VLR Listed: 9/11/2002 NRHP Listed: 11/27/2002

(Rev. 10-90) NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



OMB No. 1024-0018

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name Mount Pleasant other names/site number VDHR # 096-5003	
2. Location	
street & number 317 Coles Point Road	not for publication
city or town <u>Hague</u>	vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Westmoreland code	e <u>193</u> Zip <u>22469</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
	eservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X
	eets the documentation standards for registering properties in
	edural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part
	meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this ewide X locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional
comments.)	wide A locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional
The second secon	
They 1011	16/07
Signature of certifying official Date	
Virginia Department of Historic Resources	
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does not mee	et the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet
for additional comments.)	<u> </u>
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	*.
4. National Park Service Certification	<u> </u>
I, hereby certify that this property is:	1/2/ 1/27/00
entered in the National Register	n Mr Deall 11/21/02
See continuation sheet.	,
determined eligible for the National Register	Signature of Keeper
See continuation sheet.	V Signature of Reception
determined not eligible for the National Register	Date of Action
removed from the National Register	
other (explain):	

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

# MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

5. Classification				
Ownership of Pro	perty (Ch	eck as many bo	xes as apply)	-
X priva				
publi				
publi	c-State			
publi	ic-Federal			
Category of Prop	erty (Chec	k only one boy	`	
	ding(s)	k only one cox	,	
distri				
site				
struc	ture			
object				
Number of Resou	rces withi	n Property		
Contributing				
3	0	buildings		
0	0	sites		
1	0	structures		
0	0	objects		
4	0	Total		
N/A	unipie pro	perty fishing (Li	ner IVA ii property is not par	t of a multiple property listing.)
6. Function or Us	se .			
Historic Function	ns (Enter ca	itegories from i	nstructions)	
Cat: DOMEST			Sub: Single dwelling	
<u>DOMES</u>	ric		Secondary structure	
			<u></u>	
				<del></del>
				<u></u>
Current Function	ne (Enter o	stanoriae from i	netructions)	
Cat: DOMEST		negories from i	Sub: Single dwelling	
DOMES'			Secondary structure	
DOMES			Secondary ser details	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<del></del> -			<del></del>
				<u></u>
				<del></del>
	· <del></del> -			
- <del></del>				

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

## MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

7. Descript	
	ral Classification (Enter categories from instructions)  VICTORIAN Queen Anne
	Enter categories from instructions) tion Brick
	sphalt shingles
_	Vood/weatherboard
other ]	Brick chimneys, wood verandah, slate mantels
Narrative l	Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Stateme	nt of Significance
	National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for egister listing)
A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B 	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<u>X</u> C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.
Criteria Co	onsiderations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B	removed from its original location.
C	a birthplace or a grave.
D	a cemetery.
E	a reconstructed building, object or structure.
F	a commemorative property.
G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

OMB No. 1024-4018

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  ARCHITECTURE
Period of Significance 1887-1952
Significant Dates 1887 1941
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Cultural AffiliationN/A
Architect/BuilderUnknown
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)  Previous documentation on file (NPS)  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  previously listed in the National Register  X 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  X_ State Historic Preservation Office  Other State agency  Federal agency  Local government  University  Other  Name of repository:
10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property 37.25 acres
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing    1
A See continuation sheet.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

OMB No. 1024-4018

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

#### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Margaret Roberts

Organization: Urban Development Associates

date: June 25, 2002

street & number: P.O. Box 26824

telephone 804.512.1063

city or town Richmond

state VA zip code 23261

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### **Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

