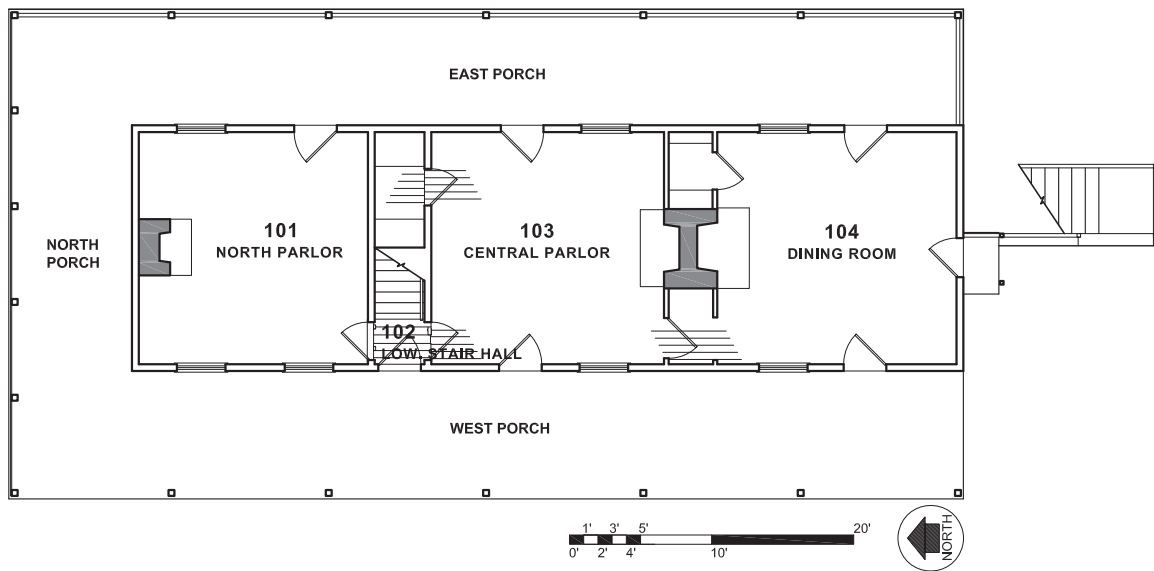


Figure 63. As-found first floor plan.

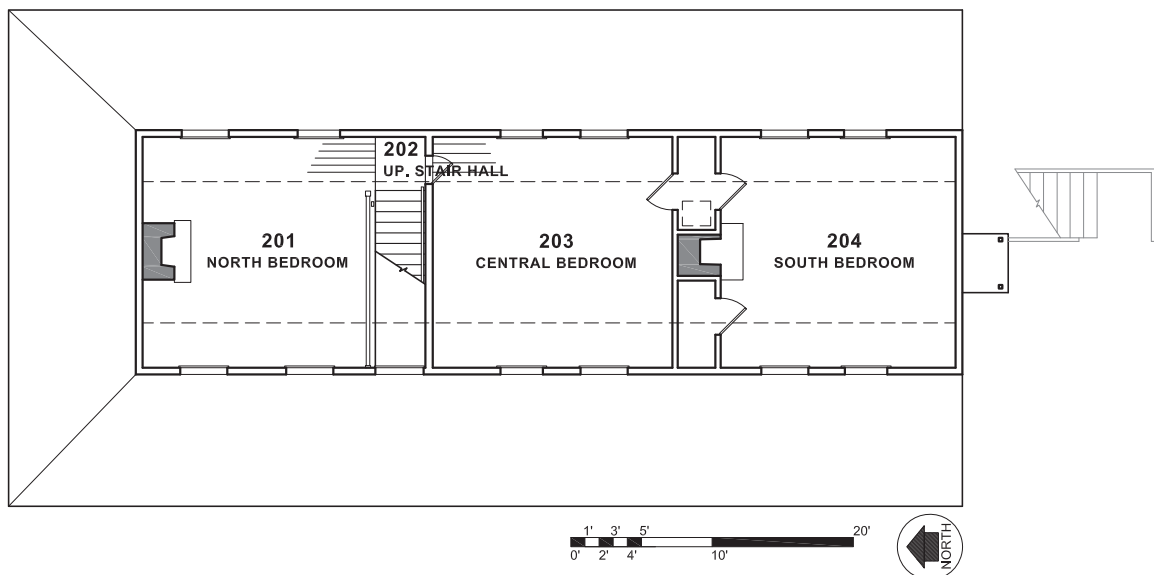


Figure 64. As-found second floor plan.

Although each first-floor room has an exterior entrance, they also are connected on the interior through doorways on the west side of each space. Circulation between rooms on the second floor is through doorways along the east side of each room. Small closets are located between each room on the first floor and between the middle and south room on the second floor. In the basement, each primary room is accessed only through exterior doors.

Construction Characteristics

Structural Systems

The house site is on the east face of Lookout Mountain, the terrain steeply sloped and rising from east to west. The land levels off to a flat narrow strip running north-south, rises steeply again for another eight or so feet whereupon it opens onto a broad flat field. The house is built into this bank between the lower flat narrow strip and the upper broad expanse, allowing at-grade access to two levels.

Foundation/Basement

Beneath the house the bank has been excavated. Within and east of this excavated area are stacked-and-mortared fieldstone foundation walls and piers. The walls are typically 12" thick. The face of a pier varies from 1'-2" to 2'-0".

The foundation footprint is an ell in plan, the long dimension running north-south, the short ell at the south end extending westward into the embankment that encloses the two west sections of foundation walls and most of the north and south perimeter foundation walls. At the east perimeter of the current plan is a single row of stone foundation piers paralleling the basement foundation and supporting a porch above.

The long east row of piers runs the full north-south dimension and opens onto adjoining grassy yards on the east and south ends. The wider west section beyond a foundation wall contains basement rooms.

Parts of the stonework beneath the main house block are reused sections of the original foundation walls of the 1856 House. Aligned north-south in



Figure 65. East porch foundation piers.

its long dimension, now C-shaped in plan, they form the west wall and west sections of both the north and south walls of the long and narrow north portion of the section of basement rooms. Built into this original 1856 stonework are matching fireboxes opposite one another at the original north and south walls. The original 1856 east wall is absent.

The square-like south portion of basement rooms was apparently created when in 1866 the west extension of the north wall and the east, west, and south walls were constructed.

Though major portions of the foundation walls of the original 1856 House remained, the builders of the 1866 House aligned much of the wall framing away from these surviving foundation supports. In the design of the 1866 House, the surviving original north foundation wall of the 1856 House came to support the north end of the north porch; a sill, spanning from the new east foundation wall across the original west foundation wall to a stone, supports the north wall of the new house. The original west wall became intermediate support for joists extending to a wall sill well to the west set on stones and aligned with the new west foundation wall of the south set of basement

rooms. A new south foundation wall provided support for the south wall of the new house. New east walls provided support for the east wall of the new house; piers aligned parallel support the east perimeter of the east porch.



Figure 66. Extension of stone foundation wall north of the House.



Figure 67. Northwest oblique with 1956-57 weatherboard on north wall and 1866 flush siding on west wall.

Exterior Walls

The two levels of finished space above the basement level are constructed of wood framing. The perimeter walls are constructed of 2" by 4" studs set 24" on center (o.c.) toenailed atop a hatched sill measuring 8" tall by 11" wide.

The exterior wall surfaces retain their original horizontal flush siding at the first-floor level of the east and west walls; the original 1866 flush siding of the lower portion of the north wall was replaced with weatherboard siding during the 1956-57 restoration when the north porch was removed (*Figures 41 and 42*).

The second-floor level of east, west, and north elevations have weatherboard siding, presumably early if not original. The entire south elevation, where a late-nineteenth-century stair tower addition once stood, is now covered with weatherboard siding, apparently installed in the 1956-57 restoration, with large portions replaced in the 1990s.

The interior surfaces of the exterior walls have plaster, presumably all on wood lath as can be seen at the attic hatch. Communication during the 1950s stated the original plaster would be retained and patched. The extent of retention is not documented. However, all the plaster has a textured top coat, apparently applied in the 1950s when such a characteristic was popular.

Interior Walls

The interior walls of the first- and second-floor levels are wood stud, covered on both sides with plaster. Inside the attic hatch, riven lath is visible beneath the plaster of the stud walls. Most interior walls vary in depth from 3½" to 4¾", probably a reflection of the reused framing that is exposed throughout the House and Dairy. At the stairwell, the enclosing walls are stouter, measuring 5¾" to 6" in depth, probably due to a sturdier wall framing resting on the two 7" by 8" hatched beams that



Figure 68. Riven lath and salvaged lumber for framing as seen at the ceiling hatch of the South Bedroom (Room 204).

span from east basement wall to the west basement wall and support the stair and its enclosing walls.

In the north end of the basement, modern stud partition walls have been installed to subdivide the space. Some of the wood studs are exposed and others are covered with modern 4' by 8' veneer paneling.

Flooring System

At first-floor level, the original 1866 floor framing is largely in place. Circular-sawn joists measuring 2" by 8" set 24" o.c. run east-west from sill to sill. Each joist has a 2" deep and 5" long notch that bears on the hatched 8" by 11" sill plates. The east wall sill sits on top of the east foundation wall. The sill plate at the west side of the basement is atop the west wall of the south section of the basement; at the north section, the sill sits atop individual stones irregularly spaced along a line 3'-6" west of the inside face of the west wall, the original west wall of the 1856 House. Between each pair of original floor joists is a 1½" by 7½" joist installed in 1956-57. These added joists are notched on their ends in the same manner as the originals.

The 1866 floor joists maintain their spacing through basement Rooms 001 and 002, though they terminate at the south side of the 1866 chimney base in Room 001, aligning with the northern exterior wall of the house above. The masonry crosswall that now divides the original 1856 basement into Room 001 and Room 002 provides no structural support, being placed between two joists.



Figure 69. First-floor joists extend beyond the west foundation wall in Rooms 001 and 002.



Figure 70. Alternating 1866 floor joists and 1956-57 joists.



Figure 71. 1866 2" by 4" wall stud (arrow) and notched 1866 and 1956-57 floor joists at west wall sill, Room 003D.

At the south end of Room 001, running parallel to the joists, are two 7" by 8" hatched, not hewn, beams. These beams align with the stairwell walls above. Another beam at the south side of Room 002, measuring 8" by 8", supports the fireplace hearth in the Central Parlor (Room 103) above. Three circular-sawn 4" by 8" beams run east-west at the north end of Room 003D. One provides support for the hearth of the Dining Room (Room 104) above.

The flooring throughout the first-floor level is random-width face-nailed pine boards that run north-south.

The floor system below the north porch, north of the stone base for the 1866 chimney, is constructed of joists measuring 1¾" by 7¼" and spaced 18" on

center and attached with wire nails. The modern flooring is not back-primed.

At the east porch, 2" by 8" circular-sawn joists spaced 18" o.c. run north-south and bear on girders that run from each stone pier back to the east foundation wall sill. The girders are hatcheted and measure 5½" by 8". The top of each girder has two series of notches each 2" wide by 5" deep to receive the lap joint connection of the joists.



Figure 72. Lap joint of hatcheted girder and joist typical at the east porch.

At the west porch, the floor joists measure 1½" by 7½" and are spaced 16" o.c. The joists run north-south. On all sides, the porch has ¾" thick by 3¼" tongue-and-groove-flooring.

The second-level floor system is inaccessible; therefore, the structural system has not been confirmed in that location. However, it appears to match dimensionally the first-level floor system which has 2" by 8" joists that run east-west and are spaced 24" o.c.

Roofing System

The second-floor ceiling joists exposed at attic level are circular-sawn, measuring 2" by 7". They run east-west spanning the exterior walls and are spaced 25" on center. The rafters, also circular-sawn, measure 2" by 4" and are spaced 25" on center, a pair of rafters resting atop each joist. The rafters are mitered at the gable. There are no collar ties. The roof deck is made of modern plywood sheets.



Figure 73. Roof rafters (1866) and modern plywood decking.

Utility Systems

Mechanical System

There is no evidence of a mechanical system having been installed in this house. Passive cooling was primarily achieved by using operable sash windows, aligned along the east and west sides of the house.

The wood-burning fireplaces, three on the first floor and two on second floor, provided heat for the house. A 1946 report stated that the house had coal burning stoves, though no locations were indicated. However, the 1956 pre-restoration drawings indicate two added fire openings in the south chimney for venting a stove flue from both the South Bedroom (Room 204) and the Central Bedroom (Room 203).

Electrical System

Electrical service is provided by Chattanooga Electric Power Board. A 200-amperage electrical fuse box is located on the east wall of Room 003B in the basement. An installation date is not indicated. Cloth-wrapped 1950s-era wiring is visible in various locations throughout the house.



Figure 74. Electrical panel in the Utility Room (Room 003B).



Figure 75. Light box above basement-level doorways.

On the interior at first-floor level are porcelain lampholders in the closets. At first- and second-floor levels the outlet covers and switch plates are

made of molded plastic. At basement level, the Restroom (Room 003A) and the Utility Room (Room 003B) have a fluorescent light fixture and the Hallway (Room 003C) has a recessed incandescent ceiling light fixture; these rooms have chrome-plated switch plates.

On the exterior at basement level along the east elevation is a porcelain light fixture mounted inside a wooden box above each doorway.

Plumbing System

There is one restroom which is located in the basement. Renovated in 1981, it has a lavatory and a toilet. The house has a septic system.

A dry-pipe fire suppression system was installed in the mid-1990s. The water pump for the system is located in the Utility Room (Room 003B). A heater was installed in 2001 after the water pump froze and burst. Smoke detectors and sprinkler heads are located in each room of the house.

The water main is located approximately twenty-five feet from the southwest corner of the house. Water is provided by the city.



Figure 76. Water pump for the fire suppression system in the Utility Room (Room 003B).

Exterior Features

Roofs & Rainwater Collection/ Dispersal

The random-width split-shingle cedar roofing was installed by the National Park Service in 1993. The shingles on the main roof and the porch roofs measure 16" in length, with a 5½" exposure. There is a comb ridge with its exposure to the west. The roofs were re-sheathed with ¾" plywood and 30-pound felt and re-flashed when reroofed. There are numerous missing shingles. Many that remain are split, cupped, or out of position. The roofing system is in failure.

The small shed roof over the south entrance has the same random-width cedar shingles as the main house roof. Flashing installed at the connection of roof to house is atop the weatherboard as opposed to extending under the weatherboard (*Figure 78*).

There are no roof gutters or downspouts. Their absence is a major contributing factor to two



Figure 77. Failing shingles of the main roof.



Figure 78. Flashing of south elevation shed roof attached to exterior of weatherboard.

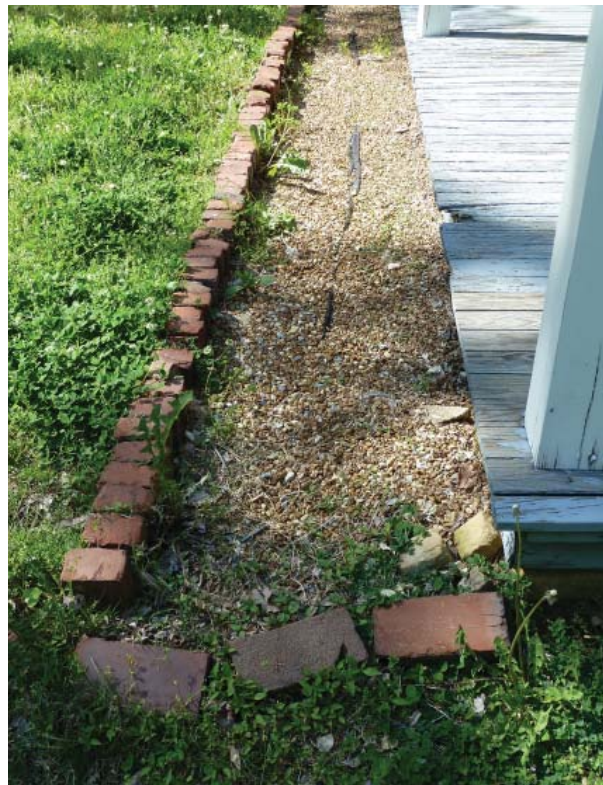


Figure 79. French drain along the West Porch.

serious failures in the collecting of rainwater from the building exterior and dispersing offsite.

One failure is at the second-floor windows of the long east and west elevations. The windows are set just above the porch roofs and are regularly saturated from the splash of runoff from the upper roof.

The second failure occurs along the masonry walls of the basement perimeter, especially at the north end of the west wall. Rain runoff falls around the base of the house and seeps into the basement through the stone foundation walls. Additional runoff comes from the parking area to the west, which is at a slightly higher elevation. A French drain was installed, probably during the 1950s restoration, along the eave line of the west porch to divert runoff away from the house; unfortunately, it had only moderate success. Attempts were made in the 1990s and 2000s to expand the drain, and in addition a dry well was dug approximately fifteen feet north-northwest of the house. A pipe was run from the French drain to the dry well. Although some improvement was reported, water infiltration through the basement walls remains a major problem.

Chimneys

The house has two stone chimneys, both centered on the roof ridge. Both are internal to the building. One is just inside the north exterior end; the other is slightly south of the center of the house. They were repointed, capped, and re-flashed with aluminum flashing by NPS staff in 2000. Nonetheless, each chimney has remained a point of persistent water infiltration as evidenced by the continuing deterioration of second-floor interior plaster of ceilings and walls in those locations. The subsequent application of a bituminous coating along the chimneys at the roofline likewise has been unsuccessful in stopping the rainwater infiltration.



Figure 80. Central stone chimney.



Figure 81. Typical first-floor double-hung window.



Figure 82. Typical second-floor sliding-sash window.



Figure 83. Two-light sash window at Room 001.

Windows

The first floor has six-over-six-light double-hung wood sash windows on the long east and west elevations. The sash openings measure 3'-5" wide by 6'-7" tall. Metal-frame single-pane storm windows are installed on the interior of each window opening. Most of the wood sash are of nineteenth-century style; some have stylistically similar replacement sash.

