Iowa Site Inventory Form State Historic Preservation Office

State Historic Preservation Office (July 2014)

State Inventory Number:	92-00367	New	Supplemental

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____ Non-extant Year: _____

Read the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing this form. The instructions are available on our website: <u>http://www.iowahistory.org/historic-preservation/statewide-inventory-and-collections/iowa-site-inventory-form.html</u>

Property Name	
A) Historic name <u>James B. and Julia Crail House</u>	
B) Other names: <u>West side survey map #WS-047</u>	
Location	
A) Street address: <u>309 W. Washington Boulevard</u>	
B) City or town: <u>Washington</u>	(Vicinity) County <u>Washington</u>
C) Legal Description: <i>Rural:</i> Township Name: Township No.: Ran	ge No.: Section: Quarter: of Quarter:
Urban: Subdivision: Original Plat	Block(s): <u>16</u> Lot(s): <u>2</u>
Classification	
⊠ Building(s) If eligible pr □ District Contributing □ Site 1 B □ Structure S □ Object S	of Resources (within property) operty, enter number of: If non-eligible property, a Noncontributing enter number of: uildings 1
C) For properties listed in the National Register: National Register status: Listed De-listed NH	
 D) For properties within a historic district: Property contributes to a National Register or local certified Property contributes to a potential historic district, based Property <i>does not</i> contribute to the historic district in white 	on professional historic/architectural survey and evaluation.
Historic district name: West side residential historic di	strict Historic district site inventory number: <u>92-00350</u>
Name of related project report or multiple property MPD Title Architectural and Historical Survey of the "west side" resid • Function or Use Enter categories (codes and terms	Historical Architectural Data Base # lential neighborhood in Washington 92-013
A) Historic functions	B) Current functions
01A01: Domestic / residence	01A01: Domestic / residence
	01C05: Domestic / garage
Description Enter categories (codes and terms) from	n the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions
A) Architectural Classification	B) Materials
05D: Queen Anne	Foundation (visible exterior): <u>04: Stone</u>
	walls (visible exterior): <u>15B: vinyl</u>
	Roof: 08A: Asphalt shingles
	Other:

C) Narrative Description SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

Statement of Significance		
A) Applicable National Register Criteria: Mark your opini	ion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria	
Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events.	Yes No More research recommended	
Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant per	rsons. 🗌 Yes 🗌 No 🖾 More Research Recommended	
Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.		
Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archeology/		
B) Special criteria considerations: Mark any special cons	rposes. E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
B Removed from its original location.	F A commemorative property.	
C A birthplace or grave.	G Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	
C) Areas of Significance Enter categories from instructions Community planning and development	D) Period(s) of significance	
E) Significant dates Construction date	F) Significant person Complete if Criterion B is marked above	
1904 Check if circa or estimated date	James B. Crail	
Other dates, including renovations		
G) Cultural affiliation Complete if Criterion D is marked above	H) Architect/Builder Architect	
·	Duilder/contractor	
	Builder/contractor John Williams	
I) Narrative statement of significance SEE CONTIN	IUATION SHEETS. WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED	
Bibliography See continuation sheet for the list of rese		
Geographic Data Optional UTM references See continu UTM References (OPTIONAL)	ation sheet for additional UTM references or comments	
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$\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$		
Form Preparation		
-	a Lawin McCarley, consultant Date: June 8, 2015	
Organization/firm: <u>Washington Historic Preservation Co</u>		
Street address: <u>City Hall, 215 E, Washington St</u>	Telephone: <u>319-653-6584</u>	
City or Town: Washington		
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Submit the followin		
 A) For all properties, attach the following, as specified 1. Map of property's location within the community. 	in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions:	
	perty/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and	
unique photo number.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	o and/or floor plan, using arrows next top each photo	
number to indicate the location and directional view		
	ooundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints.	
B) For State Historic Tax Credit Part 1 Applications, hi		
See lists of special requirements and attachments in th		
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Be	elow This Line	
The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs with abo		
Yes No More Research Recomme		

This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments:

SHPO authorized signature: _____ Date: _____

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Narrative Description

This is a two-story frame Queen Anne house built on the south side of W. Washington Boulevard in 1904. The house sits on a cut stone foundation, and it is clad with vinyl siding. The siding clads the flared skirting between the first and second story. The combination hip and cross gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has a full front porch that wraps around to the east side of the house, and a screen porch at the southwest rear corner of the house. There is a turret at the northeast corner of the house, a bay window on the east side of the house, and an bay window on the west side of the house. A historic brick chimney is located approximately at the center of the house, and a second brick chimney is located closer to the rear of the house. The decorative and larger windows are wood with aluminum storm windows, and the one-over-one-light double-hung windows are vinyl. A frame two and a half car garage sits at the southeast corner of the lot with access from the alley south of the property, and a pair of brick columns stand a few feet apart at the middle of the lot line along the alley.