#### **Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) name Mr. William T. and Mrs. Martha S. Carden

street & number P.O. Box 310

telephone 804.472. 3508

city or town Kinsale

stateVA zip code 22488

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 7 Page 1

## 7. Summary Description:

Located near Hague, VA, Mount Pleasant is a three-story, Queen Anne style house built in 1887. The house is framed in cypress, stands on a brick basement, and has floors made of Virginia pine. It has a gabled roof, four brick chimneys, and a single-story verandah that spans its north and west elevations. Mount Pleasant has seventeen rooms. The first floor includes two parlors, a dining room, a library, a study, a guestroom, and a powder room. An addition to the rear of the house contains a kitchen, a breakfast area, and a den. The second and third floors contain six bedrooms and six bathrooms. Mount Pleasant has a number of notable Late Victorian decorative features including six faux grained slate mantels, a stained glass skylight, and ten gasoliers. A smokehouse, a carriage barn, and a well house stand to the rear of the house.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 8 Page 2

## 8. Statement of Significance

Mount Pleasant is eligible for the National Register under criteria C, for it is one of the few examples of Queen Anne style residential architecture in Westmoreland County, Virginia. The house stands on land that belonged to the Lee family for six generations. It was built in 1887, when John E.R. Crabbe decided to retire from a Baltimore dry goods company and return to his childhood home. Mt. Pleasant's innovative design reflected Crabbe's desire to lead Westmoreland County into the Machine Age. Based on published illustrations of Late Victorian architecture, the house was assembled from prefabricated parts and had its own acetylene gas manufacturing plant to fuel its lamps. Mt. Pleasant remained in the Crabbe family until 1929. In 1941 Pittsburgh industrialist James King purchased the house and installed a new round of modern conveniences including a series of bullet-shaped chandeliers that reportedly came from the Pittsburgh Opera House. Sold to Clarence Holding in 1966, the house endured almost thirty years of neglect until the current owners bought it at auction in 1994. Following an intensive restoration, Mount Pleasant now offers visitors an unexpected taste of the Gilded Age.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 7 Page 3

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

## Setting

Mount Pleasant is located in Westmoreland County one mile outside of Hague, Virginia. Tucked away in a shady knoll off Virginia State Highway 612, the house overlooks fields to the west and borders Old Burnt House, the remains of a Lee family house, to the north. Mount Pleasant is surrounded by deciduous and evergreen trees, which add to its air of quiet isolation.

## Exterior

Mount Pleasant is a three-story, cypress frame house that stands on a brick basement. Built in the Queen Anne style, it has a steeply pitched, gabled roof, four towering chimneys, and a sweeping verandah. Originally made of cedar shake, the house's gabled roof is now covered in asphalt shingles. It has a complex design characteristic of Late Victorian residential architecture. The west elevation includes a tower topped with a wrought iron finial and a gable with a pair of casement windows. The north and east elevations feature gables with single, four pane casement windows. A gable on the house's south side penetrates an end chimney and includes a single, arched casement window.

The roof includes a variety of dormers. Two north dormers and a west dormer contain semi-circular windows with square panes of colored glass in their bottom corners. A south dormer contains a one-over-one double hung window trimmed in colored glass while an east dormer has two one-over-one double hung windows. The east elevation has a shed dormer with two four-over-four double hung windows. At the center of the roof, the principle ridge is decorated with a wrought iron crest rail that has finials at each end. The roof also incorporates two central chimneys and two end chimneys along the south elevation. One of these contains three windows. There is an arched, four pane casement window with a fixed transom glazed in squares of stained glass on the first floor; a four pane casement with a fixed transom on the second floor; and a single, arched casement with stained glass corners on the third.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

## Section 7 Page 4

Mount Pleasant is clad in shiplap clapboard made from local cypress. The siding's complex design incorporates paneled, tongue-and-groove wainscot painted an array of colors. The single-story verandah, which spans the north and west elevations, has nineteen fluted wood columns. These are connected in pairs by twenty one sections of handrail with semi-circular cutouts.

#### <u>Interior</u>

Mount Pleasant's eight-foot, multi-paneled, walnut front doors open onto the entrance hall. A library, a study, a guest room, and a guest bath stand to the left while two parlors and a dining room stand to the right. Solid walnut sliding doors that withdraw into left and right wall pockets separate public areas on the south side of the first floor. A pair of doors in the front hall opens onto the living room, a second pair reveals a small parlor, and a third pair leads to the dining room. The first floor retains its original walnut woodwork as well as much of its original bronze-plated, cast iron hardware. Principal rooms throughout the first floor are fitted with gilded and gold leaf finish picture molding.