Each window opening has a single six-light wood sash. In all openings except one, the sash slide

horizontally inside two interior board tracks, one at the top and the other below, that run continuous along the interior wall surface from the north end wall to the south end wall. The exception to this system is the west-elevation window above the doorway to the stairway; it is hinged on its north jamb with two 2½" three-knuckle ball-pin butt hinges. All these second-floor sash measure 3'-6" wide by 3'-4" tall. These window openings are only slightly elevated above the porch shed roofs and, due to the excessive runoff splash from the upper roof, leak regularly. In 2008, in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the leaks, a plexiglass panel was placed outside each window and secured with unfinished 1" by 1" wood strips.

There are two window types in the basement level. All are on the east exterior wall. The northernmost window opening holds a 12"-wide twentieth-century two-light sash. Another window to the north of the middle door has a two-light sash of same design, but measuring 1'-2½" in width. On the south side of the middle door are two four-light sash windows that are paired. They each measure 2'-8" wide (*Figure 86*).

Doors

All of the exterior doors of the house are of the same style, consistent with designs of the 1860s, though not all are early. Some of the doors are reproductions of the original design, constructed during the 1956-57 restoration. They are four-panel doors with raised panels on the exterior sides and flush panels on the interiors (*Appendix A: Drawing 5*).

On the first floor are three doors on each of the east and west elevations; they measure 3'-0" wide by 6'-8" tall by 1¼" thick. Several of these doors have been at least partially rebuilt. The exterior casing for the exterior doors is constructed of plank boards which measure ⅞" by 5" with lintel cut and a ½" ear overlap at the header. The door sills are 3'-11" wide and 1½" tall at the face with a 1" taper. The top of the sills sit approximately 6" above the porch floor.

All of the first-floor doors on the west elevation have two modern 4" five-knuckle steel butt hinges and steel key escutcheons. The doorknobs are 2¼" diameter white porcelain and appear to be salvaged pieces as some door hardware was reported to be in the APTA records. The northernmost west-



Figure 84. Typical four-panel exterior door.

elevation door to the Lower Stair Hall (Room 102) has a modern, twentieth-century mortise lock, two modern zinc-plated 3¼" barrel bolts, and is missing a 5" barrel bolt. The middle door on the west elevation connecting with the Central Parlor (Room 103) has a mortise lock, a 3½" rim-lock, and a zinc-plated key-operated deadbolt lock manufactured by "Best." The southernmost west-elevation door connecting with the Dining Room (Room 104) has a 5" barrel bolt.

The first-floor doors on the east elevation also have two modern 4" five-knuckle steel butt hinges and steel key escutcheons. They are all missing their doorknobs. They each have a single 5" barrel bolt.

The single four-panel door on the south elevation has been rebuilt with new stiles and rails but has early panels. It measures 2'-9" wide by 6'-2½" tall by 1¼" thick. The exterior casing measures 1¼" by 4" with a plank board at the header; this door casing does not have ears. The sill is 3'-3" wide and 1½" tall at the face with a 1" taper. The top of the sill is approximately 6" above the stone stoop. The south-elevation door also has two modern 4" five-knuckle steel butt hinges and steel key escutcheons as well as a salvaged 2¼" diameter white porcelain doorknob and a 5" barrel bolt.



Figure 85. South doorway to the North Room (Room 001).

There are five exterior doorways at basement level. One doorway is on the south elevation of the building while the other four are on the east elevation. The northernmost doorway on the east elevation is blocked, its door removed (*Figure 83*). The narrow adjacent sidelight of early-twentieth century vintage suggests the doorway was created or modified too at that time. The 1956 pre-restoration drawing shows the doorway leading to a staircase that rose to the west up to the north porch (*Figure 40*). The next doorway to the south leads to the North Room (Room 001) which was part of the northernmost basement room of the 1856 House. It has a 3'-0" wide by 6'-3" tall by 1¼" thick reproduction four-panel door matching the typical first-floor original. It apparently dates to the 1956-57 restoration. The exterior casing is made of plank boards that vary in size: the south side measures 1¼" by 5⅝", the north side measures 1¼" by 5⅜", and the top measures 1¼" by 5¼". A staple and chain is mounted to the north door casing. The door jamb is early, assembled with cut nails and measuring ⅞" by 8½" on each side. The door has two 3½" three-knuckle steel butt hinges, a modern mortise lock, and a modern 3½" deadbolt lock manufactured by "Best." Both doorknobs are missing.

The next doorway to the south leads to the Middle Room (Room 002). The entire east wall of this room is a wood-frame twentieth-century assemblage. As evidenced by a 1956 pre-restoration photograph, the doorway was rebuilt during the 1956-57 restoration and the vertical-board door was replaced. The reproduction four-panel door stylistically matching the original doors at first-floor level measures 2'-9" wide by 6'-2" tall by 1¼" thick. The exterior casing is made of plank boards that measure 1½" by 5". The door has two 3½" three-knuckle steel butt hinges and a modern 3½" deadbolt lock manufactured by "Best." The doorknobs are white porcelain.



Figure 86. Windows and door at Room 002.



Figure 87. Entrance to the Utility Room (Room 003C).

The southernmost doorway on the east wall connects to the late-twentieth-century-configured Utility Room (Room 003B). This doorway has a four-panel door that may be early. It measures 3'-0" wide by 6'-4" tall by 1 1/4" thick. The exterior casing is made of plank boards measuring 7/8" by 5 1/2". The door jambs each measure 7/8" by 8 7/8". The door has two 3 1/2" three-knuckle steel butt hinges and a modern 3 1/2" deadbolt lock manufactured by "Best." The doorknobs are missing.

The fifth basement-level doorway is on the south elevation and connects to another late-twentieth-century-configured room, the Hallway (Room 003C). The opening may be the one indicated in the 1956 pre-restoration drawing for a stairs. No door or framing is shown. The current doorway framing and door appear to date to the 1956-57 restoration, perhaps with later repairs. The reproduction four-panel door is 2'-8" wide by 6'-3" tall by 1 1/4" thick. The door frame is made of boards that measure 1 3/4" by 7 1/2" on both sides; there is no exterior door casing. The door sill is raised 2" above exterior grade and is made of poured concrete over stone. The door has modern hardware including two 3 1/2" five-knuckle steel butt hinges, a mortise lock, and 3 1/2" deadbolt lock



Figure 88. Entrance to the Hall (Room 003C).

manufactured by "Best." The doorknobs are 1 3/4" diameter white porcelain.

Porch

Interconnected sections of a single-story shed-roof porch wrap the house on the north, east, and west sides at first-floor level, creating a hipped roof over the north porch. On the west side the porch is 9'-0" deep with its roof supported by seven wooden posts that measure 4 3/8" deep by 4 7/8" wide. The east-elevation porch is 8'-2" deep with posts measuring 4" wide by 5" deep. Wood railings run between these posts. On this side, the porch is raised a story above grade and rests on five stone piers below.

The roof, posts, and north-elevation latticework of the north porch was built new in 1974. The previous covered porch in that location was removed during the 1956-57 restoration and replaced with an open porch deck. The north porch is 8'-8" deep with full-height lattice across the north elevation. The current lattice is a replacement installed in 2009.

The flooring of all three porches is constructed of 3/4" by 3 1/4" tongue-and-groove boards that run perpendicular to the length of the exterior walls



Figure 89. Porch on west elevation.



Figure 90. North Porch with panoramic view to the east.

of the House. The floorboards are mitered where adjoining porches meet. 1" quarter-round shoe molding edges the floorboards at the walls. The porch has a skirt board that is $\frac{7}{8}$ " by $5\frac{1}{2}$ " tall.

The roofs of the porches have 2" by 4" rafters spaced 30" on center. The 1" thick modern roof deck boards have chatter marks and are random widths, measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ ", 7", $9\frac{1}{4}$ ", and $9\frac{1}{2}$ ". The rafters rest on 5" by 6" beams that span the wooden porch posts.

Side Entrance Porch

The small side-entrance porch on the south elevation was installed during the 1956-57 restoration when the exterior stair tower was removed. The porch roof provides cover above the doorway and landing. The stone stoop is 3" thick and measures 2'-4" deep by approximately 4'-4" wide. It rests on a modern mortared stone foundation. The shed roof is supported by two $3\frac{5}{8}$ " by $3\frac{5}{8}$ " wooden posts with a $3\frac{5}{8}$ " cross beam. The roof rafters measure $1\frac{5}{8}$ " by $3\frac{5}{8}$ " and are spaced 20" on center. The deck boards range in width from 5" to $5\frac{1}{2}$ " and are $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick. The pitch of the shed roof matches that of the other porches.



Figure 91. Side Entrance Porch on south elevation.

Stone Steps

Photographs and drawings prepared just prior to the 1956-57 restoration show a large stone staircase south of the east porch, ascending south to north to the south end of the porch from the lower yard. It appears that the stone steps from the staircase shown in the 1950s-era documents were used to construct a new staircase now reoriented in the opposite direction and located just west of the previous location. This staircase ascends north to



Figure 92. Yard between the House and Dairy.



Figure 93. East elevation of stairs from basement to yard between the House and Dairy.



Figure 94. Reused original steps with 6" infill stones on the interior (west) side.

south from the lower yard to the terrace between House and Dairy. The steps are 4" to 5" thick slab stones measuring 1'-0" deep by 4'-0" wide. A 6"-wide stone filler added to the west side of each step creates a staircase width of 4'-6". Mortared fieldstone retaining walls support these steps and also run along the west side of the staircase to retain the upper terrace. A second stone staircase, just south of the reassembled stair, descends north-to-south from the upper terrace down to the lower level, abutting the stone Dairy and ending at its east entrance.

The top of the stone retaining wall sits flush with the two stair landings. Atop the wall is a coping consisting of a single course of modern pressed brick.

The steps of the second staircase are also made of single blocks of quarried stone. These steps measure 3'-6" in width. A wooden railing is on the east side of the steps.

A small set of stone steps is located at basement level of the House beneath the east porch. Two stone steps access the northernmost doorway, now blocked, on the east foundation wall. The base of this former doorway is 1'-6½" above grade. The bottom step is 3'-7" wide and the top step is 2'-4" wide. The wood balustrades along all stone steps and walls were replaced in 1992-93.

Description by Room

Room 001: North Room

The largest of the basement rooms, it measures approximately 30'-3" by 11'9" with a room height of 7'-0" from the top of brick floor to bottom of floor framing overhead. The north and west walls that partially enclose this room appear to be the foundation walls of the original 1856 Cravens House. The south and east walls were built later, perhaps in 1866 as indicated by the butt joints that separate these walls from the original masonry construction. The remnants of the large firebox on the north wall (without chimney) indicate this was an occupied space in the original 1856 Cravens House. The room's early use as a basement room



Figure 95. Northeast oblique view of the North Room (Room 001).

for this, the Second Cravens House, is not known. Today, this space is an unfinished basement room and is not used except for occasional storage. The lack of use is due in part to the apparently frequent flooding from moisture infiltration through the stonework of the west wall, primarily, and some through the north wall. The only access to this room is through the exterior doorway on the east wall.

Flooring

The finish floor is made of dry-laid brick in a basketweave pattern. A 1946 account identifies a dirt floor in this room. The current brick floor apparently was installed during the 1956-57 APTA restoration. The bricks appear to be salvaged; they may be part of the brick flooring reportedly installed at “first-floor lower level” according to the Cravens House Restoration Report written in 1972.

Baseboards

There are no baseboards.

Walls

The four perimeter walls are constructed of mortared fieldstone. The north and west walls are part of the foundation walls of the 1856 house but they are not aligned with the exterior walls of the 1866 house. The east wall is part of the east foundation wall of the 1866 house. The south wall was added at some unknown date and has no structural function.

There is a great deal of dampness in the bottom two-and-a-half feet of the west wall and intermittently in the north wall due to water infiltration.



Figure 96. Southwest oblique of Room 001 showing moisture problem on west wall.

Ceiling

For the most part, there is no applied ceiling material. Instead, the circular-sawn exposed first-floor joists and underside of flooring constitute the room’s “ceiling.” On the east side of the fireplace foundation, three salvaged boards have been nailed to the underside of the joists, their purpose unknown; the boards have a painted finish.

Doorways

There is a reworked exterior door paired with a window opening on the north section of the east foundation wall.

A second exterior doorway is on the south section of the east foundation wall. Both doorways are described in the above section, *Exterior Features: Doors*.

Windows

The only window in the space is a two-light sash window located in the east wall. This window abuts the north doorway and is described in the above section, *Exterior Features: Windows*.

Finishes

The wooden first-floor structure overhead and the fieldstone walls are unfinished.

Electrical System

Two modern porcelain-based light fixtures with vinyl-clad Romex wiring are surface-mounted to the overhead wood floor framing. A molded plastic plate cover is mounted over a light switch on the ceiling, just above the south doorway.

Fireplace

On the north wall, approximately 1’-8” from the east wall, is an abandoned stone fireplace with a firebox measuring approximately 4’-0” wide by 2’-0” deep. The fireplace has a lintel made of a single piece of stone that spans the width of the opening.

Chimney Base

Approximately eight feet from the north wall and three feet from the west wall is a stone pier that supports the north chimney. It measures 2’-8” by 4’-10”.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A sprinkler head, smoke detector, and sprinkler pipe lines for a fire suppression system are installed below the first-floor structural elements.



Figure 97. Northeast oblique of firebox in Room 006. Note porch joists extend across the east foundation wall.



Figure 98. Fireplace on north exterior wall of the 1856 House, now North Room (Room 001).

Fireplace Mantel

A modern fireplace mantel is stored in this room. It is not associated with the house.



Figure 99. Stored fireplace mantel, North Room (Room 001).



Figure 100. Southwest oblique of the Middle Room (Room 002).

Room 002: Middle Room

This room measures approximately 12'-0" by 12'-2" and has a room height of 6'-10" from the top of finish floor to bottom of floor framing overhead. The original room function is unknown. Today the room is used for storage. The only access to this room is through the exterior doorway on the east wall.

Flooring

The floor is made of flagstone laid in a mortar bed. The date of installation is not known.

Baseboards

There are no baseboards.

Walls

The west and south walls are part of the foundation of the original 1856 Cravens House. The east wall is part of the east foundation wall for the 1866

house. The north wall is not structural and the date of its installation is not known. All the walls have an applied plaster finish. Previous uses of this room are unknown, though the plaster wall finishes suggest more than a basic room function.

On the south wall approximately 1'-6" from the east wall, a fireplace, apparently dating to the original 1856 Cravens House and mirroring the one on the north wall of Room 001, has been filled with rubble stone and plastered over. The large stone firebox lintel, approximately 4' wide, is visible in the wall stonework. The outline of the firebox can be further discerned from cracks in the plaster along the edges between wall masonry and infill material.

Ceiling

There is no applied ceiling material. Instead, the circular-sawn exposed first-floor joists and underside of flooring constitute the room's "ceiling."



Figure 101. Northeast oblique of the Middle Room (Room 002).



Figure 102. Filled-in fireplace on south wall of the Middle Room (Room 002), originally the south exterior wall of the 1856 House. Note the large stone lintel.

Doorways

There is one doorway on the east wall connecting to the outside. This doorway is described in the above section, *Exterior Features: Doors*.

Windows

The grouped windows and door span the entire width of the room and sit atop the east stone wall. The windows are described in the above section, *Exterior Features: Windows*.

Finishes

The wooden ceiling elements are unfinished. The stone walls are coated in a brown coat of plaster, which is deteriorating in places.

Electrical System

There is a four-foot-long two-bulb florescent light fixture surface-mounted to the overhead framing. The light switch has a molded plastic plate cover.

Fireplace

An infilled fireplace on the south wall is discussed in the above section, *Walls*.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A sprinkler head, smoke detector, and sprinkler pipe lines for a fire suppression system are installed below the first-floor structural elements.

Room 003A: Restroom

The large area identified as Room 003 is south of and outside the foundation walls of the 1856 house. How it was initially used is not known. The APTA pre-restoration drawings of 1956 show it as one large space. Also shown is an exterior doorway on the east elevation, where currently there is one, and stairs to the south leading to the first floor interior of the Connector, removed in 1956-57. When Room 003 was subdivided is not known.

The small restroom of 003A was remodeled in 1981. The room measures just 4'-5" by 6'-6" with a ceiling height of 6'-6" and has a toilet and a molded plastic utility sink.

Flooring

The flooring material is 12" by 12" vinyl tile.

Baseboards

The baseboard is modern clamshell trim that is 2¼" tall.



Figure 103. Northeast oblique of the Restroom (Room 003A).

Walls

The wood stud walls are finished in 4' by 8' modern wood veneer paneling.

Ceiling

The ceiling is finished in modern fiberboard tiles over plywood. They measure 12" square.

Doorways

The only door to this room is located on the west wall. It is a modern, hollow-core, flush-panel door that measures 2'-6" wide by 6'-1½" tall by 1¼" thick. It has a brass-plated mortise lock and two brass-plated 3½" five-knuckle hinges. It is cased on both sides with the same 2¼" clamshell trim as used for baseboards.

Windows

There are no windows in this room.

Finishes

The veneer paneled walls and fiberboard ceiling tiles are prefinished.

Electrical System

One modern recessed light fixture with a square plastic cover is located in the ceiling.

Plumbing System

A modern sink and toilet are located on the east wall and are plumbed with pvc pipes. Sprinkler pipes run along the ceiling below the fiberboard tiles.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and sprinkler are present.

Room 003B: Utility Room

This L-shaped room houses the main electrical panel and the water pump for the fire suppression system. It measures approximately 8'-7" by 5'-4" at the largest dimension.

Flooring

The flooring is an unfinished poured-in-place concrete slab. An inscription in the surface dates the installation or replacement to "9-1-97".

Baseboards

There are no baseboards.

Walls

The east and south walls of this room are reworked fieldstone with Portland cement-rich mortar that is gray in color. The west walls, which create the



Figure 104. View of west wall of Utility Room (Room 003B) and the pump for the fire suppression system.

L-shaped space, are modern stud walls with exposed framing. Wood veneer paneling, which faces the opposite room, is mounted to the far side of the studs. The north wall is also a modern stud wall. It is finished with salvaged tongue-and-groove boards that measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $3\frac{1}{4}$ "; the lower half of the boards has been removed for the installation of a hose bib on this wall.

