

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Stealey - Goff - Vance House

AND/OR COMMON

Amy Roberts Vance House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

123 West Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

VICINITY OF

First

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Harrison

CODE

033

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harrison County Historical Society

Historical Society
Headquarters

STREET & NUMBER

123 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harrison County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	PE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PF
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED			<input type="checkbox"/> 14

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Amy Roberts Vance House at 123 West Main Street, Clarksburg, Harrison County, West Virginia, is a gable roofed two-story brick dwelling exhibiting significant early 19th century features and refined late 19th century Victorian accretions. Heavy stone, finely molded brick, and sawn and hewn hardwood were locally acquired materials the builder used to produce a residence that was expensive for its day, and of such quality that walls remain plumb while support beams and floor joists exhibit little sag or other indications of deterioration after nearly a century and three quarters of wear.

A high coursed rubble foundation gives the Vance House a tall, rather formal quality despite many details that are typical of pre-Civil War architecture in rural America. Unusual in the front elevation brickwork, however, is a four-course watertable flush with the brickwork of the facade. A three-course belt course matching the watertable brickwork extends across the front of the house. The exclusive use of Flemish bond brickwork in the facade and common American bonding elsewhere also indicates a formal, yet typical, early 19th century characteristic.

The five bay front is punctuated with tall, double hung 9/9 light sash windows at the first floor level and short double hung 6/6 light sash windows at the second floor level. The steeply pitched gable roof is pierced with interior end chimneys and covered in a raised seam tin surface. Square attic windows flank the chimneys at both gable ends of the house. The end walls are otherwise devoid of window openings.

The Vance House succumbed to Victorian embellishment c. 1891 with the addition of a high pitched center gable, a single bay porch, and a bracketed cornice. Imbricated wooden shingles in the front gable and short wooden lattice bargeboards were placed in each of the three gables. The four square wooden columns, the bracketed cornice, and the railing of the front porch were High Victorian elements that remain the principal ornaments of building.

The room arrangements of the first and second floor are identical; a central hall with stairway bisects the house front to rear. Single rooms are found on the east side of the house upstairs and down. The same space on the south side of the house is divided to form two rooms on the first floor and two rooms on the second.

Of particular interest regarding the c. 1807 date of construction is the original beam support system visible in the basement. Adze marks are still plainly discernable on the major beams indicating their early origin. In the cellar 5 inch thick tenoned floor joists are joined with the mortised heavy hewn beams to demonstrate the skill of early Clarksburg housebuilders and the quality of hardwood timber once plentiful in Harrison County.

PE
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SP
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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1807 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Jacob Stealey

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Amy Roberts Vance House of Clarksburg, Harrison County, West Virginia, is the oldest known brick house in Clarksburg. It has been associated with personages of historical significance from the date of its construction c. 1807, to the present. The absence of major alterations and the excellent state of the building's condition provides the community of Clarksburg with a rare glimpse of 19th century building customs and architectural genre.

The Vance House was constructed for Jacob Stealey, a successful Clarksburg tanner, whose tanyard on Water Street was located about a block from the house. Jacob Stealey, who had arrived in Clarksburg in 1793, bought from George Jackson in Nov. 1795, for 300 pounds, land known as the "tanyard mill" with the stipulation that Stealey have the right to use the water "running through the tanyard". In 1807 Stealey purchased for \$709 land on West Main Street from George Jackson where the brick house was erected.

After the death of Jacob Stealey in 1841, his son John owned and lived in the house until 1881, when Nathan Goff, Sr., purchased the property. Mr. Goff served as President of Clarksburg for the terms 1849 and 1858-65. Goff also served in the West Virginia House of Delegates, 1863-66, 1870. During the occupancy of Goff's widow, Mary R. Horner Goff (sister-in-law of West Virginia Governor George W. Atkinson), from 1885 until 1908, Victorian details were added to the house. The front gable, porch, and ornate cornice millwork were placed on the house c. 1891. Also at this time a frame two-story ell at the rear replaced a single-story brick addition that apparently formed the original kitchen wing of the house. From 1908 to 1932 the house, as part of the Goff estate, was used as a boarding house and doctor's office. In 1933, Mrs. J. Carl (Amy Roberts) Vance purchased the house, restored it, and used it as a residence for thirty-four years.

Clarksburg Civic leader Amy Roberts Vance, the mother of John and Cyrus Vance, died in July 1967. The Vance brothers offered the Harrison County Historical Society the right of purchase of this property, including their own donation of \$11,000 of the appraised value, for use as a museum and society headquarters. The transaction was completed through public subscription on Nov. 15, 1967.

Cyrus Roberts Vance was in his teens when his mother purchased the house, and so it was his home during his summer visits to Clarksburg from Eastern schools. Cyrus Vance was born on St. Patrick's Day in 1917 in an old family mansion (demolished) at the corner of Pike and Sixth Streets in West Clarksburg. He was the fourth generation of Vance in the city. His great-grandfather, Col. Cyrus Vance, was a former mayor of Clarksburg. His grandfather, John C. Vance, was a member of the

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STEALEY-GOFF-VANCE HOUSE, CLARKSBURG, HARRISON COUNT, WEST VIRGINIA

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

of the House of Delegates of the Restored Government of Virginia at Wheeling. Cyrus R. Vance served as Secretary of the Army, 1962-64, as a diplomat for President Lyndon Johnson, and is currently serving as Secretary of State for President Carter.

According to relatives, Amy Roberts Vance, a "civic minded activist" from Philadelphia's Main Line, was highly influential in shaping her famous son's demeanor and moral idealism. Significant also in the early life of Cyrus R. Vance was a cousin, John W. Davis, a noted Clarksburg attorney and the Democratic Presidential candidate in 1924. Vance was known to spend part of his childhood in the extensive library of "Uncle" John, from whom he gained his first impressions of law and politics.