Moving back to the central corridor and proceeding east, one passes into a rear wing built during the early twentieth century. This addition contained a kitchen, a service pantry, a rear staircase, and two upstairs bedrooms for servants. It also featured a bathroom whose functions were divided into two separate areas. The bathtub stood in one portion and the toilet in the other, and each area had its own hand basin. Mount Pleasant's current owners expanded the first floor of this rear wing to serve as a kitchen, a breakfast room, and a den. Twelve pantry doors made of Virginia cypress survive from the previous kitchen.

Mount Pleasant's central stair is made of walnut and chestnut. Its soaring, three-story stairwell is fitted with a leaded glass skylight with a central design measuring five-by-five feet square. The design consists of four large peacock tails executed in multicolor glass. The stair leads to four bedrooms, four bathrooms, and a utility room on the second floor. These rooms are trimmed in chestnut. The third floor has two bedrooms, a day bed area, a play room, and one bathroom. These rooms are trimmed in pine painted a tobacco color.

Mount Pleasant is filled with natural light provided by a variety of windows. Principal rooms on the first and second floors have one-over-one double hung windows fitted with cast

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

iron
Section 7 Page 5

counter weights. Each of these has a fixed transom glazed with twelve multicolored glass panes. The main parlor on the first floor has four bay windows. The library features two floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto the verandah. The study also includes a floor-to-ceiling window leading to the verandah. On the second floor a bedroom on the south side of the house has two floor-to-ceiling windows flanking one of the end chimneys. These windows open onto a pair of tiny, triangular balconies. When it was built, Mount Pleasant had gas lights fueled by an acetylene plant on site. Ten of the house's original gasoliers survive in their original locations. Each has been carefully restored and fitted with prisms and glass shades of appropriate historic design.

Mount Pleasant contains eight fireplaces. Six are fitted with slate mantels with faux grain finishes. Two slate mantels on the first floor are finished in a walnut pattern to match first floor trim and woodwork. Four slate mantels on the second floor are finished in a chestnut pattern. Mount Pleasant also contains two ornate wooden mantels. On the first floor a ten foot wide walnut mantel stretches from floor to ceiling in the main parlor. It has solid paneling with three vertical, rectangular, inset mirrors and two overhanging balcony shelves. Mottled brown Italian marble surrounds the fireplace, and the fireplace's opening is trimmed with an ornamental brass surround. The dining room contains an antique mahogany mantel that dates from the late nineteenth century but was not original to the house. The fireplace facing and hearth are made of the same brown, mottled Italian marble found in the living room. An ornamental brass surround trims the fireplace's opening.

#### Secondary Structures

A smokehouse, a carriage house, and a well house stand to the rear of Mount Pleasant. The smokehouse is a two-story frame building clad in wood siding with a gable roof. The carriage house is a two-story frame building with wood siding that closely reflects the elaborate exterior pattern of the main house. It has a steeply pitched roof with a modified monitor. The single-story well house has a gable roof, wood siding, and a single six-over-six double hung window.

Archaeology

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

As Mount Pleasant stands on land occupied by the Lee family for five generations, it may be an archaeological site. The remains of Old Burnt House to the north of Mount Pleasant have already been designated an historic site. The remains of Henry Lee's home, Lee Hall, and Thomas Lee's home, Mount Pleasant, lie somewhere between the new Mount Pleasant and Old Burnt House. Further investigation should be done at a later time.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 8 Page 6