The facade, the north elevation of the house, has a full front porch that spans the width of the house and curves around to the east side of the house where it extends to the projected section. The porch has carpeted steps and floor, wood railings and balusters, and vinyl grating below the porch floor. Slim square columns support the curved shed roof and sit on rusticated concrete block piers. The fascia of the porch below the eaves is clad with vinyl. The turret of the house is located on the northeast/left corner of the house, creating a curved corner. On the first story of this section, there is a pair of small fixed wood windows with curved glass, arched tops, wood surrounds, and wood sills somewhat higher than typical for this house. One of these windows is visible from the north, and the other from the east. To the right/west of the curved corner, there is a historic wood entry door with an aluminum storm / screen door. The center of the façade on the first story is recessed from the entry, and it has a large cottage style wood window with a decorative transom. The third/west section is a one-story bay window with a one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl window in each of the angled walls with a cottage style wood window in the center section of the bay. On the second story, at the left end of the facade, the curved wall at the northeast corner continues and rises through the roof to an attic level turret. There are two small decorative wood windows in the northeast portion of the curve on the second story. These windows have wood surrounds and wood sills. Above the roof, the turret has a flared conical roof with asphalt shingles, with an electrified metal and glass finial at the top. There are three one-over-onelight double-hung decorative wood windows at intervals around the turret. On the second story to the right/west of the curved corner, there is a one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl window, with diamond pane inserts for the top sash The front gable spans slightly more than the west half of the house, ending at this window. Under the gable on the second story, there is another one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl window, and then there is a set of three windows. The center section of this trio of windows is a short oriel window with curved glass and a tapered support below. Flanking the smaller window, there are two one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl windows. The north gable has a set of four decorative wood windows. The center section contains two one-over-one-light double-hung decorative wood windows set at about a 30 degree angle, protruding from the gable, and supported by a wood corbel, and having an aluminum clad triangular roof. Flanking this protruding central pair of windows are two smaller decorative wood windows with diamond light sashes. The surrounds and sills of this four window unit are aluminum clad, as is the lower edge of the gable.

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The east elevation is divided into three sections by a protruding two story gable-roof section. The front/right/north section has the second of the pair of small, previously described, fixed wood windows on the curved northeast corner of the house. To the left/south, just off the south end of the porch, there is a large leaded glass wood window with an aluminum storm window and vinyl surround. Beside it, just to the left and below the overhanging second story, is a one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl window somewhat narrower than the window to its right. Above this window there are four wood corbels below the overhanging second story corner. The second story of the first section has a oneover-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl window toward the right, above the porch roof. The center section of this elevation protrudes, with am angled bay window on first story and square second story under the gable roof. The first story bay window has a cottage style wood window in the center portion, which has dentil trim along the lower edge of the upper window. The two angled sides of the bay window have narrower one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl windows. On the second story, there is a centered one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinvl window. The east facing gable has a pair of small decorative wood windows. A basement window is found on this center section as well. The south side of this section has a one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl window on both the first story and the second story. The third/rear/south section of the east elevation is the side of the rear section of the house, and it has smaller one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl windows on both the first and second story near the right/north end of the section. To the left/south, there is a larger one-over-onelight double-hung decorative vinyl window between the first and second stories.

The west elevation has three sections. The left/north/front section has no fenestration on the first story, but on the second story there is a one-over-one-light double-hung decorative vinyl window. The second section is defined by the west gable, though it does not protrude from the main form of the house. It has bay window on the first story. The window has angled side walls, and a hip roof with asphalt shingles. There is a cottage style wood window in the center section, with a narrow one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl window in each of the angled sides of the bay window. Above, on the second story, there are two one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl windows. At attic level, in the west facing gable, there is a pair of decorative wood windows. There are two basement windows on this side of the house, one in the first section and the other below the oriel window. The third section is the west side of the rear wing of the house. The first story is covered with an enclosed porch which wraps around to the south elevation. The second story has a one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl window located toward the left side of this section.

The south elevation, the rear of the house, is the south side of the rear wing. A large enclosed porch with an open deck sits at the southwest corner of the house and extends across a portion of the west and south elevations. The porch has a wood railing with a transparent material in the area below the railing, and three double vinyl sliding windows above the railing. There are also two single light vinyl casement windows at the northwest corner of the porch, one facing west and the other facing north. The porch has two double vinyl sliding windows its south side, with an aluminum storm / screen door to the right of the windows. To the right of the entry, the porch is enclosed with siding and has an aluminum greenhouse window which protrudes from the wall and is shaded by an aluminum awning. To the right of the porch, recessed from the plane of the porch, there is a ground level entry door with an aluminum storm / screen door. On the left/west half of the second story, the south elevation of the rear wing has two one-over-one-light double-hung vinyl window above the porch roof. Extending south

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beyond the enclosed porch is an open wood deck with wood railing and columns supporting a pergolalike open structure. There is vinyl lattice below both the porch and the deck floors.

