

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

James Beauchamp "Champ" Clark House, "Honey Shuck"

AND/OR COMMON

James Beauchamp "Champ" Clark House, "Honey Shuck"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

204 East Champ Clark Drive

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9

STATE

Missouri

CODE

29

COUNTY

Pike

CODE

163

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

Champ Clark Honey Shuck Restoration Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

204 East Champ Clark Drive

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

STATE

Missouri

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office, Room 2

STREET & NUMBER

Pike County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

STATE

Missouri

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house, "Honey Shuck," is James Beauchamp Clark's only known extant residence. He and his wife purchased this simple farmhouse-like residence, for which the original construction date and architect are unknown, in 1899. They named it "Honey Shuck" for the honey locust trees that then stood near it, and apparently Clark added the two-room, one-story office wing at the northwest side of the two-story dwelling. After Clark's death in 1921, the building changed hands, and eventually it became an apartment house. In 1973, to preserve and restore the residence, Missouri Congressman and Mrs. William L. Hungate, bought it and helped create a nonprofit organization, the Champ Clark Honey Shuck Restoration, Inc., to control and restore it. Currently, restoration is underway, with strict attention to accuracy. Some minor alterations will be inevitable, of course, and most of these are noted below.

The exterior restoration, based on oral history interviews and old photographs, will soon be complete. The framehouse sits on a low, cut limestone foundation, and the dwelling has a partial basement, from which the original coal furnace was at some point removed. Bevel siding, wooden corner boards, and wooden window surrounds (excepting shutters) are accurately painted white. The wooden shutters, originally either green or black, had been removed and stored when the AASLH representative visited "Honey Shuck," but they will be rehung.

Prior to Clark's adding a wing, the structure consisted essentially of a two-story main section and a two-story northeastern ell. With the addition of the one-story northwest office wing, slightly west of the smaller ell, the dwelling now has a "U" shape with the same small southwest extension. Gable roofs top the four sections--main, northeast, southwest, and northwest. Thus, a main gable roof with an east-west ridge and a center gable tops the four-bay-wide main south (front) portion of the house and holds two red brick interior chimneys; a gable roof with north-south ridge tops the southwestern ell, which measures two bays wide on the south (front) side and holds a main door in a single east side bay. Rear of this section is the one-story office wing, which has a gable roof topped by a north-south ridge and one red brick chimney. All roofs have undergone repair, but the present roofing material closely resembles that which appears in historic photographs. White-painted gingerbread trim under the cornice of the center gable end and the southwest gable end appears unchanged.

Sash windows in the front part of the Clark House have primarily one-over-one lights, while sash windows toward the house rear contain mostly four-over-four lights. A stained-glass upper pane accents a front-facing window and a simple, wooden oriel hangs on the east side immediately north of the north end of the one-story porch. This porch starts at the eastern edge of the southwest ell, extends eastward across

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1899-1921

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Much of Congressman Champ Clark's national prominence, says biographer William MacDonald, was due to "his successful leadership of the fight against Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, and the arbitrary control of legislative procedure which had come to be known as Cannonism" in 1909-10.¹ More important, though, as Speaker in his own right from 1911 to 1919, Clark, according to recent biographer Geoffrey F. Morrison, proved himself "one of the House's greatest Speakers, for he had virtually to re-create the Speakership" in the aftermath of his fight against the excessive power of that office.² Not only did he establish a responsive and responsible Speakership, but he proved invaluable to Woodrow Wilson in the passage of much of his domestic program.

Champ Clark also has the distinction of being the only man in the 20th century and only the second in American political history to poll a majority of delegate votes at his party's national convention and then fail to become the standard bearer. After a long string of primary victories, Clark came into the 1912 Democratic Convention with a wide lead which increased in early balloting. After New York's votes gave him a majority on the 10th ballot, he appeared on his way to victory despite the two-thirds rule, because no candidate since Martin Van Buren in 1844 had polled a majority of delegates and failed to receive the nomination. Clark lost not only the nomination but almost certain election as President--in light of the divided state of the Republicans--largely because of the adamant opposition of William Jennings Bryan and the supporters of Oscar W. Underwood and Woodrow Wilson. The final result was a deadlocked convention and Wilson's eventual nomination on the 46th ballot.

From 1899 until his death in 1921 Clark's permanent home was this simple two-story, gable-roofed, white-painted framehouse. A nonprofit organization formed in 1973 to restore the dwelling as a house museum

1

William MacDonald, "Champ Clark," Dictionary of American Biography, II, (New York, 1929), 121.