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Built on a rise overlooking the road from Hague to Coles Point, Mount Pleasant is an architectural anomaly. Its gabled roof, multiple chimneys, stained glass, and towering finniale look out of place in an area known for its Georgian and Colonial style residential architecture. Yet Mount Pleasant recalls an important period in Westmoreland County's history. During the late 1880s, citizens took steps to bring the Northern Neck out of its rural isolation by improving transportation and modernizing business practices. One of the leaders of this progressive movement was John E.R. Crabbe. In 1886 Crabbe bought Mount Pleasant, an estate that had belonged to the Lee family for six generations. Amid the ruins of old Lee family houses, Crabbe built a three-story, nine bedroom Oueen Anne style house from prefabricated parts delivered on steamships. The new Mount Pleasant was a toast to machine production, mass transportation, and modern engineering—three forces that would bring Westmoreland County into the Industrial Age. Yet the Lee family's connection with the estate overshadowed the innovative architecture of Crabbe's new house. In August 1897 the Northern Neck News published a full-page article on Mount Pleasant. The first three columns of the piece were devoted to the Lee family's years at the estate. The last paragraph mentioned Crabbe and described his house as "a worthy success of the honored homes which graced the place in the brave days of old."

The Lee family did play an important role in Mount Pleasant's history. Crabbe's house stood on a piece of land patented by Richard Lee, founder of the famous Virginia family whose descendants included Henry "Lighthorse" Lee and Robert E. Lee. Richard Lee began acquiring land in the Northern Neck shortly after he came to Virginia from Shropshire, England in 1639. In October 1657 he patented "100 acres upon the south side of Potomac River, beginning at the mouth of a creek issuing out of Machotic River." When Lee died in 1660 his eldest son John inherited the tract, which was known as Matholic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Mount Pleasant," Northern Neck News, 13 Aug 1897: 1, col. 1-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers, vol. 1 (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1983): 346.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Paul C. Nagel, *The Lees of Virginia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990): 173-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Nugent, vol.1, 346.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> H. Ragland Eubank, The Authentic Guide Book of the Historic Northern Neck of Virginia (Richmond: Whittet & Shepperson, 1934): 37. See also Nagel 16.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 8 Page 7

As soon as he completed his education in England, John returned to Virginia and built a house on his father's land. At the time settlers in Westmoreland County maintained a small army to protect the area from the constant threat of "turbulent and mutinous Indians." John served as a captain in this militia until he died in 1673 at age 36. As John was unmarried and had no children, his house and his land passed to his younger brother Richard Lee II. An Oxford graduate, Richard II lived on his brother's property with his wife Lettice Corbin. In 1715 their son, Richard Lee III, inherited the estate the family referred to as Mount Pleasant. Unlike his father, Richard III never lived there. When he went to England to complete his education, he fell in love with Martha Silk, a wealthy widow. The couple lived in London where they raised their three children George, Martha, and Lettice.

As the absentee owner of Mount Pleasant, Richard III leased the estate to his two brothers, Henry and Thomas Lee. Both built houses of their own on the property. Henry's house, Lee Hall, stood opposite Thomas' house, Mount Pleasant. Both buildings were near Old Burnt House, the ruins of John Lee's original house that burned in January 1729.

In 1754 Thomas Lee's son, Phillip, conveyed Mount Pleasant to Richard III's only son, George. George Lee moved to Virginia from England with his two sisters Lettice and Martha, who "for a time graced his home with their native attractions." George developed a deep attachment to Mount Pleasant. When his second wife, Anne Fairfax Washington, inherited Mount Vernon from her late husband, the couple decided to lease the property to a relative named George Washington so they wouldn't have to move. George Lee died in 1761 leaving Mount Pleasant to Richard Henry Lee, the executor of his estate. Over the course of the next hundred twenty five years, the property changed hands six times. One of Mount Pleasant's more notable residents during this period was Dr. John Augustine Smith, the President of William and Mary College. Smith lived at Mount Pleasant from 1817 to 1838, when he sold the house to Willoughby Newton.