Ceiling

There is no applied ceiling material. Instead, the circular-sawn exposed first-floor joists and underside of flooring constitute the room's "ceiling."

Doorways

There is one doorway on the east wall connecting to the outside. This doorway is described in the above section, *Exterior Features: Doors*.

Windows

There are no windows in this room.

Finishes

The wood structural elements are unfinished. The remaining tongue-and-groove boards on the north wall are painted.



Figure 105. Electrical panel of Utility Room (Room 003B).

Electrical System

A 200 amperage fuse box is mounted to the east wall. Additionally, various other electrical connections, such as a phone line for the security alarm, are mounted next to the fuse box.

A modern porcelain-based light fixture is surface-mounted to the overhead structure. The light switch has a molded plastic plate cover.

Plumbing

A hose bib is located on the north wall. A water pump for the fire suppression system is located next to the west wall.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and sprinklers are present.

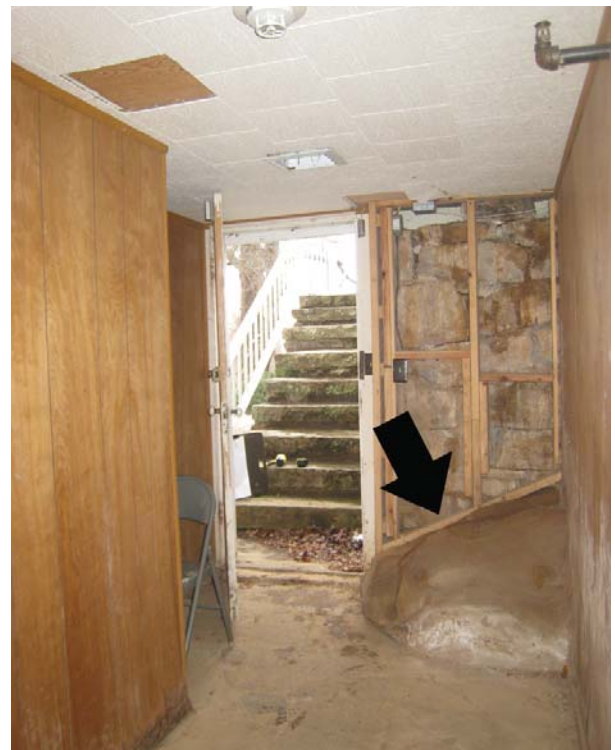


Figure 106. The Hallway (Room 003C) with stone outcropping at the base of the south wall.

Room 003C: Hallway

The basement hallway provides access to the Restroom (Room 003A) and to Room 003D. The modern stud walls were likely constructed at the same time as the 1981 remodeling of the Restroom (Room 003A). The hallway measures approximately 13'-7" by 4'-6" with a ceiling height of 6'-6". The room is accessible only through the exterior entrance on the south wall.

Flooring

The floor is made of flagstone laid in a mortar bed. Interrupting the flagstone at the southwest corner of the room is a natural rock outcropping that extends approximately 2'-4" from the south wall and 3'-0" from the west wall.

Baseboards

The only baseboard is located on the south half of the west wall. It measures 2½" tall by ½" wide.

Walls

All of the wood stud walls are finished in 4' by 8' modern wood veneer paneling except for the south wall west of the doorway. This portion of the wall is unfinished with wood studs applied to the inside face of the fieldstone exterior wall.

Crown Molding

There is 1980s-vintage crown molding in this room on all of the walls except the south wall. The molding measures 1¼" tall by ½" wide.

Ceiling

The ceiling is finished in modern fiberboard tiles over plywood. They measure 12" square.



Figure 107. Northwest oblique of the Hallway (Room 003C).

Doorways

There are three doorways in this room. The exterior doorway is located on the south wall and is described above in *Exterior Features: Doors*.

The doorway on the east wall connects with the Restroom (Room 003A) and is described in the above section, *Room 003A: Restroom*.

The third doorway is located on the west wall and connects with Room 003D. This door matches the door on the east wall leading to the Restroom (003A). It is a modern hollow core door that measures 2'-6" wide by 6'-1½" tall by 1¼" thick. It has a brass-plated mortise lock and two brass-plated 3½" five-knuckle hinges. It is cased on the east side with modern 2¼" clamshell trim.

Windows

There are no windows in this space.

Finishes

The veneer paneled walls and fiberboard ceiling tiles are prefinished.

Electrical System

Two modern recessed light fixtures with square plastic covers are located in the ceiling. The light switch has a molded plastic plate cover. Vinyl-clad Romex wiring is visible in this room.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and a side-wall sprinkler head are present.

Stone Outcropping

A stone outcropping is at the south end of the room just west of the doorway and extends westward into the Southwest Room (Room 003D).

Room 003D: Southwest Room

This unfinished ancillary room is an unoccupied space; it measures approximately 5'-2" by 18'-5" with a room height of 6'-7½" from the top of finish floor to bottom of floor framing overhead.

Flooring

The flagstone flooring of the Hallway (Room 003C) continues into this room. The rock outcropping at the south wall of the Hallway (Room 003C) extends into this room as well at the southeast



Figure 108. North wall of the Southwest Room (Room 003D). The west part (left) dates to 1866. The east part (right) dates to 1856.

corner. Another rock outcropping is visible on the north end of the room on the west side of the stone chimney base.

Baseboards

There are no baseboards in this room.

Walls

The north, south, and west walls are unfinished stone foundation walls, all of which date to the construction in 1866 of the Second Cravens House except for the east half of the north wall which is part of the south exterior wall of the 1856 house. The east wall is made of unfinished modern wood studs. Wood veneer paneling, which faces the opposite room, is mounted to the far side of the studs. At the northeast end of the space is a narrow area that runs along the stone foundation wall for the fireplace above. At the east end the wall is finished with $\frac{1}{4}$ " by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " painted tongue-and-groove boards.

Ceiling

There is no applied ceiling material. Instead, the circular-sawn exposed first-floor joists and underside of floor framing constitute the room's "ceiling."

Doorways

The only entrance is through the doorway on the east wall. The door is described in the above section, *Room 003C: Hallway*.

Windows

There are no windows in this space.

Finishes

The wood structural elements are unfinished. The tongue-and-groove boards that form the small section of the east wall are painted.

Electrical System

There is a four-foot-long two-bulb florescent light fixture surface-mounted to the overhead structure. An electrical outlet on the east wall has a chrome-plated cover.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A sprinkler head and sprinkler pipe lines for a fire suppression system are installed below the first-floor structural elements.

Stone Outcropping

The stone of the Hallway (Room 003C) extends into this room along the south wall (*Appendix A Drawing 1*).

Room 101: North Parlor

The smallest of the first-floor rooms, it measures 16'-4" deep by 16'-2" wide and has a floor-to-ceiling height of 9'-4". This room has a direct connection to the exterior only by way of the rear (east) porch through a doorway on the east elevation. Though the room's original use is not



Figure 109. Northwest oblique of the North Parlor (Room 101).

known, it is now interpreted as a parlor. With no direct entrance from the front and its interior entrance off a narrow, very private stairway connecting to the private rooms at second floor, this room probably had a restricted use originally.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south extending through the adjacent Lower Stair Hall (Room 102) and closet of the Central Parlor (Room 103). The boards are random widths, measuring 5¼", 6" and 7".

Baseboards

Plank baseboards that measure 6" tall are installed in this room.

Walls

The walls throughout the first and second floors of the house are wood studs finished in textured plaster; the plaster finish coat, at least, probably dates to the 1956-57 restoration. Water damage is visible on the east wall over the exterior doorway.

Ceiling

The ceilings throughout the first and second floors of the house are the same textured plaster as the walls; the plaster finish coat, at least, probably dates to the 1950s restoration. A great deal of water damage is visible on the ceiling over each exterior opening on the east and west walls.

Doorways

There are two doorways in this room. The exterior doorway is located on the east wall connecting to the back porch. The interior plank board casing around the doorway measures 1¼" by 4¼" with ½" ear overlaps. The door and hardware is described above in *Exterior Features: Doors*.

The other doorway is on the west section of the south wall and connects to the Stair Hall. The doorway has a reproduction four-panel door measuring 2'-8" wide by 6'-7¼" tall by 1¼" thick. The panels are flush on the side facing this Parlor, and raised on the door face of the Stair Hall (Room 102). The door casing is ¾" by 4⅜"; the east side casing has a ¼" ear while the west side casing abuts the wall and is therefore without an ear. The door has two modern three-knuckle hinges, a mortise lock, and 2¼" diameter salvaged white porcelain doorknobs.

Windows

There are three six-over-six-light sash windows in this room. Both sash of window on the east wall and the south window on the west wall appear to be early if not original. The north window on the west wall has an early upper sash but what appears to be a new or reproduction bottom sash. The casing on all of the windows is made of 5¼" plank boards with ½" ear overlaps at the top.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. In addition to two standard outlets, there is a 220 volt outlet on the north wall probably installed for a resistance heater. All of the outlets are oriented horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.



Figure 110. Southeast oblique of the North Parlor (Room 101).



Figure 111. Fireplace in the North Parlor (Room 101).

Fireplace

At the north wall, extending into the room 2'-2", is a stone fireplace and chimney breast. There is a stone hearth measuring 1'-6" deep by 3'-11½" wide, with a 2⅜" wide wood trim board notched into the flooring. The wood-burning firebox retains its original sandstone reset with Portland cement-rich mortar probably dating to the 1956-57 restoration. The firebox opening measures 2'-1" wide by 2'-2" tall and 9" deep. The back panel is 1'-11" wide. The wood mantel is stylistically consistent with the 1866 construction date and matches the design of the mantel which appears in the 1956 pre-construction photograph in the park files. However, wire nails are visible, perhaps the result of later repairs. The mantel shelf, which wraps the chimney breast on three sides, is 3'-10" above the floor.

Smoke Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and sprinkler pipe for a fire suppression system are installed along the top of the south wall.

Security System

Also on the south wall are two motion detectors for the security system.

Room 102: Lower Stair Hall

This narrow passageway, located between the two parlors of the first floor, is only large enough to contain the staircase that provides access to the second-floor bedrooms. It also has a direct connection to the front porch through a doorway on the west elevation. It measures 3'-6" wide.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south. The boards have random widths of 5¾", 6" and 7". The flooring is continuous with that of the adjacent North Parlor (Room 101). The flooring ends at the south wall, the seam being visible at the south doorway, which has no threshold. There is a Dutchman patch in the flooring at the south doorway typical of patches where once a wall stud had been or at least intended. Whether a wall actually existed here at one time instead of a doorway is not known. At the north doorway there is a threshold 5⅝" wide by ¾" tall. The threshold partially covers two patched stud pockets. Like at the north doorway, it is unknown whether or not a wall actually existed

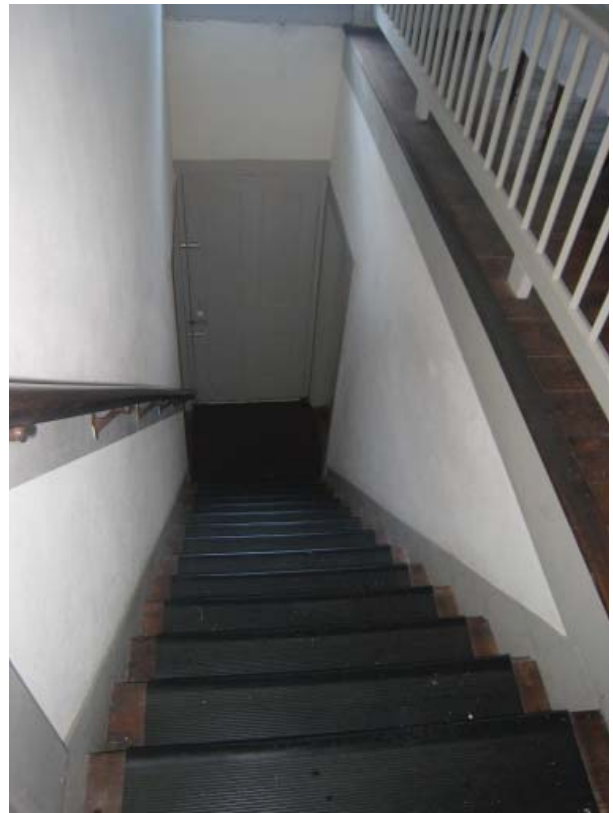


Figure 112. West wall and exterior doorway of the Lower Stair Hall (Room 102).



Figure 113. Seam in flooring at the south doorway. Note the patch possibly for a wall stud.

here instead of the current doorway (*Appendix A Drawing 2*).

Baseboards

There are no baseboards in this space.

Walls

As is typical throughout, the walls are wood studs finished with textured plaster; the plaster finish coat, at least, probably dates to the 1956-57 restoration.

Ceiling

The ceiling is described in the section below, *Room 202, Upper Stair Hall*.

Doorways

There are three doorways in this room. The exterior doorway is on the west wall, fitting tightly between the north and south walls. The interior plank board casing around the doorway has been cut down to fit against the walls. The header is full size, measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{4}$ "; it does not have ear overlaps. The door and hardware is described above in *Exterior Features: Doors*.

The north doorway that connects to Room 101 has a reproduction four-panel door that is described above in *Room 101: North Parlor*. The casing inside the Stair Hall, which appears new, is made of various sizes of wood planks. The east side measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{3}{8}$ ", the west side measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $3\frac{1}{2}$ ", and the header measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".

The four-panel door on the south wall is a reproduction measuring 2'-8" wide by 6'-8" tall by $1\frac{1}{4}$ " thick. The raised panel side of the door faces into the Stair Hall and the flush panel side faces Room 103. The doorway has wood plank casing of various sizes. The east side casing is new and measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{3}{8}$ ", the west side casing is early and measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $3\frac{1}{2}$ ", and the header is early, measuring $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ ". The door has two modern $5\frac{1}{2}$ " five-knuckle hinges, a mortise lock, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter salvaged doorknobs. The knob on the Stair Hall side is brown mineral, and on the Room 103 side is white porcelain. The door also has scar marks from old hinges.

Windows

There are no windows in this room.

Finishes

The pine flooring and steps are varnished. The walls and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures or electrical outlets in this space.

Staircase

Staircase: The staircase spans the width of the room and has twelve steps up to the second floor. The varnished wood treads are $9\frac{1}{2}$ " deep and the risers are $7\frac{3}{4}$ " tall. The square cut stringer appears

to be early. On the south side of the stair, a 2" wide twentieth-century handrail is supported by metal brackets that are mounted to a wood board measuring $\frac{5}{8}$ " by $4\frac{1}{8}$ ".



Figure 114. Staircase in Room 102.

Room 103: Central Parlor

This space, located in the center of the house, probably would have been used as the main entrance and the public parlor. It is large, measuring 16'-4" deep by 16'-4" wide and has a floor-to-ceiling height of 9'-4". There is a closet, which can be accessed through a doorway on the north wall. There are two exterior doorways into this room from the porches, one on the east side and one on the west.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south. They are random widths, measuring $5\frac{3}{4}$ ", 6" and 7".

Baseboards

Plank baseboards that measure 6" tall are installed on the north and south walls of this room. On the east and west walls the baseboards measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " tall.



Figure 115. Southeast oblique of the Central Parlor (Room 103).



Figure 116. Northwest oblique of the Central Parlor (Room 103).

Walls

As is typical throughout, the walls are wood studs finished with textured plaster; the plaster finish coat, at least, probably dates to the 1950s restoration.

Ceiling

The ceiling has the same 1950s textured plaster as the walls. A great deal of water damage is visible on the ceiling over each exterior opening on the east and west walls.

Doorways

There are five doorways in this room. The west doorway on the north wall connecting to the Stair Hall has a reproduction four-panel door that is described above in *Room 102: Lower Stair Hall*. The casing on the Parlor side appears early and is made of various sizes of wood planks. The east side measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{4}$ ", the west side measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 4", and the header measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ ". There are no ear overlaps.

The closet doorway is on the east side of the north wall. The doorway has an early four-panel door, with the raised panel side facing the Parlor; it measures 2'-7" wide by 6'-7" tall by $1\frac{1}{8}$ " thick. The plank board casing on this door is also early. It measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $3\frac{1}{2}$ " with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps. The door has two early five-knuckle 4" steel hinges, an early mortise lock, a 3" hasp, and missing doorknobs.

The exterior doorways are located on the east and west walls. The interior plank board casing around the two doorways measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{4}$ " with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps. The doors and their hardware are described above in *Exterior Features: Doors*.

The doorway on the south wall connects to the Dining Room. The early four-panel door is different from all of the other doors in the house in that it has recessed panels on both sides (*Appendix B Drawing 5* which has the typical four-panel door with raised panels on one door face and recessed panels on the other face). It measures 2'-11 $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide by 6'-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall by $1\frac{3}{8}$ " thick. The casing on the Parlor side is modern. It measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ ". There is only an ear overlap on the south side of the casing. The door has two early 4" five-knuckle hinges, a mortise lock, and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " white porcelain doorknobs on each side.

Windows

There are two six-over-six-light sash windows in this room. The two window sash on the east wall appear to be early. The window on the west wall has early casing, an early sill, and an early top sash; however, the muntins on the bottom sash appear to have been replaced. The casing on both windows is made of $5\frac{1}{4}$ " plank boards with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps at the top.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. In addition to two standard outlets, there is a 220 volt outlet on the south wall probably installed for a resistance heater. All of the outlets are located horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.



Figure 117. Modified hearth trim board, perhaps reused from the 1856 house, indicates a wider hearth.