A frame, two and a half car, gable-front garage sits at the southeast corner of the lot, facing the alley to the south. The assessor lists a construction date of 1973. It sits on a poured concrete foundation, is clad with vinyl siding, and has asphalt shingles on the front gable roof. There is a double aluminum garage door to the right of center on the south elevation. The west elevation has a fixed vinyl window toward the left side of the wall. There is a wood entry door at the far right side of the north elevation, facing the house. To the immediate southwest of the garage, a tall wood fence encloses an old concrete foundation and extends along the south lot line beside the alley. Midway along the fence is a pair of brick columns with a double wrought iron gate between them. Just inside the back yard, to the left of the gate, sits a small contemporary garden shed with an arched roof, vinyl siding, and a pair of plywood doors facing east.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The James B. and Julia Crail House appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the potential "west side" residential historic district in Washington. The house was built in 1904 during the period of development of the neighborhood with large houses for successful businessmen. The Queen Anne house includes several characteristic feature of the style, including a corner turret, decorative windows, bay windows, asymmetrical massing, and a wrap-around porch.

The house may be eligible for listing individually on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B for its association with James B. Crail. James B. Crail was a prominent resident and dry goods business owner in Washington, living here from 1904 to his death in 1946. The vinyl siding and replacement windows have impacted the historic integrity of the house to a certain degree, however the home retains a number of other historic Queen Anne features, so the overall integrity of the house would need to be further evaluated, including the interior. The integrity for Criterion B would be less impacted than for Criterion C for architecture. Even so, the house does retain an excellent set of characteristic Queen Anne features for architectural significance.

History / research summary of property

This house was built for James B. Crail and his new wife Julia in 1903. James Barlow Crail was born in West Virginia in 1853, and came to Washington in 1883 from Fairfield, Iowa with his wife Harriett. He began working in a dry good store, The Horseshoe Store, on the south side of the square with partners Roth and Mount. The family grew to include three sons, Hubert, born in 1884, Rodney, born in 1886, and Philip, born in 1887. Mrs. Crail died in 1887. A notice in the *Washington Press* on April 6, 1889 announces the dissolution of business between Crail and Roth; Mount had retired earlier. Another notice a week later says that Crail will move the store to a new location in the fall. An ad in the *Washington Press* announced he had moved to the Bryson Block on the northwest corner of the square where he continued in business until 1925, first as "The Horseshoe Store," and later as "Crail's, The

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Store of Quality." Through the years, Crail added natural lighting to the store, had a metal ceiling installed, and the store was enlarged to the double storefront width of the building. In November 1901, the *Press* announced the marriage of James B. Crail to Julia W. Smiley, a clerk at the store. The wedding was held at the store after closing time.

The 1902 Sanborn map shows Lot 2 as vacant. In November 1903, Julia Crail purchased Lot 3, and beginning the next spring, the *Press* noted building progress from time to time. In addition to an occasional, typical, two line mention in the Small Talk column, in May 1904, a separate article was devoted to the house: "J.B. Crail's new house is beautiful within and without. The arrangement is pleasing, and it has every last one of the modern improvements. Below it is finished in oak, floors and all, and it looks both substantial, elegant and rich. Hot water heat, gas and electric light, closets and presses and drawers enough to stow away an endless miscellany of things, and with a sweeping porch to shield the sun and catch all the breezes he and his will be able to live comfortably and elegantly inside and outside. In this climate we dwell within doors six month in the year, and about the same length of time out-of-doors. John Williams spared no pains to make this a perfect dwelling." The 1903 city directory lists the Crail family still at 302 W. Main as follows: J.B. Crail, Dry goods merchant, Julia (wife), Hubert, Rodney, Philip. The 1905 Iowa census then lists his P.O. address as W. Washington Street, and the value of his property at \$5,000. The 1909 Sanborn map shows the house much as it is today, a two story house with a curved wrap around porch to the east, a recessed entry area, and a bay window on the west side of the house.