John E.R. Crabbe bought Mount Pleasant from Willoughby Newton Jr. around 1886 for \$8000. News of his purchase appeared in the local paper. "It is reported that Mr. John E.R.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "Mount Pleasant," col. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nagel, 30. Early on Henry and Thomas Lee shared the estate with a third tenant, Reuben Welch.

<sup>8 &</sup>quot;Mount Pleasant" col. 2.

<sup>9</sup> Nagel 30

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 8 Page 8

Crabbe, member of the firm Johnson, Sutton, and Co. of Baltimore, has purchased of Willoughby Newton, Esq. his valuable farm called 'Mount Pleasant' near the Hague. It is not known whether Mr. Crabbe intends to reside in Virginia or not, but it is said that he will retire from the firm with which he has been connected for many years at the end of this year." 10

Although the Northern Neck News portrayed him as an outsider, Crabbe was born in 1824 in Westmoreland County, where his family had lived for seven generations. At some point Crabbe moved to Baltimore, and by the early 1880s, he was a partner at Johnson, Sutton, and Co., a dry goods company specializing in "silks, velvets, satins, white goods of all kinds, cloths, cassimeres, etc. from the finest textile fabric down to the lowest grade." He lived with his wife and his children in Park Place, a swank neighborhood that "rivaled Eutaw Place and Mount Vernon Place as the most fashionable residential area in Baltimore." Crabbe owned a three story, three-bay Italianate townhouse that he shared with his wife, Annie, his eighteen-year old daughter Mary, his sister-in-law Mary Howe, his nephew Oscar Edwards, his niece Annie Howe, and two servants.

Crabbe's new house was the only one of its kind in Hague, VA and one of the few examples of Victorian architecture in Westmoreland County. William Wirt's sons, Dabney Carr Wirt and William Wirt, Jr., built Victorian cottages in Oak Grove based on designs published by Andrew Jackson Downing. Col. J.O.P. Burnsides built a Stick-style house at neighboring Colonial Beach around 1883. Mount Pleasant surpassed of these due to its size, its intricate design, and its technical virtuosity.

The house included a variety of engineering marvels. Stained glass windows were installed above fireplaces in a three-story end chimney on the south side of the house. A large stained glass skylight lit the house's stair, and gas lights illuminated its rooms. Crabbe built an acetylene gas manufacturing plant on his property to fuel his gasoliers. Mount Pleasant also incorporated decorative elements popular in Maryland at the time, such as faux grained slate mantels. The mantels were special-ordered and shipped from Baltimore to neighboring Kinsale

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Northern Neck News, 10 Dec 1886.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> "Johnson, Sutton, and Co.," A Descriptive Review of the Manufacturing and Mercantile Industries in the City of Baltimore (New York: Historical Publishing Company, 1882): 262.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Earl Arnett, "Residential Quality Preserved," The Baltimore Sun 14 June 1968.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> U.S. Census, 1880.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

on steam ships. 14
Section 8 Page 9

In May 1888 the Northern Neck News reported that the "handsome residence" of Mr. John Crabbe was nearly finished and was "a beautiful addition to the neighborhood." Mount Pleasant's completion marked the beginning of Crabbe's high profile retirement. By 1890 Crabbe was involved in a variety of progressive business organizations. He was named president of the Westmoreland Stock Association, chairman of the Northern Neck Railroad Company, and an officer of the Westmoreland Farmer's Alliance. Crabbe held committee meetings at Mount Pleasant, and local newspapers followed his activities. "Mr. Crabbe stated the view of the county of Westmoreland and dwelt on the importance and necessity of opening up the Northern Neck," the Northern Neck News reported following an October 1889 meeting of the Northern Neck Railroad and Transportation Company. "Mr. Crabbe has been a successful businessman, and his remarks were earnest, practical, and sensible."