Fireplace

A stone fireplace sits nearly flush with the south wall. The stone hearth measures 1'-8" deep by 5'-5" wide; it is made up of two sections of cut sandstone. A 6'-4" long and 2¼" wide trim board is notched into the flooring, its excessive length indicates it was intended for a wider hearth and firebox. To compensate for the discrepancy in lengths, the flooring has been partially infilled on either side of the hearth between the wall and the trim board. The jambs of the wood-burning firebox have been reset using stone set in Portland cement-rich mortar; the rear section has been rebuilt with new stone, probably during the 1956-57 restoration. The firebox measures 3'-4" wide and 2'-5" tall; the splayed jambs recede 1'-11" deep to a back panel 3'-0" wide. The wood mantel appears possibly to be early; constructed with wire nails, the woodwork appears to be crisp with little paint build-up. The mantel shelf is 6'-0" wide and 4'-5" above the floor.

Closet

The closet, as mentioned above, is located behind the north wall of the Parlor and underneath the staircase to the second floor. A fire control panel (Radionix brand) is housed inside the closet. It measures 1'-11" wide by 3'-1" tall by 3" deep. There are unfinished modern shelves on the east wall. The closet also has metal conduit, vinyl-wrapped wire, a utility box, an outlet in the north wall, a security panel, and a sprinkler head in the ceiling. There is a seam in the wood flooring at the



Figure 118. The fire control panel and security panel on the north wall of the stair closet of the Central Parlor (Room 103).

closet doorway, but baseboards run throughout the inside of the closet.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and two sprinkler heads for a fire suppression system are installed along the top of the south wall.

Security System

Also on the south wall are two motion detectors for the security system.

Room 104: Dining Room

The Dining Room is the largest of the first-floor rooms, measuring 16'-4" deep by 16'-10" wide. It has a floor-to-ceiling height of 9'-4". It has a direct connection to the exterior porches through doorways on the west and east elevations, and a connection through a south doorway to the yard between house and dairy. Given the likelihood that the kitchen was located to the south of the house, this room likely always served as the Dining Room. A fireplace is located centrally on the north wall and flanking it to the east is a storage closet. On the west side of the fireplace, stud walls create a small passageway between the Central Parlor and Dining Room.



Figure 119. Southeast oblique of Dining Room (Room 104).



Figure 120. Northwest oblique of Dining Room (Room 104) with 1956-67 era mantel.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south. They are random widths, measuring $5\frac{3}{4}$ ", 6" and 7".

Baseboards

Plank baseboards that measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " tall are installed in this room. The baseboards are continuous around the passageway between the Central Parlor and Dining Room as well.

Walls

As is typical throughout, the walls are wood studs finished with textured plaster; the plaster finish coat, at least, probably dates to the 1950s restoration.

Ceiling

The ceiling has the same 1950s textured plaster as the walls. Severe water damage is visible on the ceiling over the doorway and window on the west wall.

Doorways

The exterior doorways are located on the east, west, and south walls. All appear to be original features. Around the east and west doorways the interior plank board casing measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{4}$ " with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps. The casing around the south doorway measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ " on the sides and $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by 5" on the top. The doors and their hardware are described above in *Exterior Features: Doors*.

The closet doorway is on the north wall, east of the fireplace. It has an early four-panel door that measures $2'-7\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by $6'-7"$ tall by $1\frac{1}{8}$ " thick. The plank board casing on the outside of the door measures $1\frac{1}{8}$ " by $3\frac{3}{8}$ " with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps. On the inside, the casing measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{4}$ " on the west side and $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ " on the east side. The door has two 4" five-knuckle steel hinges, a mortise lock, a metal key escutcheon, a $2\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter porcelain doorknob on the outside, and a metal-plate doorknob on the inside.

Also on the north wall, west of the fireplace, is a cased opening that leads to the passageway between the Central Parlor and Dining Room. The trim around the opening is plank boards (verify dims) with $\frac{1}{4}$ " ear overlaps.

The fifth doorway connects to the Central Parlor through the passageway. The four-panel door is described above in *Room 103: Central Parlor*. The casing on the passageway side of the door is made of modern plank boards. There is no casing on the east side. The west side casing measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by $5\frac{1}{4}$ " and the top casing measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by 3".

Windows

There are two six-over-six-light sash windows in this room. Both window sash on the west wall appear to be early. The window on the east wall has early sash; however, the muntins on the bottom sash appear to have been replaced. The casing on both windows is early and is made of $5\frac{1}{4}$ " plank boards with $\frac{1}{2}$ " ear overlaps at the top.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. In addition to three standard outlets, there is a 220 volt outlet

on the north wall probably installed for a resistance heater. All of the outlets are located horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.

Fireplace

A stone fireplace, which shares a chimney with the fireplace in the Central Parlor (Room 103), sits nearly flush with the north wall. The stone hearth appears to have been broken and repaired; it measures 2'-3" deep by 5'-8" wide. A 5'-10" long and 3" wide hearth trim board is notched into the flooring. The sandstone firebox has been repointed with Portland cement-rich mortar. It measures 3'-4" wide by 2'-5" tall by 1'-5" deep. The splayed jambs recede to an unadorned metal back panel measuring 3'-0" wide by 2'-5" tall. The wood mantel was apparently installed during the 1956-57 restoration; no mantel was present in the 1956 pre-restoration photograph.

Closet

A storage closet is accessed through the doorway on the north wall. The closet has unfinished modern board shelves on the east and west walls. The ceiling height inside the closet is 6'-10". The same 6½" plank baseboards in the Dining Room are continuous in the closet. Plank boards



Figure 121. Storage closet of the Dining Room (Room 104).

measuring 4" are used as crown molding. A 1¼" sprinkler pipe runs vertically through the closet and a sprinkler head is located in the ceiling.

Passageway

The area between the Central Parlor and Dining Room is finished similarly to the closet. It has a low ceiling height of 6'-10" and continuous 6½" plank baseboards. A sprinkler head is located in the ceiling.

Smoke Detectors & Fire Suppression

A smoke detector and two sprinkler heads for a fire suppression system are installed along the top of the north wall.

Security Systems

Also on the north wall are two motion detectors for the security system.

Room 201: North Bedroom

This bedroom is located at the north end of the second floor above the North Parlor (room 101). Its only access is from the south side where an opening in a railing steps down to connect to the landing of the Upper Stair Hall (Room 202). This room measures 16'-4" by 16'-6". At the center of the room the floor-to-ceiling height is 7'-4 ½" tall. This room probably has always served as a bedroom.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south. They are random widths, measuring 5½", 5¾", 6", 6¼", and 6½". At the south side of the room, along the edge of the Stair Hall (Room



Figure 122. Northwest oblique of the North Bedroom (Room 201).



Figure 123. Floor patch for door frame of early board wall.



Figure 124. Northwest Bedroom (Room 201) looking south.

202), a 3½" landing tread with bullnose terminates the flooring.

There is a single Dutchman patch in the flooring at the south end of the room, approximately 4'-7" off of the east wall, adjacent to the stair landing of Room 202. The patch, measuring 1½" by 3½", aligns with a door frame stud for the board wall that is indicated in the 1956 APTA pre-restoration drawing. A row of nail holes and wear marks in the flooring further confirm the presence of the board wall, probably dating to 1866, shown in the drawing.

Baseboards

Plank baseboards measure 7¼" tall and appear to date to 1866.

Walls

As is typical throughout the house, the interior surfaces of the exterior wood stud walls are finished with plaster. Further, the top coat of

plaster has a textured surface strongly suggesting this top coat at least probably dates to the 1956-57 APTA restoration.

Ceiling

The ceiling follows the pitch of the roof and starts 3'-10" above floor height at the east and west walls. It slopes for approximately 3' from both walls and is flat along the center of the room. These plaster ceiling planes have the same 1950s-vintage textured plaster top coat as the walls.

Doorways

There are no doorways in this room. The south side of the room has a railing which physically separates this room from the Stair Hall (Room 202). An opening in the railing allows passage between the two rooms.

Windows

There are four windows in this room, two on the east wall and two on the west, each with a single six-light sash; all sash appear to be early. The window sash slide horizontally along tracks created from wood boards. The boards run continuous along the top and bottom of the east and west wall. Small modern hooks and eyes secure the sash in place.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. In addition to two standard outlets, there is a 220 volt outlet on the north wall. All of the outlets are located horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.

Fireplace

At the north wall, extending into the room 2'-3" is a stone fireplace and chimney breast. There is severe water damage to the chimney breast plaster above the fireplace. The hearth is made of a single stone measuring 1'-2" deep by 4'-4" wide. There is no hearth trim board. The stone firebox has been repointed with modern Portland cement-rich mortar and it appears that the stones of the back of the firebox may have been replaced. The wood mantel probably dates to 1866; it is visible in a 1956 pre-restoration photograph. The shelf is 5'-1" wide and 3'-10½" above the floor.



Figure 125. Fireplace and early mantel on the north wall of the North Bedroom (Room 201).

Railing

The board wall along the south side of the room as indicated in the 1956 APTA pre-restoration drawings was apparently removed in the 1956-57 restoration. A railing, apparently modeled on the one seen in a 1956 photograph of the second-floor entrance to the Stair Tower, was installed where the board wall had been located.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and two sprinkler heads for a fire suppression system are mounted on the ceiling.

Security System

Two motion detectors for the security system are installed at the top of the north wall.

Room 202: Upper Stair Hall

Located between the North Bedroom and the Central Bedroom, the Upper Stair Hall contains a 3'-6" wide staircase connecting the first and second floors and a 3'-9½" deep stair landing at the east exterior wall.

Flooring

The flooring of the stair landing is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south across the width of the Stair Hall. They are random widths, measuring 5½", 5¾", 6¼", and 6½". At the north side of the Stair Hall there is an 8½" tall step up into the North Bedroom. On the south side, at the doorway to the Central Bedroom, there is also an 8½" tall step up with a threshold.



Figure 126. Top landing in Upper Stair Hall (Room 202) looking east.

Baseboards

A 7¼" tall plank baseboard from the North Bedroom runs continuous along the east wall. Since the floor drops down at the stair landing there is an additional board below the baseboard to fill in the gap. Along the north wall a 7¾" skirt board is installed below the landing board of the North Bedroom. A similar plank board is installed below the step on the south wall.

Walls

As is typical throughout the house, the interior surfaces of the exterior wood stud walls are finished with plaster. Further, the top coat of plaster has a textured surface strongly suggesting this top coat at least probably dates to the 1956-57 APTA restoration.

The south wall dividing this room from the Central Bedroom (Room 203) is a stud wall with plaster finish. The textured top coat of plaster, at least, appears to date to the 1956-57 restoration. This stud and plaster wall probably dates to the early-twentieth century as indicated by the design of the door. Behind this wall at the east and west exterior walls are the painted tracks for the windows. A board wall, like the one removed from between the North Bedroom (Room 201) and the Upper Stair Hall (Room 202), was probably in this location previously.

Ceiling

The ceiling runs continuous from the North Bedroom. It has the same 1950s-era textured plaster top coat as the walls.



Figure 127. The doorway off of the Upper Stair Hall (Room 202) connecting to the Central Bedroom (Room 203). Note the door is hung upside down.

Doorways

There is one doorway at the landing of the staircase connecting with the Central Bedroom (Room 203). The east jamb is notched to fit the sloping ceiling and roof rafters. The header is set at an angle to maximize doorway height. The door is hung upside down so that the deep bottom rail could be trimmed to accommodate the steep slope of the header. The door is a four-panel door, with raised panels on both sides, stylistically trimmed in a fashion typical of the early-twentieth century. The top is cut diagonally to fit against the sloping ceiling; it measures 2'-0" wide by 5'-6" tall on the east side and 5'-11" on the west side by 1 1/8" thick. The threshold at the doorway is 7" deep and pillowed at the top. The plank board door casing on the Stair Hall side, which is also cut off at the east corner like the door itself, measures 3/4" by 4 3/8". The door has two early 4" three-knuckle hinges, a 3" wide by 4" tall rim lock with thumb latch on Room 203 side, and a 2 1/4" white porcelain doorknob on Room 202 side.

Windows

There is one six-light sash window on the west wall. Though the wooden tracks for the sliding

windows are continuous through this space, this window is side-hinged rather than sliding.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Staircase

The Stair Hall is open to the North Bedroom; a wood railing that runs east to west divides the two spaces at the top of the north wall. The rest of the staircase is described above in *Room 102: Lower Stair Hall*.

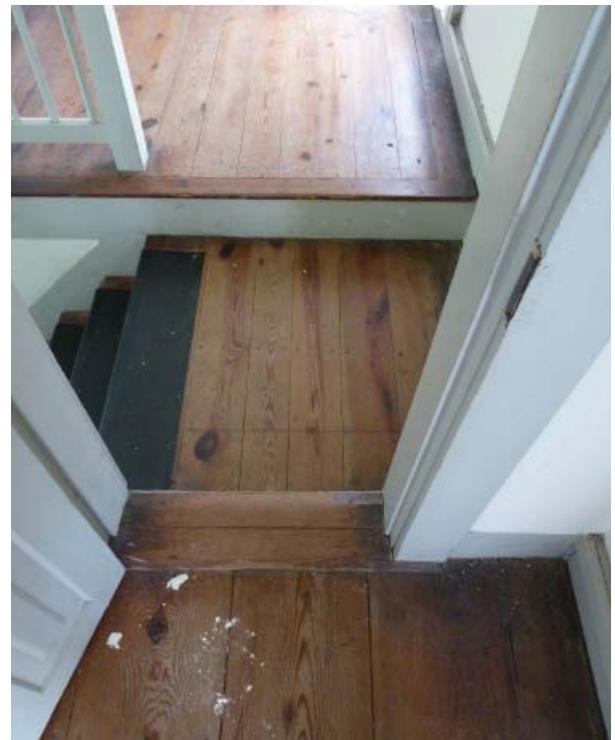


Figure 128. Landing at the top of the staircase as seen from the Central Bedroom (Room 203).



Figure 129. Southwest oblique of the Central Bedroom (Room 203).

Room 203: Central Bedroom

This room is the largest of the second-floor rooms measuring 16'-4" by 17'-0". At the center of the space the floor-to-ceiling height is 7'-4 ½" tall. This room has a direct connection to the Stair Hall on the north and provides the only access to the South Bedroom (Room 204) through an east-side passageway. This room has probably always served as a bedroom.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards of random widths, measuring 8½", 9", 9¼", and 11½". Running north-south the flooring continues through Room 204 to the south wall of the house, just as the flooring spans the two south rooms at first-floor level. Unlike the wood flooring elsewhere in the house, the flooring of Rooms 203 and 204 appear to be salvaged boards with many nicks and gauges. Perhaps the boards were salvaged from the 1856 house.

Baseboards

As in the South Bedroom (Room 204), the plank baseboards are 8" tall and appear to date to 1866.

Walls

As is typical throughout the house, the interior surfaces of the exterior wood stud walls are finished with plaster. Further, the top coat of plaster has a textured surface strongly suggesting this top coat at least probably dates to the 1956-57 APTA restoration.

The north and south walls are made of plaster on wood studs. The north wall may date to the early-twentieth century as discussed in the previous



Figure 130. Looking north in the Central Bedroom (Room 203). Note sloped doorway lintel.

section, *Room 202: Upper Stair Hall*. The south wall with its eared door casing and riven lath suggest an early if not 1866 construction date. Both walls overlap window tracks on the east and west walls, and both walls have 1950s-era textured plaster top coats.

Ceiling

The ceiling follows the pitch of the roof and starts 3'-10" above floor height at the east and west walls. It slopes for approximately 3' from both walls and is flat along the center of the room. It has the same 1950s textured plaster as the walls.

Doorways

There are two doorways in this room. The doorway on the north wall connects directly to the Stair Hall and is described above in *Room 202: Upper Stair Hall*. The door casing inside this room is made of plank boards that measure ¾" by 4½". A keeper is set in the trim of the east side of the doorway.

The other doorway is on the south wall and leads to a passageway into the South Bedroom. This doorway has an early four-panel door with raised panels on Room 203 side. The door measures 2'-7¼" wide by 6'-5½" tall by 1⅛" thick. The casing on Room 203 side is made of plank boards of various sizes. The east side of the casing is cut off due to the sloping ceiling. The east casing measures 1¼" by 2½", the top casing measures 1¼" by 3", and the west casing measures 1¼" by 2¼" and has a ½" ear overlap. The door has two 4"



Figure 131. Rim lock and ring on south door of Central Bedroom (Room 203).

five-knuckle hinges, which are probably original, a 3" wide by 4" tall rim lock with keeper and thumb latch on Room 203 side, and a 2¼" brown mineral doorknob on Room 204 side. Next to the rim lock keeper is a ⅞" diameter ring; its purpose is not known.

Windows

There are four windows in this room, two on the east wall and two on the west. Each window contains a single six-light sash; all sash appear to be early. Each window sash slides horizontally along tracks created from wood boards. The boards run continuous along the top and bottom of the east and west wall. Small modern hooks and eyes secure the sash in place.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. In addition to two standard outlets, there is a 220 volt outlet on the south wall. All of the outlets are located horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and two sprinkler heads for a fire suppression system are mounted to the ceiling.

Security System

Two motion detectors for the security system are installed at the top of the north wall.

Room 204: South Bedroom

This room is accessed through a doorway connecting with the Central Bedroom (Room 203). It measures 16'-4" by 16'-7" and at the center of the space the floor-to-ceiling height is 7'-4 ½" tall. A closet is accessed through a doorway on the north side of the room. The room has probably always served as a bedroom.

Flooring

The flooring is face-nailed pine boards that run north-south through the Central Bedroom (Room 203) to the Upper Stair Hall (Room 202). The boards, which appear to be salvaged, have random widths of 8½", 9", 9¼", and 11½".



Figure 132. View south of the South Bedroom (Room 204).



Figure 133. North wall of the South Bedroom (Room 204).

Baseboards

As in the Central Bedroom (Room 203) the plank baseboards are 8" tall and appear to date to 1866.

Walls

As is typical throughout the house, the interior surfaces of the exterior wood stud walls are finished with plaster. Further, the top coat of plaster has a textured surface strongly suggesting this top coat at least probably dates to the 1956-57 APTA restoration.

The north wall, with its two doorways with eared door casings and its riven lath, suggests an early if not 1866 construction date. The wall does overlap the wood window tracks of the east and west walls and the plaster has the 1950s-era textured plaster top coat.

Ceiling

The ceiling follows the pitch of the roof and starts 3'-10" above floor height at the east and west walls.