2

Geoffrey F. Morrison, "A Political Biography of Champ Clark," unpublished Ph. D. dissertation, St. Louis University, 1972, 207.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bassford, Wallace D., "Champ Clark" in M.G. and E. L. Webb, Famous Living Americans (Greencastle, Ind.: Charles Webb & Co., 1915), 107-120.
Freidel, Frank, America in the Twentieth Century (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1965). (continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 655975 4356025
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the designated property coincides with the boundary of the legal lot known as 204 East Champ Clark Drive, Bowling Green, Missouri.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Cathy A. Alexander and Ralph Christian, Assistant Editors;
and George R. Adams, Managing Editor

ORGANIZATION American Association for State and Local History DATE March 1976

STREET & NUMBER 1400 Eighth Avenue South TELEPHONE 615-242-5583

CITY OR TOWN Nashville STATE Tennessee

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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the main block of the house, and continues northward along the east wall for three bays. Turned posts support and similar, machine-crafted posts and brackets decorate the flat porch roof. Originally railings with turned-post balusters enclosed both the porch and the porch roof as an open deck. These railings will be reconstructed and replaced.

All exterior doors are wooden and paneled and all have a single glass pane. These doors include an entrance at the rear (north) end of the northeastern ell and one on the east side of the office wing. The office wing has its own front door, which is accessible from a short side-walk along the southwest ell. Apparently, Clark intended that his office visitors should not disturb the household. In the southernmost east side bay of the eastern ell are two doorways, one on the first story to the porch and one directly above it to the deck. Similarly in the east bay of the southwest ell, a first-floor front door and a second-floor deck door appear. In addition, a front-facing entrance occupies a center bay of the main block.

Inside the Clark House, restoration has been aided by oral history interviews and a professional architect's reconstruction. Many original features such as lighting fixtures, wooden baseboards, window trim, and wood floors remain. Eventually period-style rugs will protect the latter. The dining room retains its paneled, egg-and-dart-trimmed wainscot and has a wood-beamed plaster ceiling. Plaster covers all the ceilings and sheathes the wood-lathe walls. Eventually, reconstructed period wall-papers will decorate. Some partitions and extra bathrooms recall that the Clark residence was an apartment house, but nearly all these nonoriginal features will be dismantled.

On the first floor, the southwest-wing door enters the parlor, which retains handsome original woodwork. This room will contain original and period furnishings arranged as during Clark's occupancy. Rear of the parlor lies a small room designated the anteroom, behind which stands the office wing that includes the office in the south half and the stack room in the rear. The office, or study, holds a fireplace that appears original, and the stack room retains built-in bookcases. The two rooms will serve as offices for Champ Clark Honey Shuck Restoration, Inc., and the Pike County Historical Society and may hold displays of Clark's books and letters and exhibits pertaining to northeastern Missouri history.

Entered by an interior door from the anteroom or the front-facing exterior door, the living room occupies much of the first floor of the main block. It and an adjoining southeast corner room, probably the li-

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brary, have back-to-back fireplaces that will undergo restoration. Rear of the living room is a narrow, former cloakroom, and rear of the library is the dining room. Original and period furnishings will probably grace these important rooms. In the north end of the northeast ell stands the former kitchen, where the backstairs may have stood in Clark's day. The simple, enclosed front stairway remains in the living room roughly where it stood in the past. On the second floor, a wide hall and the stairs occupy the northern part of the southwest wing, while a guest room stands in its southern part. The Clarks' daughter's room is in the west part of the main section, and the Clarks' room is in its southeastern section above the study. These two rooms retain apparently original electric lighting fixtures. Rear of the Clarks' room--above the dining room--lies their son's room; the maid's room is over the kitchen. A single bathroom, situated near the main stairway, probably served the whole household.

The Clark home sits on a pleasant residential street. A stream flows west of the house, setting it off from the dwellings on that side of it. To the east, where a house stands today, the Clarks maintained a rose garden. A low iron front fence and gate--probably ordered from a turn-of-the-century Sears and Roebuck catalog--cross the front of the Clark House yard, and at the edge of the street an original hitching ring suggests the horse-and-buggy days.

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is today carrying out well-researched and thorough work. The house is the only known extant residence associated with Clark.

Biography

James Beauchamp "Champ" Clark was born March 7, 1850, near Lawrenceburg, Ky., to John H. and Alethea B. Clark. When he was 3 his mother died, and he lived with neighboring families while his father traveled practicing various professions. By age 15 Beauchamp was supporting himself by teaching subscription classes and working as a farm laborer and store clerk. In 1867 he entered the University of Kentucky where he proved himself an outstanding student, but 3 years later he was expelled for firing a pistol at a classmate. Although invited to return to the university, he refused and spent the next 2 years teaching country schools. He then attended Bethany College in W. Va., receiving his A.B. in 1873. Afterward Clark became President of Marshall College in Huntington, W. Va., and served in this position for 1 year before resigning to enter the Cincinnati Law School.