Local business organizations benefited from Crabbe's considerable business talent. As president of the Westmoreland Stock Association, Crabbe helped raise \$3,000 for the purchase of a 270 acre horse farm near Hague. Crabbe also organized an annual Westmoreland Stock Association fair, complete with a grand parade of fancy livestock and horse races. Crabbe died around 1895 but was remembered for his efforts to "institute a system of farm improvement on a large and liberal scale. The Northern Neck News noted that his eyes "were closed...admist scenes which his judicious taste and liberal hand richly adorned."

Crabbe's son, Walter, inherited Mount Pleasant and lived there for over thirty years. During the first quarter of the twentieth century, he built a two story wing at the rear of the house. The first floor included a kitchen, a service pantry, a bathroom, and a back stair. The second floor contained additional bedrooms for household staff. In 1929 Walter Crabbe sold the house to Paul Kester. Kester died in 1933, and the Citizen's Bank of Kinsale took possession of the estate. Beginning in 1941, the house enjoyed a brief resurgence when it was purchased by James King, a wealthy industrialist from Pittsburgh. King was superintendent of a group of steel mills owned by Andrew Carnegie and used Mount Pleasant as his summer house. He and his

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> A number of slate mantels in the house still have "Kinsale, VA" stamped on their backs.

<sup>15 &</sup>quot;Railroad Meeting at Colonial Beach," Northern Neck News, 25 Oct 1889: 1, col. 4.

<sup>16 &</sup>quot;Westmoreland Stock Association," Northern Neck News 28 Nov 1890.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Westmoreland Stock Association Fair," Northern Neck News 13 Nov 1891: 3, col.3.

<sup>18 &</sup>quot;Mount Pleasant" col.4.

<sup>19 &</sup>quot;Mount Pleasant" col.4.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

wife updated the aging Victorian residence by installing Art Deco light fixtures throughout the house, including a series of bullet-shaped chandeliers in the second floor hallway that reportedly

## Section 8 Page 10

came from the Pittsburgh Opera House.<sup>20</sup> In 1966 Clarence Holding bought Mount Pleasant. The house was minimally maintained until Holding's death in 1994.

Purchased at auction by Bill and Candy Carden in 1994, Mount Pleasant has been carefully restored. The Cardens have expanded the house's rear addition to include a breakfast room and a den on the first floor. The Cardens have also filled Mount Pleasant's original rooms with period furniture. Various pieces underscore the technical innovations of Crabbe's house including a platform rocking chair on springs and a highchair that folds into four different positions. Today Mount Pleasant offers visitors a rare glimpse of the Gilded Age, a time when a man named Crabbe used architecture and activism to push Westmoreland County towards modernity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Nancy Fairfax, phone interview, 14 May 02.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 9 Page 11

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

1880 U.S. Census

Arnett, Earl. "Residential Quality Preserved." The Baltimore Sun. 14 June 1968.

Brown, Dudley. Personal interview. 17 Jan 2002.

Carden, Candy. Personal interview. 6 Jan 2002.

"Chas. E. Lemmon, Complainant, against A.M. Carroll and John E.R. Crabbe, Defendants." Northern Neck News. 1 Feb 1889: 2, col.5.

"The Directors Meet." Northern Neck News. 28 May 1892: 2.

DuBellet, Louise Pecquet. Some Prominent Virginia Families. Vol. 3. Baltimore: Clearfiled Company, 1994.

Eubank, H. Ragland. The Authentic Guide Book of the Historic Northern Neck of Virginia. Richmond: Whittet & Shepperson, 1934.

"Farmers Alliance." Northern Neck News. 4 July 1890: 3, col.2.

"For Sale Cheap." Advertisement. Northern Neck News. 22 Jan 1892.

Haynie, Miriam. The Stronghold. Richmond: The Dietz Press, 1959.

"Horses to Board, Break, or Train." Northern Neck News. 15 May 1896: 1, col.1.

"Johnson, Sutton, and Co." A Descriptive Review of the Manufacturing and Mercantile Industires of the City of Baltimore. New York: Historical Publishing Company, 1882.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

## MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

## Section 9 Page 12

"Joseph Daiger, Complainant, against E.C. Claybrook." Northern Neck News. 15 Feb 1889: 2, col.5.