It slopes for approximately 3' from both walls and is flat along the center of the room. It has the same 1950s-era textured plaster as the walls.

Doorways

The doorway on the north side of the passageway connecting to the Central Bedroom has an early four-panel door that is discussed above in *Room 203: Central Bedroom*. The casing on the passageway side of the door is made of plank boards. They measure $\frac{7}{8}$ " by 3" on the sides and $\frac{7}{8}$ " by 2" at the top. The casing sits flush with the plaster.

The doorway on the south side of the passageway connecting to the South Bedroom has a new four-panel door that has raised panels on the passageway side and flush panels facing the room; it measures 2'-7½" wide by 6'-6" tall by 1¼" thick. The casing on the passageway side measures 1" by 4" on the sides and 1" by 3" at the top. The casing sits flush with the plaster.

The casing on the South Bedroom side of the door measures 1½" by 3" and there is a ½" ear on the west side. The door has scars for earlier hinges, but currently there are two modern 3½" five-knuckle steel hinges. On the passageway side of the door there is a 2¼" brown mineral doorknob. On the opposite side there is a 3" wide by 4" tall rim lock with a 4" keeper that is decoratively embossed and likely salvaged; the keeper and rim lock do not match.

Another doorway on the west side of the north wall connects to a closet. The four-panel door is modern and has the raised panel side facing the inside of the closet; it measures 2'-7½" wide by 6'-6" tall by 1¼" thick. The casing on the South Bedroom side appears early and measures 1½" by 3" with ½" ear overlaps; it sits flush with the plaster. The casing inside of the closet measures ¾" by 4", also with ½" ear overlaps. The door has two modern 3½" five-knuckle steel hinges, but scars for 4" hinges. On the room side, the door has a 3¼" wide by 3¾" tall rim lock; on the closet face of this door there is a 2¼" diameter brown mineral doorknob.

Windows

There are four windows in this room, two on the east wall and two on the west. Each window has a

single six-light sash; all sash appear to be early. The window sash slide horizontally along tracks created from wood boards. The boards run continuous along the top and bottom of the east and west wall. Small modern hooks and eyes secure the sash in place.

Finishes

The pine flooring is varnished. The plaster walls and ceiling, and all of the wood trim are painted.

Electrical System

There are no light fixtures in this room. There are outlets located in the east, west, and south walls; they are located horizontally in the baseboards and have molded plastic cover plates.

Fireplace

A fireplace sits flush with the north wall. The wall above the fireplace shows water damage to the plaster. The cement slurry-coated hearth has been painted black; it measures 1'-7" deep by 4'-0" wide. The stone firebox, measuring 1'-10" wide by 2'-0" tall by 1'-1" deep, has been repointed with a Portland cement-rich mortar. The wood mantel was apparently installed during the 1956-57 restoration. An APTA pre-restoration photograph shows a infilled firebox with flanking baseboards



Figure 134. Closet of the South Bedroom (Room 204).

but no mantel. The mantel measures 5'-1" wide. The mantel shelf is 4'-7" tall and 7" deep. The source of the design is not known.

Closet

A storage closet on the west side of the chimney stack is accessed through a doorway on the north wall. This closet measures 2'-8" deep by 6'-2" wide with a ceiling height of 6'-10". The closet has modern shelving, a sprinkler head in the ceiling, a 2" diameter sprinkler riser, and a 1" diameter pvc pipe. The window track for the sliding windows of the west wall runs behind both the front and back walls of this closet.

Passageway

The passage on the east side of the chimney stack measures 2'-8" deep by 6'-7" wide with a ceiling height of 6'-8½". The flat part of the ceiling is finished in ¾" by ¾" tongue-and-groove boards. There is a sprinkler head and an attic hatch in the ceiling. The hatch has a ¾" by 3½" mitered-corner plank board frame. The window trim for the sliding windows and the baseboards are continuous into the closet, however, the baseboards measure 7½" tall in this location, as opposed to the 8" height of baseboards in the South Bedroom.



Figure 135. Window track continues from the Central Bedroom (Room 203) behind plaster walls through the passageway into the South Bedroom (Room 204).



Figure 136. Attic hatch in the passageway of the South Bedroom (Room 204).

Fire Detection & Suppression

A smoke detector and two sprinkler heads for a fire suppression system are mounted to the ceiling.

Security System

Two motion detectors for the security system are installed at the top of the north wall.

Ancillary Structures

The Dairy

Approximately twenty-five feet south of the main house is the Dairy, apparently constructed as a separate, free-standing building in 1861. Like the stone foundation walls of the original 1856 Cravens House, the stone elements of the dairy survived the Civil War scavengers who dismantled the wood elements for fuel and war mementos. The Dairy did lose its wood framed roof. When the Second Cravens House was constructed in 1866, the



Figure 137. Front (north) elevation of the Dairy.



Figure 138. Southwest oblique of the House and Dairy.

Dairy apparently had several board and frame structures attached to it, as evidenced by an early drawing and photographs. Attached to the north side at the upper level a room, spanning the width of the Dairy and containing the stone water basin and a chimney, was probably the kitchen. Attached along the east side of the Dairy were two levels of latticed-enclosed space and connecting stairs; the upper level apparently extended north to the house, probably serving as a covered breezeway for delivery prepared foods. A shed roof covered the west side of the Dairy and apparently opened into a yard and connected with a barn-like structure. A two-story stair tower was added later to the south exterior of the House and a room connecting with the Dairy/kitchen. All remaining frame structures were removed during the 1956-57 restoration.

The Dairy has an open main floor level over a basement level with cistern, trough, and storage compartments. It is made of Crabapple Orchard sandstone and has a random-width cedar-shingled gable roof. A small stone chimney is centered on the ridge at the north, or front end of the building. A shed-roof porch with a stone apron is on the north side of the Dairy.

The rusticated stonework of the exterior has remnants of a limewash, which has mostly washed away. The earliest identifiable mortar is tan in color and has a variety of sands. Records show that in the mid-1990s NPS staff repointed portions of the building. Other portland cement repointing work has been done in various locations, especially evident on the south and east sides. The gable ends have random-width flush siding, which was installed during the 1956-57 restoration. Today it is severely rotting at the south gable.



Figure 139. Northwest oblique of the Dairy.

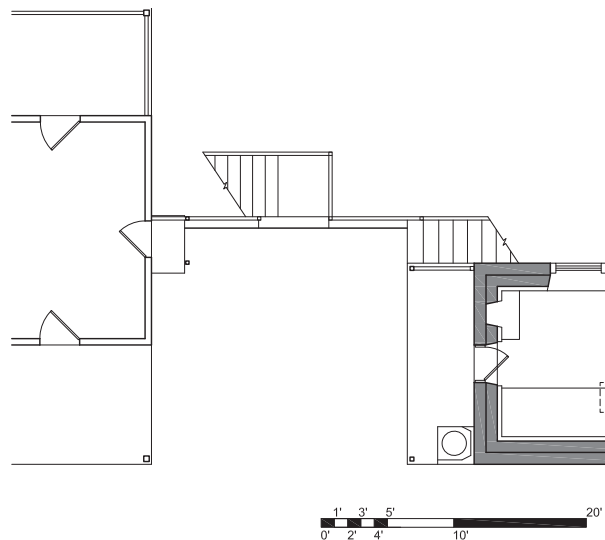


Figure 140. Dairy floor plan.



Figure 141. Dairy gable, cornice, and porch roof.

The Dairy has three exterior openings. The front doorway at upper level has a four-panel door, roughly centered on the north elevation. The door measures 2'-5½" wide by 5'-10" tall by 1¼" thick and has raised panels on the exterior and

flush panels on the interior. The exterior casing probably dates to the 1956-57 restoration work. The trim boards measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 5" on the sides and $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $5\frac{1}{4}$ " on the top. The sill is 3" high and sits on the stone apron of the porch. The door has what appears to be one of the APTA-salvaged $3\frac{1}{4}$ " wide by 4" tall rim lock with thumb latch on the interior, a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " "Best" brand deadbolt lock with latch on the interior, 2" diameter white porcelain doorknobs, and two $3\frac{1}{2}$ " five-knuckle modern steel hinges.

Another exterior opening at upper level contains a six-over-six-light double-hung sash window roughly centered on the east elevation. The lower sash is a replacement sash from the 1950s that was



Figure 142. Southeast oblique of the Dairy and Cravens House.



Figure 143. Front door of the Dairy.

made to match the existing upper sash. On the interior, the window has splayed jambs and there is no casing.

The third exterior opening is at basement level. The basement doorway is on the east elevation; it has a modern metal gate. The frame and jambs are replacements installed in 1978, a year after the original pieces were removed to preserve the inscriptions of Federal troops.

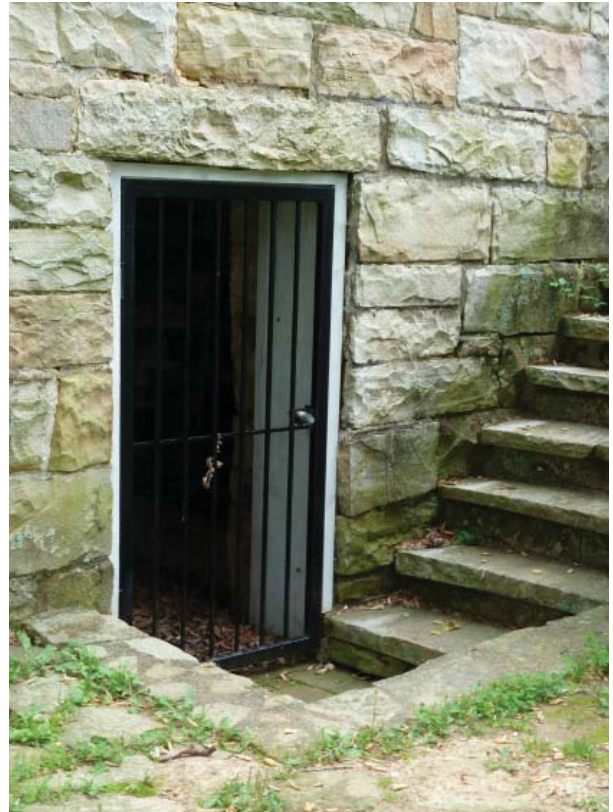


Figure 144. Basement doorway of the Dairy.

On the interior, the first-floor room is about level with the first floor of the main house; it measures approximately twelve feet square. The masonry walls are roughly 1'-9" thick and are finished in plaster. A wood shelf, about 6" deep, runs the perimeter of the space at 3'-9" above floor level. The stone walls above the shelf are thinner, measuring about 1'-3" in depth. The ceiling is finished with modern circular-sawn 1" thick plank boards that vary in width from 8"-11" and run north to south. There is a seam in the ceiling boards about 3'-10" off of the south wall. Modern 1" tall by $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide boards trim the ceiling. A hatch is located in the ceiling for access to the attic. The floor has random-width wood boards that measure 5", $5\frac{1}{2}$ ", $5\frac{3}{4}$ ", and $6\frac{1}{2}$ ". The floor boards stop

approximately 3'-8" short of the west wall; here the flooring is stone laid in mortar. At the entrance, inside the door, is a short, low wood plank step approximately 1'-7" deep and sitting about 2½" above the room floor level.

A small fireplace with a stone hearth is located in the north wall, east of the front door. The fireplace sits flush with the wall; the front of the firebox is 2'-0" wide by 2'-0" tall and 1'-3" deep. The jambs of the firebox taper to a back wall 1'-6" wide. The stone hearth measures 3'-8" wide by 1'-8" deep. The stone of the fireplace and hearth were found intact during the 1950s restoration. A metal flue cover is on the north wall.



Figure 145. Fireplace on the north wall of the Dairy, upper level.



Figure 146. Southeast oblique of Dairy, upper level.



Figure 147. West wall of Dairy, upper level.



Figure 148. Northeast oblique of Dairy, upper level.

Fire detection and security systems have been installed in the dairy. A smoke detector and a motion detector are located on the interior north wall of the upper level. On the exterior, a fire protection riser is at the east porch post, and a sprinkler pipe runs beneath the porch roof at the north wall. Metal electrical conduit is visible at outlets on the west and south walls. An additional outlet is installed on the east jamb of the front door. Outside, a pipe is visible at the base of the west elevation for electrical wiring.

A water basin, chiseled from a single block of Crabapple Orchard sandstone, sits outside on the porch against the northwest corner of the Dairy. The stone block is roughly square, 2'-6" by 2'-6". The center of the top surface has been hollowed out to create a 1'-10" diameter basin (*Appendix A Drawing 4*). The block sits upon a short stone pedestal to reach a height of 2'-4" above porch floor level. According to earlier accounts, the basin used to collect water from a spring uphill from the Dairy. From the basin, water was piped to the level below.



Figure 149. Water basin on front porch of the Dairy.



Figure 150. Stone basin along the north wall of the Dairy at basement level.

In the northwest corner of the basement is a stone cistern that drains into a small stone basin just north of the doorway.

Character-Defining Features

The Cravens House, Dairy, and the immediate site possess a number of character-defining features, physical and non-physical elements and qualities that are significant and give the place its distinctive character. It is an identity that is neither the 1856 Cravens House property of the famous Civil War battle nor the 1866 house that followed. Nor is it the property that had evolved and was present in 1956.

The work that was implemented in 1956-57 in the name of restoration transformed as well as preserved. The general character of the main block of the 1866 House was retained largely intact, including remnants of the foundation of the 1856 House. And the Dairy was retained. But original appendages to the 1866 main house associated with ancillary functions were removed completely. The resultant “restored” House of 1957 was distinctly different from any of its predecessors.

The process by which this transformation occurred is not well documented. But from the scant records that are available it is clear that the desire to assert the historicity of the house by virtue of its association with the famous 1864 battle was of great importance to the restorers. Although they concurrently acknowledged the 1866 construction of the house, this desire remained strong throughout the restoration process and appears to have molded the redesign of the entire house complex to better fit the desired image.

Indeed, a preconceived vision of history rather than a process of research and discovery guided much of the restoration and interpretation of important buildings across America at mid-twentieth century. The Cravens House is a very intact example of this approach to predetermined historical interpretation.

There is a valuable lesson to be learned from this prejudiced approach to history. Such histories tell us more about the interpreters than about the people and events which are the focus of the interpretation.

The restored 1957 Cravens House, with portions of the 1856 Cravens House and the 1866 foundations, presents rich opportunities to interpret the full range of evolutionary epochs as evidenced by building fabric of the respective periods. These opportunities can best be realized, the stories can best be told, by preserving the 1957 Cravens House.

The House and Dairy today are separate and distinct buildings, a design relationship created in 1956-57. The Site includes the immediate house site and also encompasses the broader locale that creates the setting beyond the immediate NPS property. Character-defining features should be retained and preserved when within the

stewardship responsibilities of NPS and otherwise encouraged when beyond that control. The identified character-defining features are:

The Site:

- The backdrop of a rock-strewn and heavily wooded mountain to the west of the house site, undeveloped save for the naturalistic trails and occasional interpretive plaques.
- The outcroppings of rock irregularly occurring about the house site and on adjacent properties.
- The 1962 former caretaker's house, sited north of the Cravens House and constructed of logs salvaged from a dismantled 1860s house.
- The cannon.
- The Civil War tablet monuments.
- The Civil War column monument south of the House (Ohio Monument) and another to the north between House and Log House (New York Monument).
- The direct sight lines to the two Civil War columned monuments on this property and a third one offsite and downhill to the east (Iowa Monument).
- The unobstructed vista of the river valley and the city of Chattanooga to the east below.
- The quiet isolation of an undeveloped mountainside site.
- The multi-level house site divided by stacked-stone retaining walls.
- The grassy yard in front of the House that extends north to the Log House.
- The grassy yard at the rear of the House that rises to the north and west to connect with the front yard.
- The grassy side yard between House and Dairy.
- The cut-stone steps that lead from side yard to basement level of the house.
- The dry-laid brick walk edged with bricks in soldier course that connects basement landing of stone steps with paving of embossed bricks below east porch.
- The second set of cut-stone steps that lead from side yard to basement level of the Dairy.
- The dry-laid, embossed-brick ground cover beneath the east porch at basement level and its soldier course of brick edging.
- The flush-board siding of the east and west elevation porches.
- The weatherboard siding of the north elevation porch.
- The weatherboard siding of the remainder of the house.
- The wood-shingled, shed-roof entry on the south elevation.
- The six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows of the first-floor level.
- The six-over-six, single-sash, wood windows of the second-floor level.
- The four-panel wood doors of the first-floor level entrances.
- The north, west and south sections of the mortared-fieldstone foundation perimeter walls of the original 1856 house and its two hearths.
- The mortared-fieldstone foundation perimeter walls of the south section of the west wall, the south end wall, and the entire east foundation wall.
- The mortared-fieldstone crosswall between Rooms 001 and 002.
- The mortared-fieldstone base for the north chimney.
- The dry-laid brick flooring of the north basement room (Room 001) and mortared-flagstone flooring of the center room (Room 002).
- The exposed first-floor floor joists and underside of flooring in Rooms 001 and 002.
- The varnished pine flooring of random widths and face-nail application of the first-and-second-floor levels.
- The plastered walls and ceilings of the first-and-second-floor rooms.
- The doors between interior rooms, closets, and passageways of the first-and-second-floor levels.
- The baseboards, door and window trim of the first-and-second-floor rooms.
- The stairs connecting first-and-second-floor levels.
- The second-floor newel posts and balustrade that separate the Stair Passage (Room 102) from the North Bedroom (Room 101).
- The five fireplaces of the first-and-second-floor levels including hearth, hearth lock strips, firebox, and mantel.

The Cravens House:

- The shingled gable roof with chimney stacks.
- The interconnected open porches of the first-floor west, north and east elevations with their wood-shingled shed porches, unadorned porch posts, and wood flooring.
- The stone piers of the east elevation porch.

- The roof rafters.

