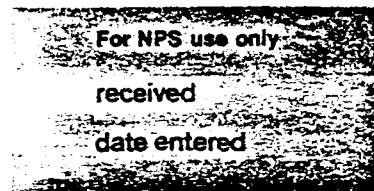


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Kump, Governor H. Guy, House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Intersection of U.S. Routes 33 and 250 not for publication

city, town Elkins vicinity of ~~San Francisco, California~~

state West Virginia code 54 county Randolph code 083

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture <u> </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial <u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational <u>X</u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment <u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government <u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial <u> </u> transportation
		<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military <u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Donald R. Roberts Miss Mary Gamble Kump

street & number 12 Prospect Street Clark Air Force Base P.S.C. #4

city, town Elkins, West Virginia vicinity of San Francisco, state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Randolph County Courthouse

street & number Randolph Avenue

city, town Elkins state West Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

___ excellent
___X good
___ fair

___ deteriorated
___ ruins
___ unexposed

Check one

___X unaltered
___ altered

Check one

___X original site
___ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Governor H. Guy Kump House is located on a spacious tract at the intersection of U.S. Routes 33 and 250 on Randolph Avenue in Elkins, Randolph County, West Virginia. A deep lawn, occasional plantings and a long driveway suggest the tranquil qualities favored by suburban developers of the early 20th century although expansion of Route 33 in 1939, rising traffic levels, and area commercial construction of the present age have altered once-peaceful surroundings.

The Kump House represents an ideal house type of the early 20th century. Its traditional style, quality of workmanship and appointments, and built-in conveniences of the period recall a manner of American house building that was not often observed in other national eras. The design and proportions reflecting an early American theme are clearly evident; they interpret, for a rising public servant, (Mr. Kump was mayor of Elkins at the time he commissioned a new house in 1924) those architectural qualities that were admired for their allusion to an earlier Federal fashion appropriate to the tastes of a new republic.

Washington, D.C., architect, Clarence L. Harding, produced plans for a substantial house in the Neo-Federal Revival mode on property acquired by Mr. Kump in 1922. The residence was built in 1924 and finished in 1925. The house was built by local contractor, T.R. Whiteman, whose son, Ernest Whiteman, a cabinet maker in Elkins, called the house one of the largest, finest and most modern residences of the city. The Kumps had the first automatic refrigerator with a compressor in the basement and "battleship" linoleum was installed in the first floor kitchen.

Mr. Boyd Simpson of Elkins was hired to finish the interior. The downstairs and stairway feature quarter-sawn white oak; the music room is finished in cherry, a second floor room is done in walnut; and a room on the third floor is arrayed in birds-eye maple. All woodwork surfaces were finished in five coats of varnish which were rubbed down by hand with pumice stone and oil with a felt pad. Mr. Simpson spent four years finishing the house. Much of the furniture and the doors were made in Elkins by local carpenters and craftsmen.

The Governor H. Guy Kump House is of the Neo-Federal Revival style with Neo-Georgian Revival elements. The 2½-story, 42-foot square red brick structure is dominated by a steeply pitched, slate covered gable roof appointed with low raking parapets of gray limestone. A southern double end chimney rises above the roof in the Georgian manner. Front elevation symmetry is accentuated with a shallow Doric-style entrance portico above which rises at roof level a pedimented pavilion centered with a 3-part window. Limestone splayed lintels, belt courses, and decorative plaques contrast with the red brick facade. A wooden roof balustrade, flanking the center pavilion, and a wrought iron balustrade over the Doric portico, are other Federal-style refinements. A Doric column-carried porte cochere and a one-story enclosed sun porch are attached to the side elevations.

Room arrangements of the Kump House are placed in the following sequence: the first floor of the house includes a vestibule, front hall, bathroom, breakfast

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room, kitchen, butler's pantry and pantry. On the second floor are 4 bedrooms and a sleeping porch. The third floor has 6 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. The basement was finished with an office for Mr. Kump, a big playroom, bathroom, storeroom, furnace room and laundry. There is a back stairway from the basement to the second floor and a garage is located under the sunroom.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☒ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☒ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1924-25 Builder/Architect Clarence L. Harding, architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) T.R. Whiteman, builder

The Governor Kump House, located at the intersection of U.S. Route 33 and 250 (Randolph Avenue), in Elkins, Randolph County, West Virginia, is significant as a fine example of early 20th century suburban architecture and as a well preserved example of the work of the noted architect Clarence L. Harding.¹ The Governor Kump House is also significant as the home of West Virginia's 19th and one of her most important, governors.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The Governor Kump House is significant as an example of the early 20th century suburban house of period architectural style incorporating contemporary conveniences and notable workmanship. Quality of such houses reached an important level in the last years of the 19th century and in the years preceding the advent of the Great Depression. The Kump house is also significant as a well-preserved example of the work of Washington, D.C., architect, Clarence L. Harding, who found a profitable field for his professional interests in West Virginia during the early decades of the 20th century.