The 1910-11 city directory lists the family as James B. Crail (wife Julia W.), dry goods and notions at 101 S. Marion, residence at 305 W Washington (earlier numbering, now 309). Other residents at this address included Hubert I. (clerk for J.B. Crail) and Philip J. (clerk for J.B. Crail). The 1910 census identifies the family as James B. Crail, head of the household and home owner with no mortgage, a retail merchant in dry goods, age 56, his wife Julia, age 37, and sons Hubert, age 26, a dry goods salesman, and Phillip, age 22, also a dry goods salesman. The 1910 census lists Rodney N. Crail, age 24, living in Long Beach, California and working as a clerk for a corporation. About 1915, the Crails organized the Good Fellows club to solicit funds and purchase Christmas baskets for needy families, an activity which was absorbed by another local service club and continues today. The 1917 county directory lists James B. Crail, dry good, his wife Julia, and sons Hubert, and James, clerks at 309 W. Washington. On July 17, 1917, Rodney Crail is married to Naoma Catherine Thayer in Carbon County, Montana. He is listed on the passenger list of a ship going to Honolulu in February 1918, although his wife is not traveling with him. He returns from Hawaii to San Franscisco in April 1918. His draft registration in 1918 lists his occupation as Showman, working for Crail Shows of San Antonio, Texas. By the time of the 1920 census, Rodney is back in Washington and listed with his family at 305 W. Washington. The full listing includes James B. Crail, head of the household and owner of his home, merchant in dry goods, age 67, his wife Julia, age not listed, Hubert, single and a dry goods salesman, age 35, Rodney, single and a traveling showman, age 33, and Phillip, single and a dry goods salesman, age 32. In September 1922, Phillip married Marguerite Parker in Washington.

In 1924, J.C. Penney Company opened a store in Washington and rented space next door to Crail's Store of Quality. Julia Crail died in April of that year, and on December 27, 1927, Cora B. Smiley, Julia's sister, transferred her interest in the residence to J.B. Crail. The Store of Quality closed in 1925,

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with the contents sold to H.I. Ward, another dry goods merchant in Washington. By 1926, the telephone directory lists J B Crail, Dry Goods, 211 W. Main Street, and his residence at 309 W. Washington Street.

The 1930 census identifies the residents here as James B. Crail, head and home owner, age 76, and his son Hubert, age 45, a merchant in dry goods. The value of the house is \$12,000. The 1935 city directory lists James B. Crail and his son Hubert living at this address, and they are also in the 1938 telephone directory. The 1940 census has James B. Crail, widower and retired merchant, age 86, and his son Hubert, age 55, a furniture salesman, living at 309 W. Washington. Rodney Crail is lodging with the Schilling family at 314 W. Jefferson Street, age 55 and divorced, and is working as a salesman in an auto garage. The 1941 city directory listing for the family includes J.B. Crail, retired merchant, widower, and home owner living here with Hubert Crail, owner of Crail Floor Covering and Window Work, located at 120 N. Iowa Avenue, and Rodney Crail, retired showman. James B. Crail died in February 1946, and on September 10 of that year, Rodney N. Crail, single, for the J.B. Crail estate, transferred the property to Hubert I. Crail. On the same date, Hubert transferred the property to Rodney.

The 1952 telephone directory has a listing for Hubert Crail at 309 W. Washington, and a listing for Edna Wittrig at 309 ½ W. Washington. In the 1954 city directory index, Hubert Crail is living at the same address, and Mrs. Edna Wittrig and Mrs. Pearl Frain are living at 309 ½ W. Washington. Subsequent telephone directories through 1962 continue to list Hubert Crail and Edna Wittrig at their respective addresses. The 1964 city directory lists Hubert Crail, retired, and his wife Gladys at 309 W. Washington, with Mrs. Pearl M. Frain (wid of James F.) at 309 ½ W. Washington. The 1969 city directory shows only Hubert Crail, retired, living in the house. There is no listing for anyone living at 309 ½ in either 1969 or the 1972 city directory.

On May 12, 1972, L.A. Holland, executor for the Hubert Crail estate, sold the property to Raphael A. and Linda A. Gonshorowski, the current owners.

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Location map



2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary

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Building plan (from assessor's website)

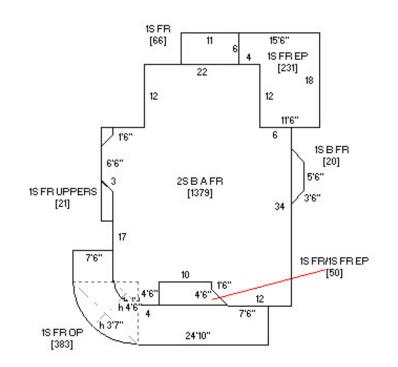


Photo from assessor's website



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Historic images





Images of Crail House (Washington Co Historical Society)

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Digital photographs



Photograph 92-00367-001 - House, looking south (December 2014)

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Photograph 92-00367-002 - House, looking southeast (December 2014)

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Photograph 92-00367-003 - House, looking northwest (December 2014)

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Photograph 92-00367-004 - House, looking northeast (December 2014)

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Photograph 92-00367-005 - House, looking south (December 2014)