The Dairy:

- The walls of rusticated blocks of Crabapple Orchard sandstone set in mortar in an ashlar pattern.
- The wood-shingled, gable roof with stone chimney.
- The box cornice with recessed soffit on east and west elevations.
- The board-covered gables.
- The wood-shingled shed roof over the first-floor entrance porch.
- The raised first-floor, entrance porch deck of chiseled stone.
- The single-block basin and water pipes on raised stone-block pedestal at the first-floor entrance porch.
- The first-floor entrance doorway with plank board casing and four-panel door, rim lock, porcelain door knobs, and steel butt hinges.
- The six-over-six light, double-hung sash window.
- The basement level stone entranceway.
- The stone cistern.
- The portal to cistern at basement level.
- The basement's stone flooring.
- The single-stone trough with piping at basement level.
- The stone enclosed niche of basement.
- The partial stone and partial board flooring of the first-floor.
- The plastered stone walls of the first-floor room.
- The wall shelf created at all four walls of first floor by the change in wall thickness.
- The board ceiling of the first-floor room.
- The hearth, firebox and shelf of chiseled stone.
- The metal-pan flue cover at chimney above fireplace.
- The random-sized, inferior-quality boards in combination with salvaged boards that make up the roof framing system.

Physical Condition

Water is the great threat to an existing building. Its intrusion increases the rate of deterioration of building materials and continued presence creates an environment essential for the plants and insects that attack building materials. Therefore, the

objective of every building design is to shed the moisture from all forms of precipitation, to collect the shed moisture and bring to grade and from grade to carry away from the building. At both the Cravens House and the Dairy, there are serious occurrences of water intrusion.

The Cravens House:

The Robert Cravens House fails in all these aspects of keeping a building dry. Failure is occurring in these locations:

1. Shedding Water – Failure of the Roofing Material: The wood shingles installed in 1993 on all the roofs are in poor condition and rapidly deteriorating. The shingles are fragile; many are broken or out of position. Damage to the underlayment roofing material is undoubtedly occurring. Replacement of roofing material is overdue.
2. Shedding Water – Failure of the Chimney Flashing: Due to location, neither chimney can be accessed. However, there are copious amounts of bitumen patching material applied to the base of both chimneys; such patching material is a temporary band-aid measure until the cause can be corrected. Inside the house, extensive damage continues to occur to the plaster ceilings and walls immediately below both chimneys. When the roofing material is replaced the chimneys should be properly flashed.
3. Collection for Dispersal – Absence of Gutters and Downspouts: There are no gutters/downspouts to collect water from the upper roof; this is a deadly design feature when the second-floor windows are located just a few inches above the roofs of the first-floor porches. Windows cannot adequately contend with the upward and multi-directional splash off the lower roofs. The inevitable splash of the run-off from the upper roofs is regularly entering at each window as is evidenced by the extensive damage to window material as well as ceiling and wall plaster immediately below. The installation of gutters and downspouts is the least intrusive and most efficient solution.
4. Dispersal of Water from the Site – Inadequate Site Drainage: Ground water is regularly penetrating the west and north foundation

walls of the basement north room during rain storms. This is a long-time problem that has had multiple attempts to correct without much success. Not only is the north room (Room 001) regularly flooding and remaining wet, but the continuing damage to the masonry wall will eventually undermine its structural capacity. Collection and dispersal of roof run-off with gutters and appropriately placed downspouts should improve conditions below grade; additional modifications are likely necessary.

The Dairy:

The Dairy has two instances of failure in shedding the water from the building exterior. Failure is

occurring in the following locations:

1. Shedding Water – Failure of the Roofing Material: Like the House, the wood shingles installed in 1993 are in poor condition and rapidly deteriorating. The shingles are fragile; many are broken or out of position. Damage to the underlayment roofing material is undoubtedly occurring. Replacement of roofing material is overdue.
2. Shedding Water – Failure of Flush Siding at South Gable: There is an extensive amount of rot throughout the siding. The entire area of south-gable siding will need replacement.

II.A Ultimate Treatment & Use

During the Civil War, the Robert Cravens House and site had a significant role in the battle for control of Chattanooga and was at the center of the Battle of Lookout Mountain, popularly known as the “Battle Above the Clouds.” An accurate representation of the House, Dairy, other outbuildings such as barns and privies, and site features such as animal pens, sheds, walkways, fences, arbors, gardens and the like would be a valuable interpretive tool for those important historical events.

Unfortunately, the 1856 House did not survive the war intact. Though it did survive the fighting in the area, including bombardment and the battle on the site itself, the one-story, frame-and-board portion was almost completely dismantled in the days after the fighting as evidenced by photo-documentation of the period.

As determined by building archaeology during the preparation of this report, it appears certain that three stone perimeter-foundation walls did survive, however, and were incorporated into the replacement 1866 House. Perhaps some framing was also reused but the extent of reuse, if any, was apparently minor. The wood portion of the original 1856 House had virtually disappeared by the end of the war, sacrificed for fuel to warm the war correspondents camped on the site and for war mementos.

Regrettably, surviving contemporary commentary and iconographic images are scarce, too few to accurately reconstruct the house and site at the time of the battle. A reconstruction effort in any form, either as actual buildings and site features or as representational models and renderings, would necessarily rely heavily on a broad interpretation of conditions at extant buildings of the period and region. A Cultural Landscape Report of the Cravens House and surroundings is currently underway and could be consulted for detail on the larger farm site.

Thankfully, the stone Dairy did survive though its wood-framed roof did not. Other Civil War-era buildings and structures on site have disappeared.

The replacement house built by the Cravens family after the war was quite different from their first house. In terms of scale alone, the main block of the new 1866 House was two stories over basement instead of one, and its building footprint was much longer in its north-south dimension, extending well beyond the south end wall. A late-nineteenth century sketch and photograph agree in their depiction of a long rectangular house extending south with a wing that connects the old Dairy to the new house. A set of scaled as-found floor plan drawings from 1956 further confirm this design.

Nonetheless, it is this second, very different house that took on a reverence, at least locally, for perceived association with the Civil War and the Battle of Lookout Mountain. By the mid-twentieth century, when the park superintendant proposed demolition of the dilapidated house due to a lack of maintenance funds, descendants of the Cravens family and private citizens clamored for repair and retention because of association with the Battle of Lookout Mountain. A Chattanooga Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) was formed specifically for this purpose. The group subsequently negotiated an agreement with the National Park Service that calmed the uproar. By agreement, APTA-Chattanooga would undertake the restoration of the House and Dairy and provide furnishings; NPS would provide technical assistance and have oversight responsibilities.

Unfortunately, the leadership of APTA apparently remained unclear about the specific time period for interpretation, either Civil War era or post-Civil War, as indicated in their post-restoration reports. And the role of the National Park Service, if any, seems to be undocumented. During the course of restoration, major portions of the house were

removed and other features were rearranged. Some removed elements apparently date to the late-nineteenth century; others appear to be earlier, probably dating to the 1866 construction. The evidence for these decisions was not immediately forthcoming, nor has it surfaced since that time. The end result is a house very different from both the original 1856 House and the second 1866 House with almost no record of the transformation to the 1956-57 House. Of course, the work does not meet current commonly-accepted preservation standards. (Nor did it, with its general lack of record keeping, meet commonly-accepted preservation standards of the period.)

The current house, like the 1866 House, has little claim to the historical event. However, it, like the 1866 House, does have *some* claim to that event and to the history of the Cravens family as it adjusted to the events of the Civil War and its aftermath. Further, this 1956-57 House does represent how ideals and patriotism can trump reality; it is an important lesson, one worth remembering.

Given the importance of each of these three historic periods of the house and site, and the educational value to be realized by interpreting the surviving building fabric from each period, preservation is a highly-desirable treatment.

The General Management Plan / Concept Development Plan (GMP/CDP) for the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park was prepared in 1987. Though this document does not, as a general rule, elaborate on specific actions, it does make a few informative statements regarding the Cravens House site as guidance. Under “Management Zoning – Historic Zone” on page 13, it states that “sixty-four percent (5,376 acres) of the park [at that time] is placed in the Historic Zone, including . . . approximately 70 acres on Lookout Mountain. Land and resources within the zone are managed to protect, preserve and interpret the cultural resources and their setting.” Then, on page 53, it states under “Landscape Management: . . . maintain Cravens House as at present.”

A much-needed updating of the GMP has been pending for several years, repeatedly postponed due to budgetary constraints. Nevertheless, retention of the House and Dairy remain park

priorities. This Historic Structure Report and the companion Cultural Landscape Report currently being compiled are intended to inform the development of the revised or amended GMP. Public accessibility is an important issue to be addressed in the resultant GMP. The House and Dairy are, of course, important site features, their exterior contributing to the character of the site which is readily accessible by the public. Their interiors, also, if opened for public viewing, could contribute to a fuller interpretation. The interiors of both buildings were important components of the 1956-57 APTA restoration efforts with rooms reconfigured, early paint finishes and wallpapers applied, and period furnishings installed. Therefore, it is also recommended that the buildings be opened, at least on occasion, to allow interior viewing if not visitation to become part of the interpretative experience, perhaps with interpretive displays.

The Recommended Ultimate Treatment is the preservation of the exterior and interior of both the Cravens House and the Dairy in their current appearance but in good repair.

It is further recommended that the interpretation be comprehensive, to include:

- pre-Civil War issues and the Cravens occupancy of the site as depicted in the 1856 House and 1861 Dairy,
- the House and Dairy during the Civil War,
- the post-Civil War issues and Cravens return to the site as depicted in the 1866 House and Dairy, and
- the House and Dairy as restored in 1956-57, the interiors as well as the exteriors.

There are a number of urgent maintenance repairs that must be taken to protect the buildings from imminent damages, deterioration that will rapidly increase in scope and cost if not arrested. These maintenance repairs will have to be undertaken regardless of the Treatment chosen.

The above Treatment would have the following advantages:

- Provides public benefit by preserving in good

repair the exterior and interior of contributing buildings of a National Register property of national significance.

- Maximizes public benefit by broadening the scope of interpretation to include people and events leading up to the Civil War as well as adjusting to its aftermath. Also addresses the interpretation of later generations.
- Complies with the general objectives of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park's 1989 General Management Plan/ Development Concept Plan to manage "the lands and the resources within [the Park's Historic Zone] to protect, preserve and interpret the cultural resources and their setting."
- Increases the public appeal of these buildings and site by broadening the scope of interpretation to include people and events leading up to the Civil War as well as adjusting to its aftermath.

- Allows the upgrading of utilities, such as the electrical system, while retaining character-defining historic features.
- Allows the introduction of code-required and legislation-mandated architectural modifications, such as a wheelchair ramp, to better accommodate visitation by the public.
- Retains flexibility for future park decisions regarding treatment and interpretation to coincide with the results of additional research and investigation.
- Constitutes cost-effective treatments of the exterior and interior.

This approach would have the following disadvantages:

- Leaves in place a building whose form is inconsistent with the original building present at the time of the Battle of Lookout Mountain, the period of greatest significance.

II.B Requirements for Treatment

With passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, including the Robert Cravens House and its Dairy, were automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The required National Register nomination documentation was to follow. That documentation subsequently was submitted in 1986.

The General Management Plan/Concept Development Plan (GMP/CDP) for the Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park, prepared in 1987, notes that the Cravens property is within the park's Historic Zone where "land and resources...are managed to protect, preserve and interpret the resources and their setting."

In 1998, the National Register listing was amended with an Additional Documentation Form. Both the Robert Cravens House and the Dairy were designated as contributing at the national level of significance. Further, it was noted that the Dairy is the only building on Lookout Mountain dating to the time of Civil War battle.

Treatment of the site and contributing buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places, such as the Robert Cravens House and Dairy, is to be guided by *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects*, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the International Building Code (IBC). Threats to public life, safety, and welfare are to be addressed; however, because these are historic buildings, alternatives to full legislative and code compliance are recommended where compliance would needlessly compromise the integrity of the historic building. An important provision of the IBC states:

3406.1 Historic Buildings. The provisions of this code related to the construction, repair, alteration, addition, restoration and movement of structures, and change of occupancy shall not be mandatory for historic buildings where such buildings are judged by the building official to not constitute a *distinct life safety hazard* [emphasis added].

Buildings close to 50 years of age, such as the log building that is the Caretaker's Residence constructed in 1962, should be formally evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Until evaluated the building should be treated as eligible.

II.C Alternatives for Treatment

In addition to the Recommended Ultimate Treatment discussed in Section II.A above, two alternative treatments for the Cravens House complex are discussed below.

Both alternative treatments will require implementation of some of the overdue maintenance tasks currently pending. All the maintenance tasks would have to be addressed if the existing buildings are to be preserved as defined in the Recommended Ultimate Treatment.

Alternative #1: Reconstruct the original 1856 House and restore the Dairy to its appearance at the time of the Civil War Battle of Lookout Mountain.

This approach would have the following advantages:

- Enhances the public capacity to experience a house at the battle site more closely representing the original house in scale and configuration.
- Saves the cost of repairing the second-floor windows.

This approach would have the following disadvantages:

- Misses the opportunity to maximize public benefit from interpreting a range of historic periods, from before the Civil War to well after, as manifested in the different construction periods of the House and Dairy.
- Requires the removal of major portions of the existing Cravens House, a cultural resource listed in the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance.
- Requires for the reconstruction of the original 1856 Cravens House extensive speculation

relying on currently-inadequate secondary documentary sources, iconographic images, comparative examples and both site and building archaeology.

- Jeopardizes the National Register designation of the Robert Cravens House.
- Runs contrary to the recommended treatment of *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.
- Likely places the National Park Service in conflict with the State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.
- Likely places the National Park Service in conflict with local citizenry and preservationists nationally.
- Conflicts with the stated objective of the park's General Management Plan/ Concept Development Plan by failing to "protect" and "preserve" a designated cultural resource.
- Incurs extensive costs for research, investigation, design, demolition, and reconstruction in addition to the cost of administrative staff defending the proposal to other government agencies, preservationists, and the general public.

Alternative #2: Restore the exterior and interior of the Cravens House and Dairy to their appearances in 1892, the time depicted in the earliest detailed iconographic image of the 1866 Cravens House.

This approach would have the following advantages:

- Enhances the public's capacity to experience a house at the battle site closer in appearance to one actually constructed by the Cravens family.
- May prove to be a reconstruction of the 1866

complex rather than a 1892 version with additions.

This approach would have the following disadvantages:

- Misses the opportunity to maximize public benefit from interpreting a range of historic periods, from before the Civil War to well after, as manifested in the different construction periods of the House and Dairy.
 - Requires the removal of portions of the existing Cravens House and Dairy and the reconstruction of other elements. Though the removed features are minor and date to the 1956-57 restoration, action may potentially constitute an adverse effect to a cultural resource listed in the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance.
 - Requires the reconstruction of the two-story Stair Tower on the south end of the existing House, a one-story Connector between House Exterior Stair Tower and Dairy, possibly a stair between the House Basement and the Connector, and the House Basement and the North Porch. Requires speculation which
- relies heavily on secondary documentary sources, iconographic images, comparative examples and some building archaeology.
 - May jeopardize the National Register designation of the Cravens House.
 - Runs contrary to the recommended treatments of *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.
 - Likely places the National Park Service in conflict with the State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.
 - May place the National Park Service in conflict with local citizenry and preservationists nationally.
 - May conflict with the stated objectives of the park's General Management Plan/ Concept Development Plan by potentially failing to "protect" and "preserve" a designated cultural resource.
 - Incurs the costs of research, investigation, design, demolition, and partial reconstructions in addition to the cost of administrative staff explaining the proposal to other government agencies, preservationists, and the general public.

II.D Recommendations

While the Cravens House and Site present challenges for the interpretation of the historic battle that gives the place its primary importance, there are also opportunities to interpret more than the narrow time frame of the Civil War. This property is especially rich with opportunities to provide a broader perspective on the War: the effect on this family and their acquaintances of events leading up to the conflict on this site; the impact of bombardment and engagement; the surprising effects of camping journalists and souvenir seekers in the immediate post-battle months; the building of a replacement residence and adjustment to a new social and economic order; and the perspective of society almost a century later.

Revealing the experiences of individuals bring alive the impact of war during and beyond the actual engagement. This site has tangible evidence of all these manners of impact and a wide variety of affected persons, from members of the family, to their mason, to war participants, and to the civic leaders of generations later.

Greater public benefit would be realized by providing access to the interiors of the two buildings, even if on an appointment basis.

Actions to Achieve Recommended Ultimate Treatment:

To achieve the Recommended Ultimate Treatment, the following actions should be taken:

- At both the Cravens House and the Dairy, replace the failed roofs with in-kind wood shingles.
- At both the Cravens House and the Dairy, replace flashing at the chimneys.
- Install half-round gutters and round

downspouts on the Cravens House main roof and porch roofs; divert runoff away from the house site.

- If excessive water infiltration persists at basement level after installation of gutters and downspouts, investigate water source(s). Formulate remedies accordingly; implement repairs.
- Make Dutchman repairs to windows at second-floor level.
- Keep weathertight the exterior envelope of the House and Dairy. Regularly caulk and repaint all painted surfaces. Maintain sound mortar joints in the masonry.
- After the House has been dried in, make in-kind repairs to water-damaged plaster at first- and second-floor levels. Reattach wood lath if necessary; do not replace lath.
- Maintain exterior and interior paint coatings of House and Dairy.

There are other recommended actions as well:

- Integrate information from the Cultural Landscape Report currently being prepared with the information in this Historic Structure Report for use in the interpretive program.
- Create three-dimensional models and two-dimensional perspective illustrations to assist in visitor visualization of the various Cravens House configurations known to have existed.
- Conduct archaeological investigations of the site to locate, identify, and date outbuildings and site features, as well as to determine the physical parameters of the House Ell.
- Consider conducting an archaeological investigation of the Dairy's cistern.
- Update the furnishings plan.
- Identify an contact descendants of members of the APTA - Chattanooga Chapter in an effort to obtain records and other information about the 1950s work.