As the Colonial Revival and other traditional modes gained popularity and common acceptance among architects and patrons of the early 20th century, residential design attained levels of excellence by reason of the growing professional architectural community, a part of which received training abroad. The Kump House represents a rather skilled professional interpretation of an early American house type which invests in its Neo-Federal Revival form the required appearance but with appointments, space flow and conveniences necessary to the 20th century resident.

Architect Harding is known to have worked extensively in several other West Virginia communities, notably in Charleston and Martinsburg. His Alderson-Stephenson Building (Union Building) in Charleston was the state's tallest building at the time of construction in the early 20th century.

2. Herman Guy Kump (1877-1962) is one of 20th century West Virginia's most outstanding public figures. He became governor of West Virginia in March of 1933, at probably the lowest point in the fortunes of the state. Governor Kump instituted programs that contributed to easing the overwhelming economic burdens that the Great Depression had caused to fall upon the people of the state, as well as bringing about lasting reforms in the state government. His election brought to an end a 36-year period of Republican party rule in the state, and helped to affect, for good or ill, such a complete reversal in political legalities that the state still retains a heavy Democratic party majority in voter registration.

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Herman Guy Kump was born in Hampshire County in 1877 and moved to Elkins, Randolph County, in 1905. He married Edna Hall Scott, daughter of state Senator Cyrus H. Scott, in 1907, a union that produced four daughters and two sons. In 1908 Kump was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Randolph County and re-elected in 1912. During World War I he served in the U.S. Army with the rank of captain. Kump was elected Mayor of Elkins in 1924 (the year he began building his fine Elkins residence) and in 1928 was elected Circuit Judge. In the 1932 democratic primary election, Judge Kump led a field of 13 candidates and went on to sweep the general election by an unprecedented 60,000 vote majority over his Republican opponent.

Taking office on March 4, 1933, Governor Kump faced a state that was in the grip of the worst economic depression in its history. He immediately called a special session of the legislature that met for 240 days; the longest such session in the state's history. Among the many accomplishments of the Kump administration the most memorable include (1) institution of a consumer sales tax, referred to by many as "the Kump tax", (2) the state took over ownership and responsibility for the state highway and bridge system, (3) unemployment insurance was instituted, (4) state personal income tax began, and a (5) county unit school system adopted, along with the institution of the nine-month school term. Although the depression was certainly not ended during Kump's term of office, his administration accomplished many things which made life less bleak for the state's inhabitants.

Constitutionally unable to succeed himself as governor, Kump made two further efforts at attaining public office. He was narrowly defeated in the Democratic primary of 1940 for U.S. Senate (though running ahead of the incumbent Senator Rush Holt), and was defeated for the same office in 1942 by Governor M.M. Neely. Kump retired to his Elkins home where he lived an honored and respected life until his death there in 1962 at age 84.

The Governor Kump House stands as a premier architectural landmark in the city of Elkins, and as a reminder of one of the most notable individuals to stride across the public stage of West Virginia's history.

#9 Major Bibliographical References

- Correspondence of Cyrus Kerr Kump of Elkins, W.Va., 1980-1982;
on file at Historic Preservation Unit, Department of Culture
and History, Charleston, W.Va.
- Morgan, John G., West Virginia Governors, 1863-1980, 2nd ed.,
Charleston Newspapers, Charleston, W.Va., 1980.
- Williams, John Alexander, West Virginia, A Bicentennial History,
W.W. Norton & Co., New York, 1976.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Buckhannon Record, "Ex-Governor Was Outstanding as Leader in State", Buckhannon, W.Va., February 16, 1962.

Charleston Gazette, "Kump Led State Out of Chaos", by Harry Hoffman, Charleston, W.Va., February 16, 1962.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3 acres

Quadrangle name Elkins, W.Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 1 7 6 0 0 3 6 0 4 3 0 8 0 7 0
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Bounded to the east by the City corporate boundary; to the south by U.S. Route 33; to the west by U.S. Route 250/219; and to the north by Center Street.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rodney S. Collins, Architectural Historian & Michael J. Pauley, Historian
Historic Preservation Unit

organization Department of Culture and History date May 12, 1983

street & number Capitol Complex telephone 304/348-0240

city or town Charleston state West Virginia 25305

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national X state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date July 10, 1983

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

KUMP, GOV. H. GUY,
HOUSE
RANDOLPH AVENUE
ELKINS, RANDOLPH
COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA

UTM:
E. 600360 4308070

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