After graduating from law school in 1875, Clark moved to Kansas and tried to establish a law practice, first in Wichita and then in Kansas City. In 1876 he moved to Pike County, Mo., settling first in Louisiana and then in Bowling Green where he practiced law and edited newspapers. Becoming increasingly involved in Democratic politics, Clark failed in an 1878 effort to win election to the legislature, but 2 years later he was selected to serve as a Presidential Elector. In 1884 he won election as Pike County prosecuting attorney and served in that post until elevated to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1888. As a legislator, he demonstrated great capacity for leadership and played a prominent role in reorganizing the State university.

In 1892 Clark fulfilled the ambition of a lifetime with election to the U.S. House from Missouri's Ninth District. His tenure proved short, however. The unpopularity of Grover Cleveland, the Panic of 1893, and the rise of Populism combined to cause his defeat for reelection in 1894. Two years later, though, Clark won the seat again, holding it until his death in 1921. According to Geoffrey F. Morrison, who recently completed a thorough study of Clark's career, the Missourian "quickly gained a reputation as a fiery orator, a challenging foe in debate, and a witty, but nonetheless perceptive, spokesman for the Democratic party."³ He attracted national attention by writing a syndi-

³Morrison, "Political Biography of Champ Clark," 111.

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Champ Clark

CONTINUATION SHEET House

ITEM NUMBER 8

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cated newspaper column, submitting articles to popular magazines, and delivering speeches on the Chautauqua circuit.

A follower of William Jennings Bryan, Clark advocated measures like direct election of Senators, the direct primary, the income tax, and tariff reform. In 1904 he served as permanent chairman of the Democratic National Convention, and 3 years later succeeded John Sharp Williams as House minority leader. In this capacity in 1909-10, he led the fight against Speaker Joseph G. Cannon and his almost total control over House proceedings. Clark, says historian Morrison, "continually engaged in the planning and execution of the revolution, and emerged from the fray as a strong candidate for president in 1912."

After the Democrats won control of Congress in 1910, Clark became the first Democrat in 16 years to serve as Speaker. Morrison shows that the Missourian was "one of the House's greatest Speakers," because "he had virtually to re-create the Speakership" in the aftermath of his fight against the excessive power of that office.⁵ Unlike many of his predecessors as Speaker, Clark took part in many House debates and voted on numerous occasions. Not only did he create a responsive and responsible Speakership, but he played an important role in the passage of much progressive legislation during his tenure, 1911-19.

In 1912 Clark became a leading contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination. His candidacy was not taken seriously at first, but a series of primary victories due in large part, says historian Arthur S. Link, to the "support he received from William R. Hearst's newspapers and magazines," made Clark the frontrunner.⁶ At the national convention he took a strong lead in early balloting and appeared headed toward the nomination after New York's votes gave him a majority on the 10th ballot. Although the two-thirds rule was still in effect, no candidate since Martin Van Buren in 1844 had polled a majority of delegates and failed to receive the nomination. The delegates pledged to Oscar W. Underwood and Woodrow Wilson refused to capitulate, however, and on the 14th ballot Clark was delivered a heavy blow when Bryan denounced him as a reactionary for having received the votes of the New

⁴Geoffrey F. Morrison, "Champ Clark and the Rules Revolution of 1910," Capitol Studies, II (Winter, 1974), 44.

⁵Morrison, "Political Biography of Champ Clark," 207.

⁶Arthur S. Link, Wilson: The Road to the White House (Princeton, 1947), 401.

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York delegation. Deadlock ensued, and Clark was denied not only the nomination but almost certain election to the Presidency due to the divided state of the Republican Party. Finally, on the 46th ballot, Wilson won with the aid of the Underwood delegates.

Although he remained loyal to the Wilson Administration, Clark became an embittered man who felt he had been cheated of the Presidency largely due to William Jennings Bryan. Still, Clark rendered valuable assistance in the passage of Wilson's domestic program. He opposed most war measures, however. In 1917 he voted against the draft, claiming that in his opinion there was "precious little difference between a conscript and a convict."⁷ After Democrats lost control of the House in the 1918 elections, Clark resumed his old post as minority leader. He was defeated for reelection in the 1920 Republican landslide and died 1 day before the expiration of his term on March 3, 1921, in Washington, D.C., at the age of 70.

⁷

Cited in Frank Freidel, America in the Twentieth Century, Second Edition (New York, 1965), 180.

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Link, Arthur S., Wilson: The Road to the White House (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1947).

MacDonald, William, "Champ Clark," Dictionary of American Biography, II (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1929), 121-22.

Morrison, Geoffrey F., "A Political Biography of Champ Clark," unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, St. Louis University, 1972.

Capitol Studies, II (Winter, 1974), 42-56.