Appendix A:

Documentation Drawings:

As-Found

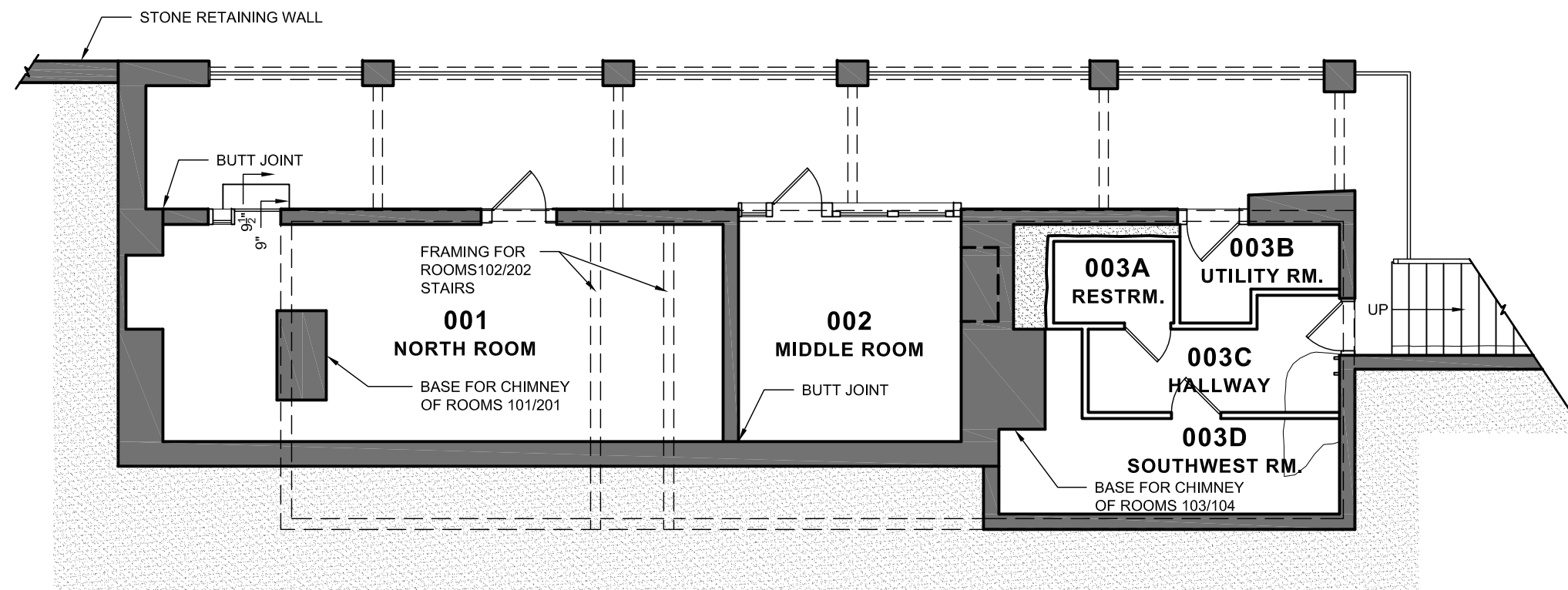
Sheet A-1: Basement Floor Plan

Sheet A-2: First Floor Plan

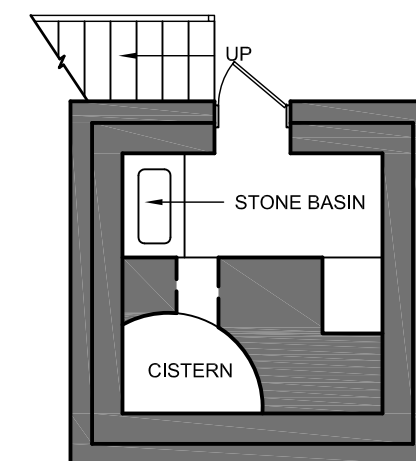
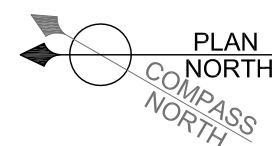
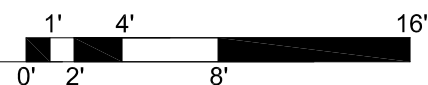
Sheet A-3: Second Floor Plan

Sheet A-4: Details

Sheet A-5: Typical Door



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

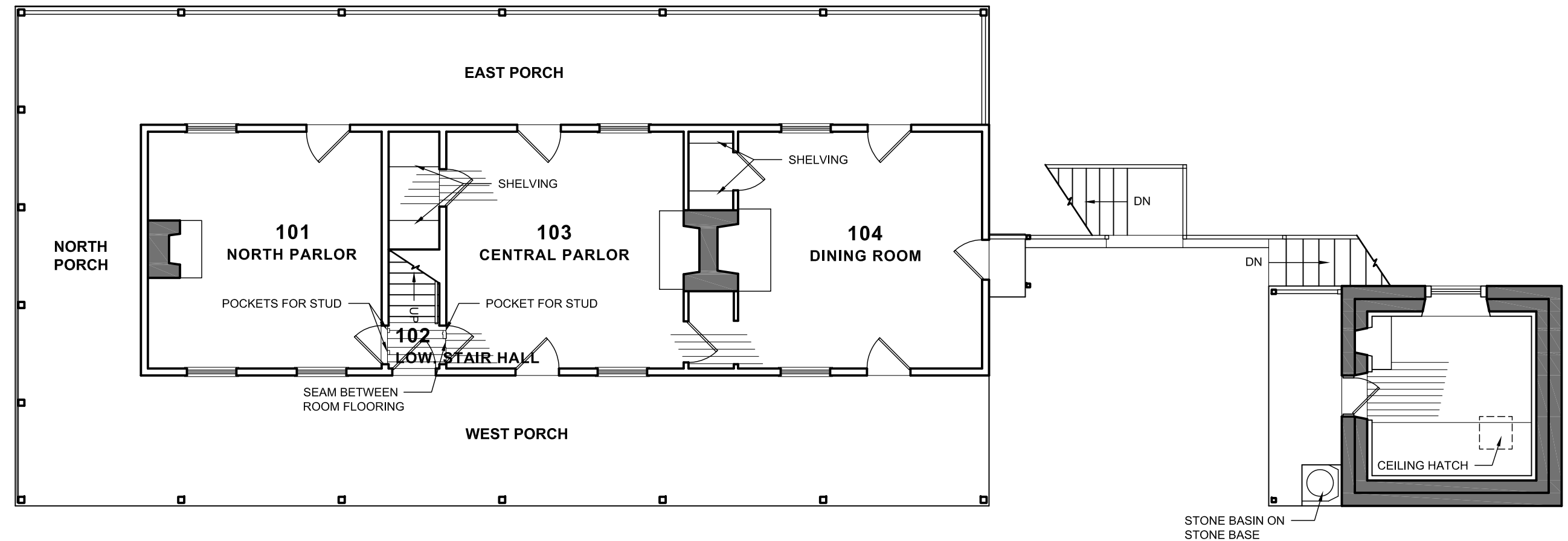
RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

CRAVENS HOUSE - CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

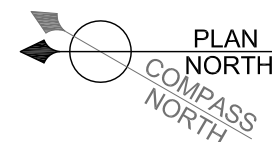
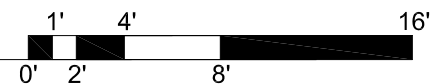
DATE: JANUARY 2011

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

APPENDIX A
AS-FOUND DRAWINGS
SHEET 1 OF 5 SHEETS



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

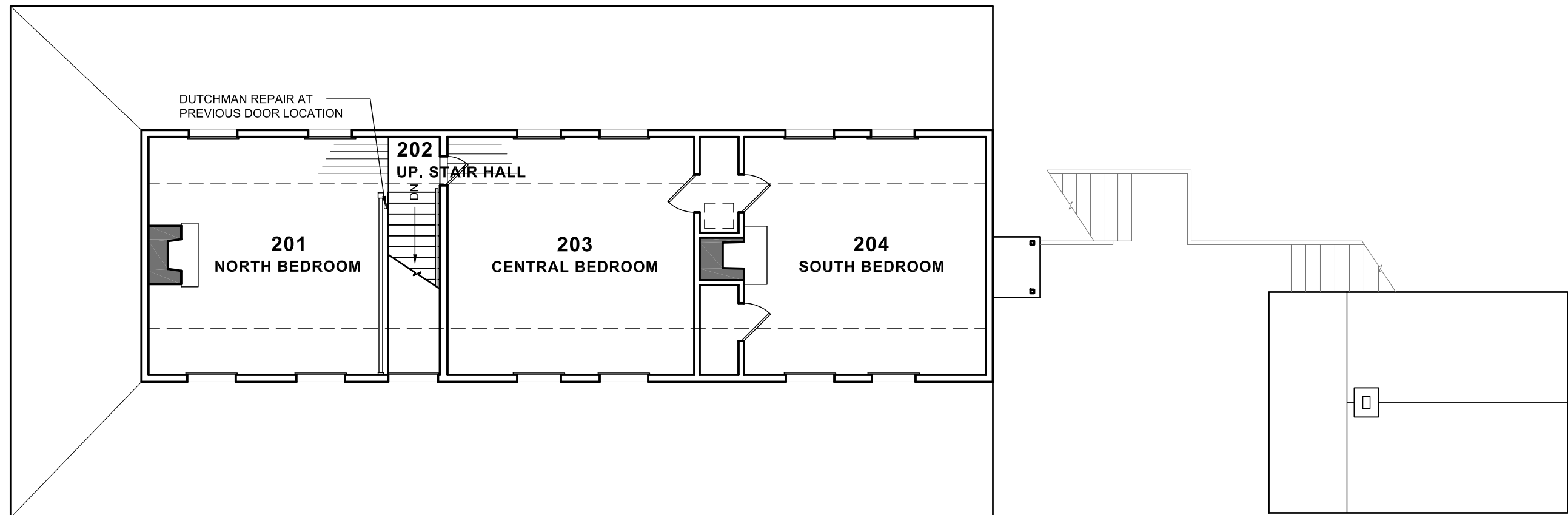
RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

CRAVENS HOUSE - CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

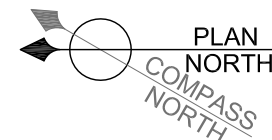
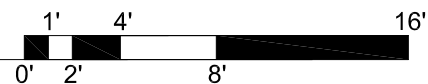
DATE: JANUARY 2011

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

APPENDIX A
AS-FOUND DRAWINGS
SHEET 2 OF 5 SHEETS



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

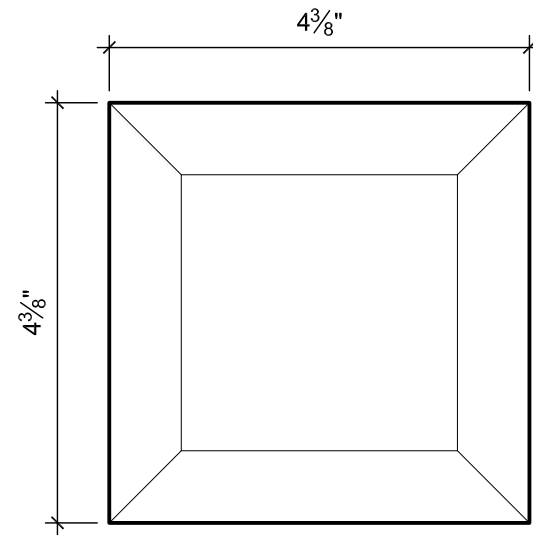
CRAVENS HOUSE

- CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

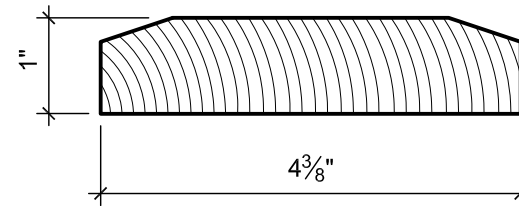
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SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

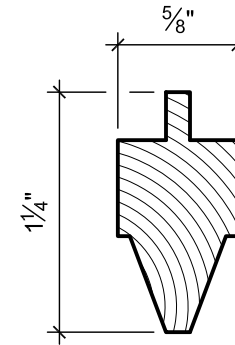
APPENDIX A
AS-FOUND DRAWINGS
SHEET 3 OF 5 SHEETS



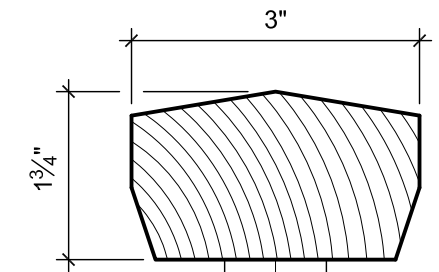
NEWEL CAP - PLAN



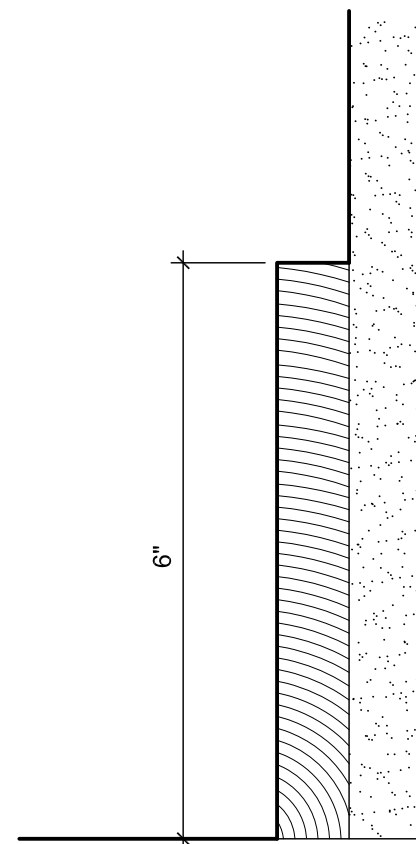
NEWEL CAP - SECTION



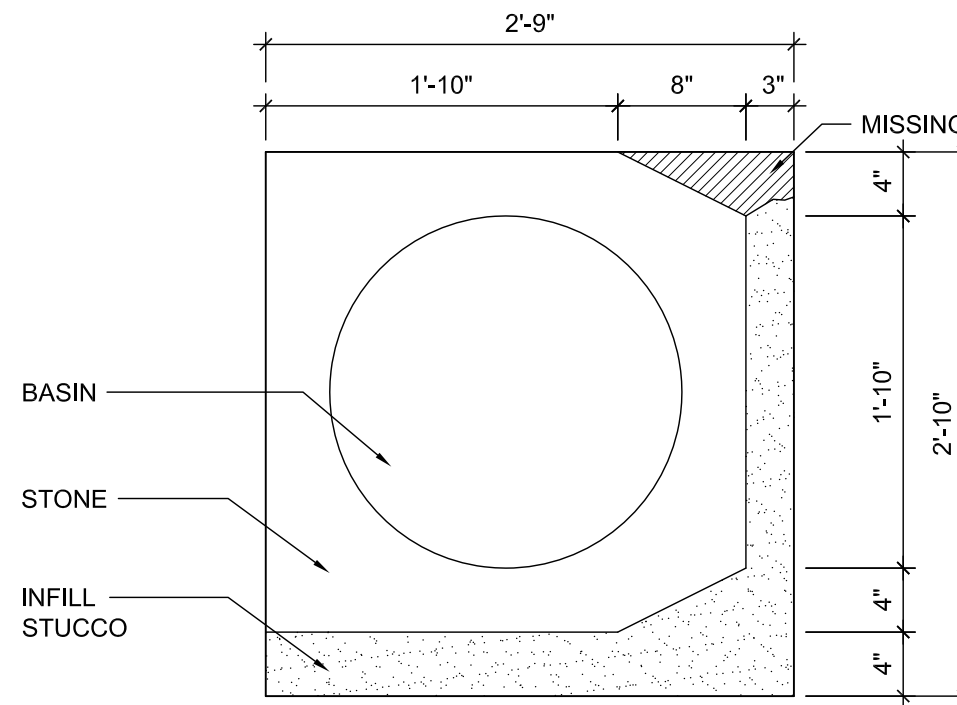
MUNTIN - TYP.



