United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Tracewell Manor

other name/site number: "Maple Shadows;" Tracewell Manor

2. Location

street & number: State Route 95

city/town: Parkersburg

state: WV

county: Wood

code: 107

zip code: 26101

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Buildings

Number of Resources within Property:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 buildings</td>
<td>0 sites</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 structures</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Total</td>
<td>0 Total</td>
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</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of relate property listing: N/A
4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of Certifying Official</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>3/5/91</td>
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State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of commenting or other official</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of Keeper</th>
<th>Date of Action</th>
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<tbody>
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6. Function or Use

<table>
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<th>Sub: Single Dwelling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current: Domestic</td>
<td>Sub: Single Dwelling</td>
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</table>
7. Description

Architectural Classification: Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival

Other Description: I-House

Materials: foundation Sandstone  roof Slate  
walls Brick  other 

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local

Applicable National Register Criteria: B, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1835-1930

Significant Dates : 1835

Significant Person(s): Tracewell, Edward P.

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Not Known

State significance of property, and justify criteria, considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.
The Tracewell House stands on a substantial stone foundation on a slight grade above State Route 95 west of Parkersburg, West Virginia. The single-pile painted brick I-House is an excellent local example of Greek Revival architecture. Its proportions and symmetry are qualities associated with fine early house building in the region.

The one-room deep house is bisected by a central hall. The slate-roofed central block contains four rooms: two on the first floor and two on the second. A gabled, two-story ell stands at the rear. A distinguishing feature of the Tracewell House is the brickwork that is clearly defined at the front elevation in a Flemish bond, and at the side and rear elevations in a common American bond.

Significant mid-19th-century design elements are found along the house's front facade. Centered above the entrance is a single-bay, one-story portico featuring a gabled roof with triangular pediment. Other Greek Revival features include a corbeled brick cornice (a common West Virginia vernacular Greek Revival element), a second story belt course at the window sill line, and differentiation of window heights at the first and second floor levels. Adding to the formality of the fenestration across the five-bay front is the sash configuration which is nine over six lights at the ground floor and six over six lights at the second level.

Late 19th-century brickwork embellishes the eaves of the Tracewell House, indicating a minor, later design change. The eaves above the interior end chimneys are rather deep, differing from other West Virginia Greek Revival-style houses which often exhibit flush gable ends. Singular among other substantial design features of this house are expertly cut window lintel and sill stones.

Within the angle of the house formed by the main block and ell is a two-story gallery, now partially enclosed. Within ten feet of the rear porch to the northeast corner of the house is a deteriorating contributing board-and-batten outbuilding. The building's slate roof is in disrepair; wide board sheathing is visible in several areas. Attached to the northwest side of the outbuilding is a gable-roofed open well housing.

Interior features of the Tracewell House are simple, through elegant. The well-preserved stair is an open stringer with two runs and a railing appointed with a molded rail and slender balusters. Mantels in the adjacent first floor parlor and dining room are wooden single shelf types with broad plain facing boards.

Grounds behind the house, shaded by maple and spruce trees, slope gently upward. One of the early common names for this property is "Maple Shadows."
Built in pre-Civil War America in ca. 1835 and known for many years as "Tracewell Manor" and still later as "Maple Shadows," the Greek Revival Tracewell House is the finest example of Greek Revival architecture in the southern part of Wood County. It was the home of Edward P. Tracewell, the sheriff of the county in 1850, a year which marked the onset of one of the most turbulent decades in the nation's history. By the end of 1861 he was a supporter of the Union cause and presided over a meeting of Wood County citizens convened in March 1862 in behalf of the ratification of the constitution of the proposed new state of West Virginia, which was born on June 20, 1863. The Tracewell House, therefore, meets National Register Criteria B because the house is associated with a local prominent personality.

The house possesses additional distinctions under Criterion C as the finest Greek Revival house in southern Wood County.

Born in 1799 in Culpepper County, Virginia, Tracewell migrated to Wood County in 1822, a year during which many citizens of the Mid-Ohio Valley centering upon the present Parkersburg, West Virginia-Marietta, Ohio, Standard Metropolitan District died during a fever epidemic. At his death in 1876, he was described as one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of the county by a local newspaper reporting his death. His farm consisted of three hundred and fifty-six acres.

After Tracewell's death, his remains were interred in the family cemetery located on high ground about one mile half mile to the northwest of the house. His grave is marked by an impressive gravestone. To its west are numerous other graves, for over time the cemetery became a popular burial ground in the portion of Wood County radiating for some distance from Tracewell Manor in all directions in the area south of the Little Kanawha River.

The Tracewell House is unique in other respects. First, it is the only surviving structure from the 1830's along a well travelled highway (Route 95 South) connecting the southern limits of the city of Parkersburg with the site of Wood county's two largest industrial employers -- DuPont and General Electric Plastics. Second, it is situated along the main road connecting Parkersburg's historic Point (the point where the Little Kanawha River enters the Ohio River) with Lubeck, the small commercial center of a farming area heavily populated by immigrants from northern Germany. Families comprising this group first arrived in the area in the 1850's, but their descendant scar still be found in the area. Third, the Tracewell farm itself was situated in an area known as Quakertown because in 1816 a Quaker from Maine named Eliphlet Dudley moved to the area, purchased land, cleared it, farmed it, raised a family on it, and witnessed one of his sons become engaged to the future wife of Edward Tracewell. However, the engagement was severed.
at the son's request when the son became ill. Fourth, the architecture of the house is significant. It is the finest example of Greek Revival architecture in southern Wood County. It is of single pile construction being one-room deep but possessing two stories. It possesses a 5-bay front. It possesses a trabeated entrance beneath a pedimented entry porch. Its brickwork on its front is Flemish Bond; on its sides is 5-course American Bond; 7-course American Bond is used in the rear ell. It has a brick dog tooth dentil row at cornice level. Its rear ell has a two-story gallery. All of these characteristics of Greek Revival architecture in one building are rare in southern Wood County.
9. Major Bibliographical References

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- See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

☑ State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: WV SHPO - Wood County Survey, 1990

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: .9 of an acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 17 449080 4144280 B  
C ______ ______ D ______ ______

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

To the north and the east by the sunset Memory Gardens, to the west by the Flowers Baking Co. distribution Center, and to the south by State Route 95. See sketch map; Plat ref. Plat Book 9, p.24; and Deed Book 806 p. 392.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

The nominated property constitutes the significant portion of Tracewell lands historically associated with the Tracewell House, outbuilding, and immediate grounds.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Bernard L. Allen, Ph. D. (Histom); Rodney Collins, WV SHPO

Organization: __________________________ Date: 12/31/90

Street & Number: 1521 Washington Ave. Telephone: 422-8375/348-0240

City or Town: Parkersburg State: WV ZIP: 26101
Interviews

Garrity, Mr. and Mrs. David. Present owners of the house. Interviewed by Dr. Bernard L. Allen (Ph. D., History) at the house (January 1990).


Printed Sources

Census Records of Wood County, West Virginia for 1850, 1860, and 1870.

Genealogy of Edward Tracewell in the possession of David Garrity, present owner and occupant of the Tracewell House.


Obituary of Edward P. Tracewell in a 1876 Parkersburg newspaper, The Parkersburg Sentinel (March 18, 1876).

"Public Meeting at Parkersburg," The Wheeling Intelligencer (March 19, 1862).


PLAT FOR

WILLIAM D and CAROLYN S. GARRITY
ROUTE 36 BOX 261
PARKERSBURG, WV.

SITUATED

LUBECK DISTRICT, WOOD CO. WVA.

BEING

PART OF THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO
WILLIAM DAVID GARRITY IN DEED BOOK
836 PAGE 392

PLAT REF. PLAT BOOK 9 PAGE 24

SCALE 1" = 40' DATE JULY 1, 1986