"Local Matters: Westmoreland Items." Northern Neck News. 18 May 1888: 3, col. 1.

Loth, Calder, ed. *The Virginia Landmarks Register*. Fourth edition. Charlottesville: University Press, 1999.

Nagel, Paul C. The Lees of Virginia. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Harris, Walter Biscoe, Jr., ed. Westmoreland County Virginia 1653-1693. Marcelin, MO: Nalsworth Publishing Company, 1983.

Northern Neck News. 10 Dec 1886.

Northern Neck News. 10 Jan 1890: 2, col.1.

Nugent, Nell Marion. Cavaliers and Pioneers. Vol. 1 of 6. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1983.

"Railroad Meeting at Colonial Beach." Northern Neck News. 25 Oct 1889: 1, col.4.

"Railroad Meeting." Northern Neck News. 6 Sept 1889: 3, col.3.

Sloan, Samuel. Sloan's Victorian Buildings. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1980.

Tomlan, Michael A., ed. *The Palliser's Late Victorian Architecture*. Glen, NY: The American Life Foundation in the Athenaeum Library of Nineteenth Century America, 1978.

"W.L.S.A. Fair." Northern Neck News. 28 Oct 1892.

"Westmoreland." Northern Neck News. 9 July 1897.

"The Westmoreland Stock Association." Northern Neck News. 17 May 1889: 2, col.2.

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018

(8-86)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

# MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

## Section 9 Page 13

"Westmoreland Stock Association." Northern Neck News. 31 May 1889: 2, col. 2.

"Westmoreland Stock Association." Northern Neck News. 28 Nov 1890.

"Westmoreland Stock Association Fair." Northern Neck News. 13 Nov 1891: 3, col.3.

Wood's Baltimore City Directory. Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1881.

Wood's Baltimore City Directory. Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1888.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

OMB No. 1024-0018

Section 10 Page 14

## **GEOGRAPHIC DATA**

A: Zone 18 355, 976 E 4,215,714 N

B: Zone 18 356,104 E 4,215,115 N

C: Zone 18 355,749 E 4,215,115 N

D: Zone 18 355,504 E 4,215,279 N

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Mount Pleasant consists of 37.25 acres fronting Route 612. It is defined as parcel #47-17 on the tax parcel maps for Westmoreland County, VA.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

Mount Pleasant's boundaries include the buildings and the property historically associated with the house.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 10 Page 15

#### PHOTOGRAPH KEY

The following photographs of Mount Pleasant were taken by Margaret Roberts on January 12, 2002. Negatives are filed at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources under negative numbers 19966 and 19967.

- 1. West elevation
- 2. East elevation
- 3. North elevation
- 4. South elevation
- 5. Verandah
- 6. Smokehouse
- 7. Well house
- 8. Carriage barn
- 9. Hall
- 10. Main parlor
- 11. Dining room
- 12. Bedroom
- 13. Stair
- 14. Skylight
- 15. Opera lamp
- 16. Mantel, dining room
- 17. Mantel, living room
- 18. Slate mantel, first floor, guest room

OMB No. 1024-0018

## **National Register of Historic Places** Continuation Sheet

## MOUNT PLEASANT WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Section 10 Page 16

#### **NEGATIVE KEY**

## Roll 1: Negative #19966

- 1. Hall
- 2. Main parlor
- 3. Main parlor
- 4. Dining room
- 5. Stair
- 6. Skylight
- 7. Opera lamp
- 8. Slate mantel, first floor, guest room
- 9. Mantel, dining room
- 10. Mantel, dining room
- 11. Mantel, main parlor

## Roll 2: Negative #19967

- 1. West elevation
- 2. North elevation
- 3. South elevation
- 4. East elevation
- 5. Verandah
- 6. Well house
- 7. Carriage house
- 8. Smokehouse
- 9. Skylight
- 10. Bedroom, second floor