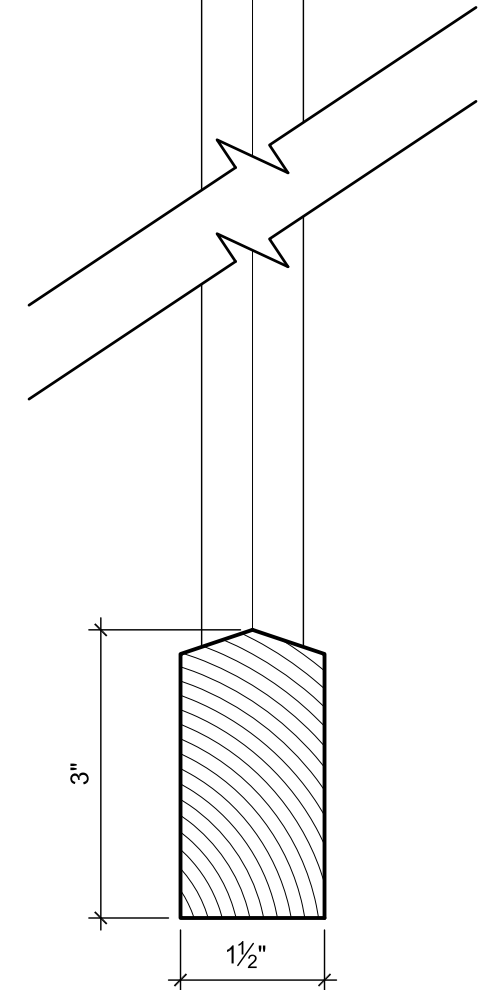
RAILING - PORCH &
SECOND FL. LANDING

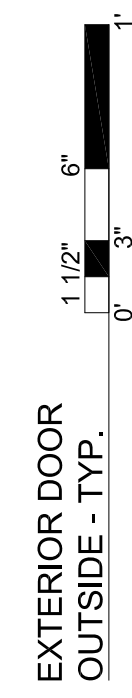
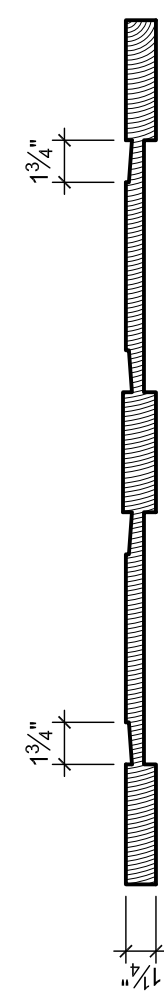
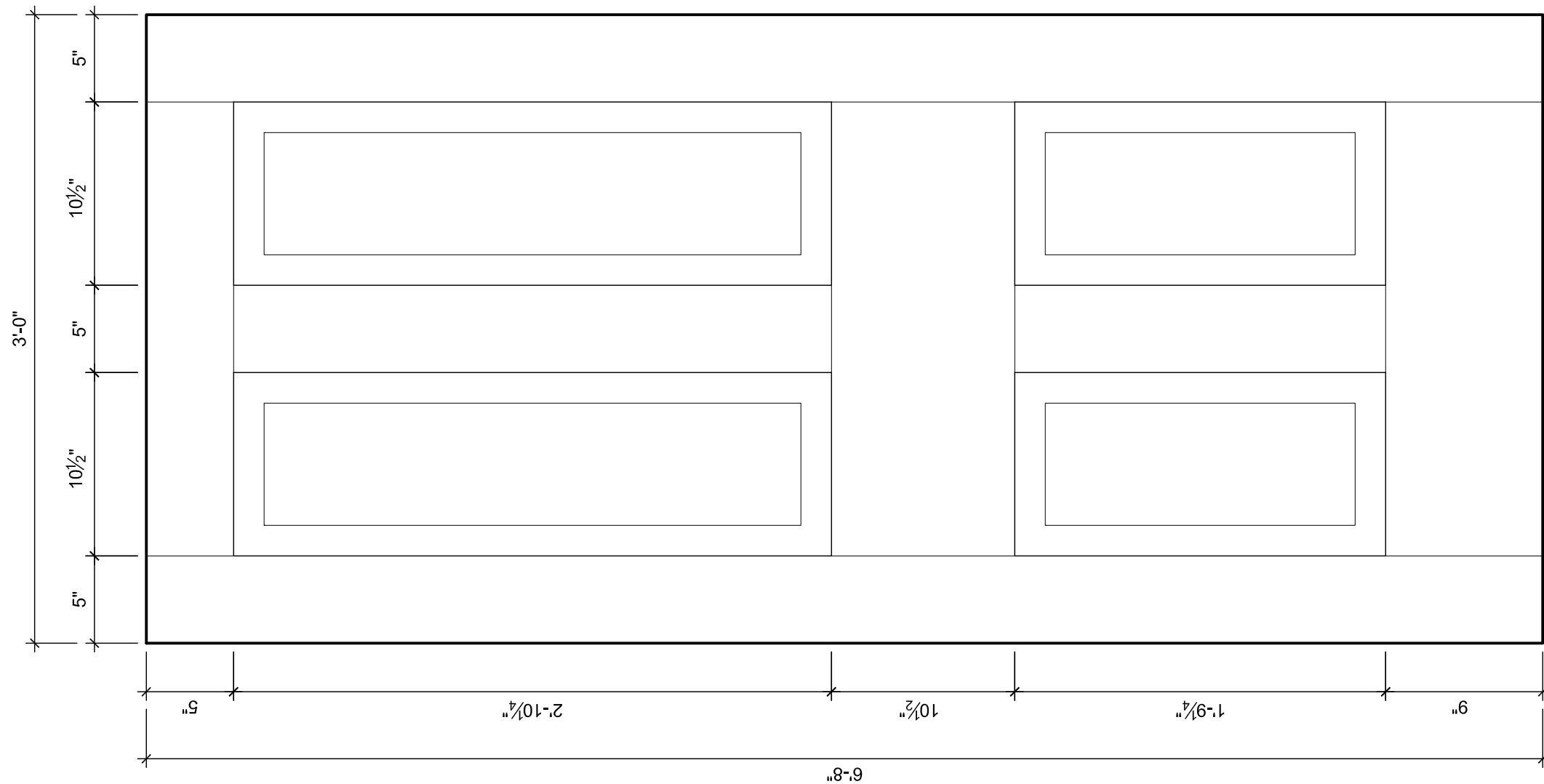


BASEBOARD
SECTION - TYP.



STONE BASIN - PLAN DETAIL





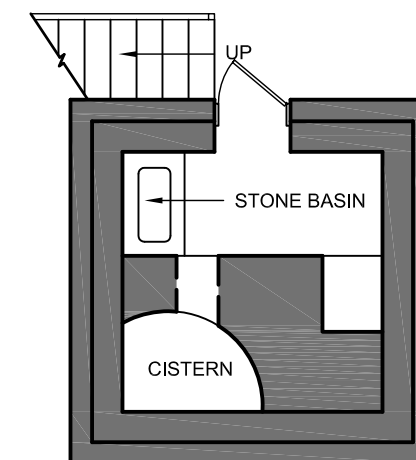
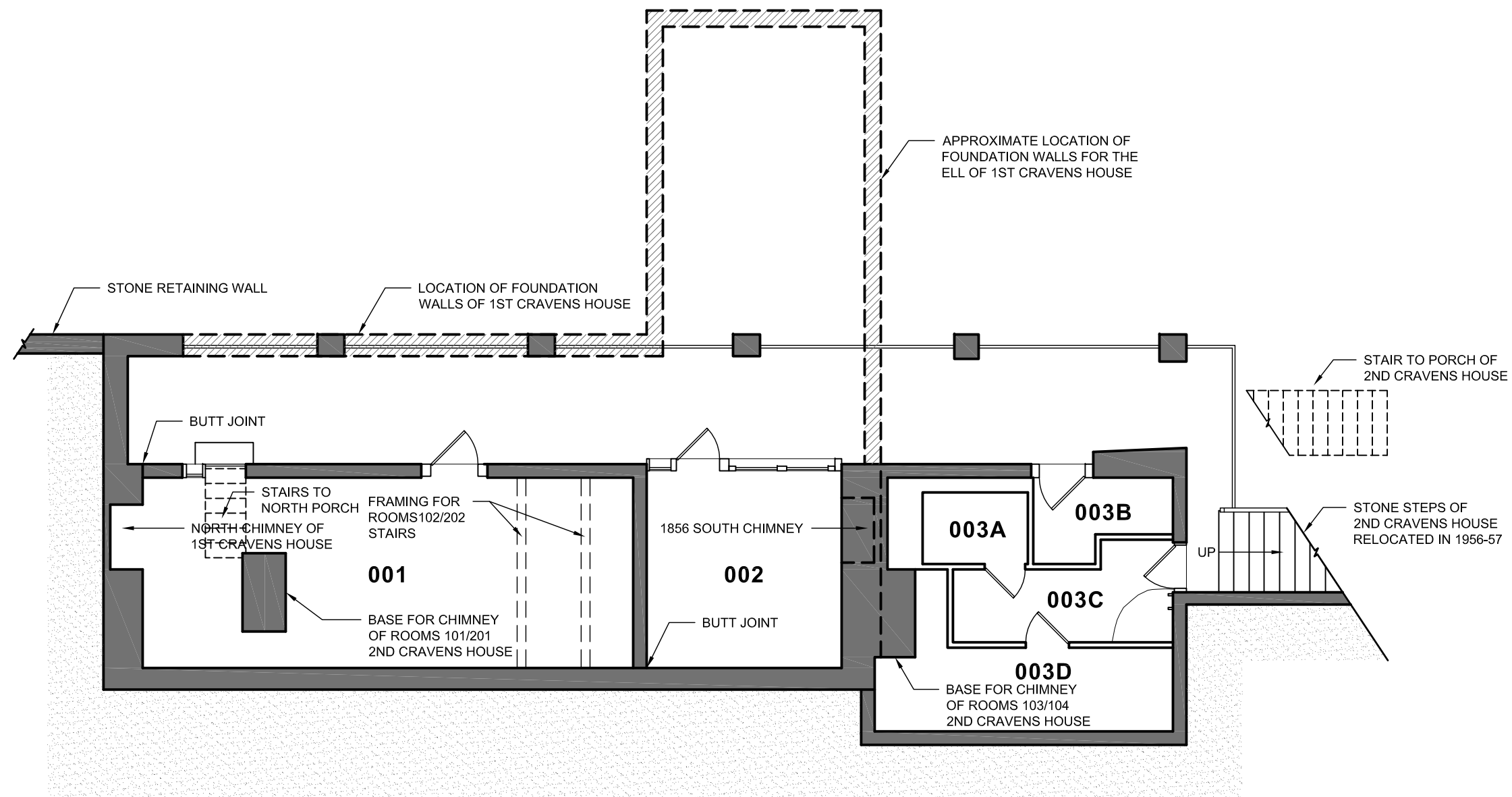
Appendix B:

Overlay Drawings:

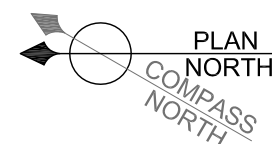
Sheet B-1: Basement Floor Plan Overlay

Sheet B-2: First Floor Plan Overlay

Sheet B-3: Second Floor Plan Overlay



BASEMENT FLOOR OVERLAY
MODIFICATIONS TO THE CRAVENS
HOUSE



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT
FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS
DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

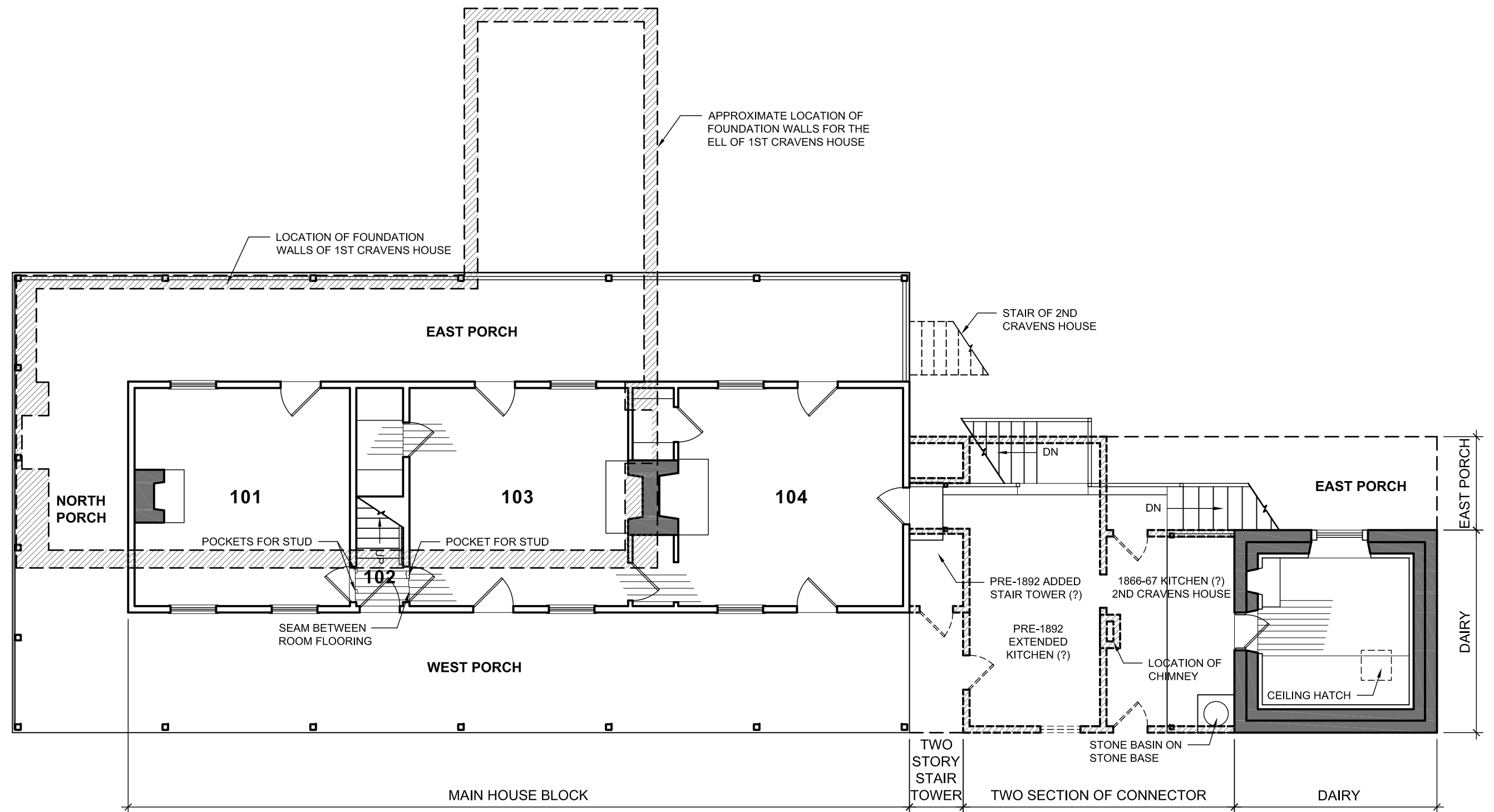
RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

CRAVENS HOUSE - CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

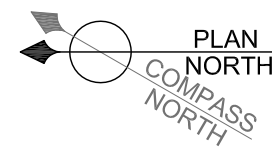
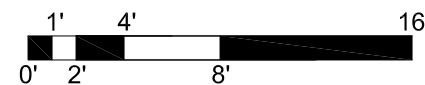
DATE: JULY 2011

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

APPENDIX B
OVERLAY DRAWINGS
SHEET 1 OF 3 SHEETS



FIRST FLOOR OVERLAY
MODIFICATIONS TO THE CRAVENS
HOUSE



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

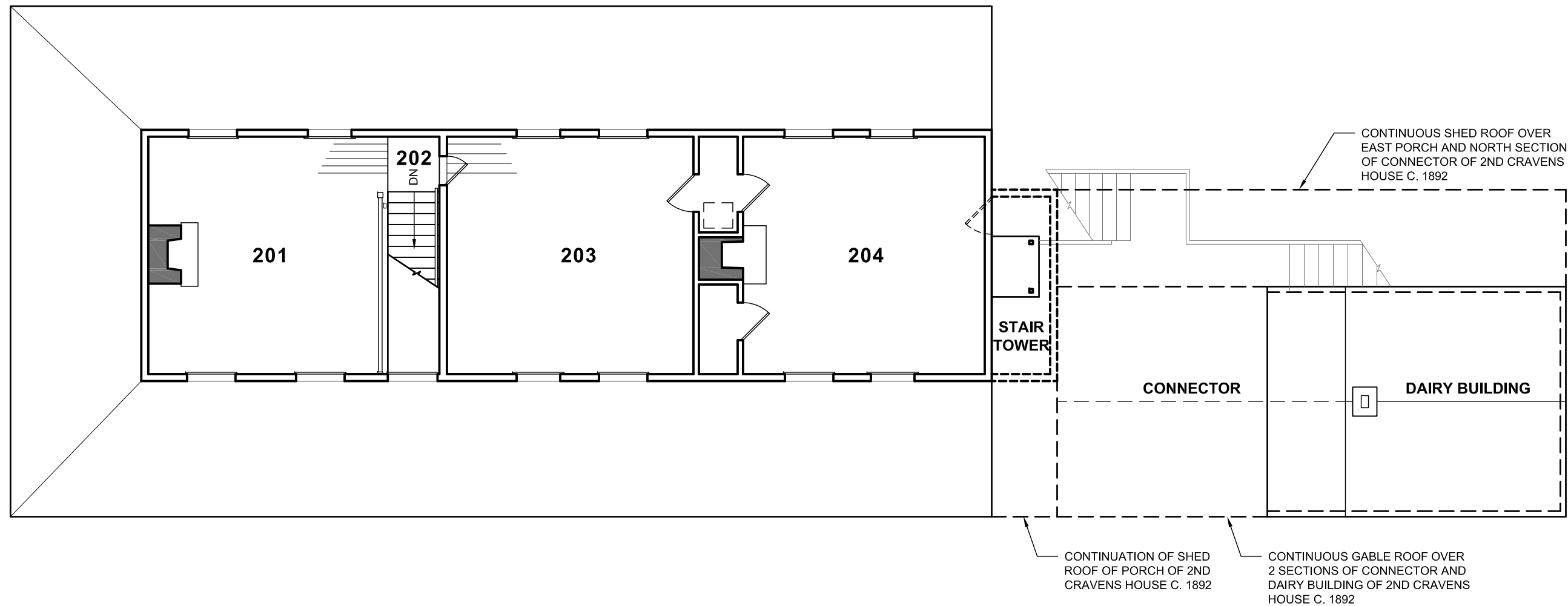
RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

CRAVENS HOUSE - CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

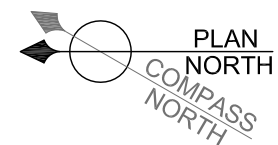
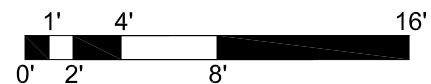
DATE: JULY 2011

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

APPENDIX B
OVERLAY DRAWINGS
SHEET 2 OF 3 SHEETS



SECOND FLOOR OVERLAY
MODIFICATIONS TO THE CRAVENS
HOUSE



NOTE: THE CRAVENS HOUSE FACES SOUTHWEST BUT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS REPORT THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS FACING WEST.

RECORDED BY
Joseph K. Oppermann,
drawn by Rebecca McCormick

CRAVENS HOUSE - CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE -

DATE: JULY 2011

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

APPENDIX B
OVERLAY DRAWINGS
SHEET 3 OF 3 SHEETS

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Interviews

Mike Dalton, CHCH Facility Management Systems Specialist, interviewed by Langdon E. Oppermann , March 30, 2011.

Elliott McNeal, APTA Nashville, interviewed by Langdon E. Oppermann, March 10, 2011.

James H. Ogden III, CHCH Historian, telephone and in-person interviews by Langdon E. Oppermann and Joseph K. Oppermann, January 31, March 28-30, and June 22, 23, 24, 2011.

Claudette Stager, National Register staff, Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (Tennessee Historical Commission), interviewed by Langdon E. Oppermann, March 10, 2011.

Denise West, CHCH Museum Curator, interviewed by Langdon E. Oppermann, February 1 and March 28-30, 2011.

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