Cyrus Vance has been described as a "courtly West Virginian". The young man who called the house at 123 West Main Street home in the period 1937-1946, distinguished himself in later years as general counsel for the Defense Department and Secretary of the Army under President John F. Kennedy. Vance served Lyndon Johnson as Deputy Secretary of Defense and became President Johnson's personal envoy for foreign and domestic emergencies. In 1968-69 Vance was deputy chief delegate to the Paris peace talks on Vietnam. Cyrus Vance won appointment as Secretary of State of the United States under President Carter in January 1977.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, Dorothy. History of Harrison County, West Virginia. Parson, W.Va.: McClain Printing, 1970, pp. 472-73.

Harrison County Historical Society, brochure and leaflet on Amy Roberts Vance House, n.d.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Clarksburg, W.Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 5,5,7,2,8,0 4,3,4,7,6,7,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The Amy Roberts Vance House stands on a city lot 46.5 ft. across the front by 120 feet deep. The property is bound by Main Street on the north, a parking lot to the east, an open lot to the south, and a frame two-story house to the west.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Rodney S. Collins, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

West Virginia Dept. of Culture and History

DATE

April 11, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Capitol Complex, Science and Culture Center

TELEPHONE

(304) 348-0244

CITY OR TOWN

Charleston

STATE

West Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

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

Clarence Morrow

TITLE West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE May 16, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

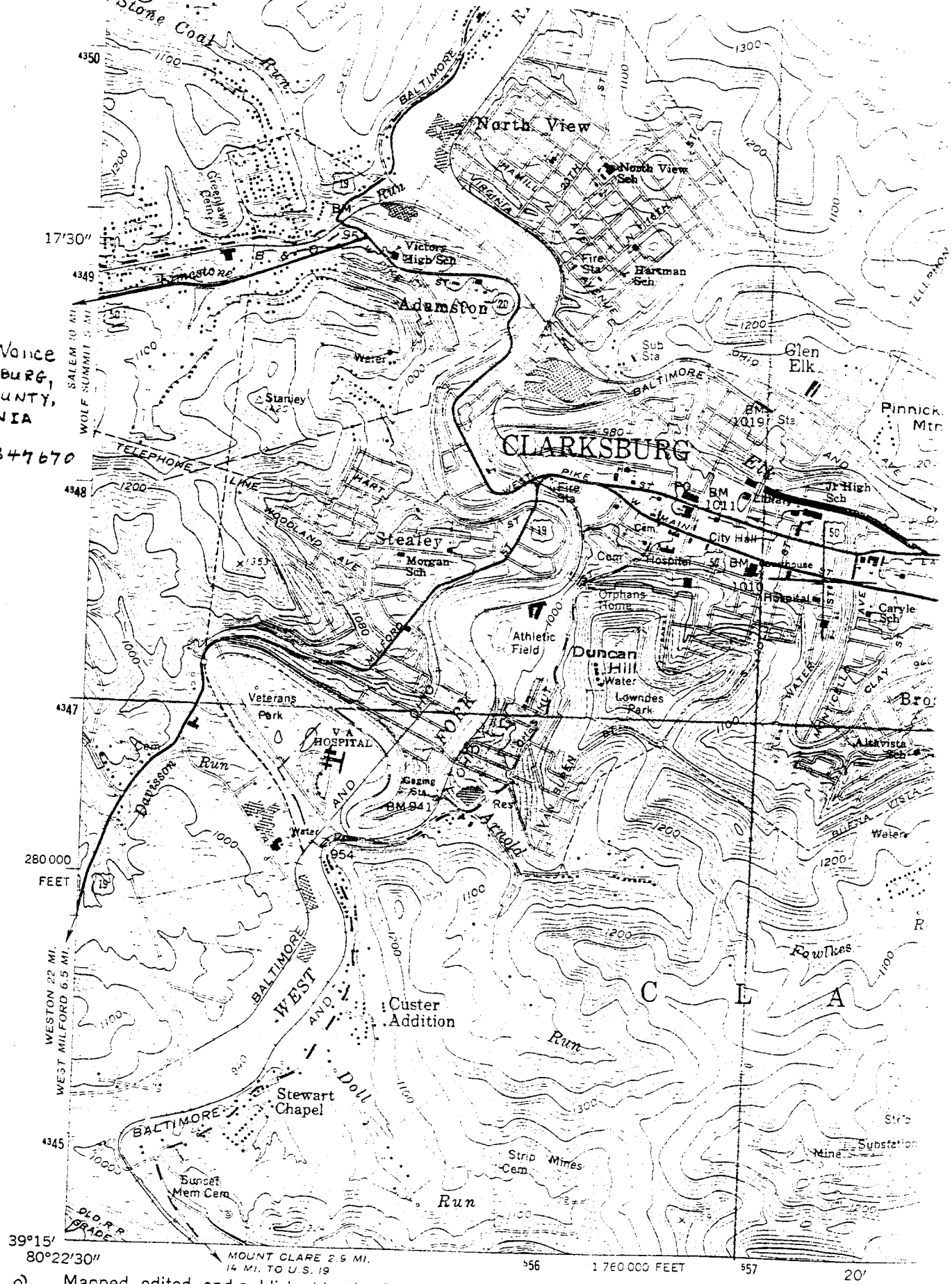
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

AMY Roberts Vance
 HOUSE, CLARKSBURG,
 HARRISON COUNTY,
 WEST VIRGINIA

17/557 280/4347 670



CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
 QUADRANGLE, 1958

(WEST MILFORD)
 4962 III NW

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1958

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on West Virginia coordinate system,
 north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks

