

2012

# UA1F WKU President's Homes Bibliography

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# President's Homes at Western Kentucky University

## Bibliography

These and other sources are available in the **Harrison-Baird Reading Room** in the Kentucky Building.

**Name** – President's Home  
**Other** – Craig Alumni Center

**Date Built** – 1931  
**Cost of Construction** – \$26,000  
**Renovations**-1938, 1956, 1960, 1967  
**Architect** – Brinton Davis  
[Photographs](#) – digitized

**Name** – President's Home  
**Other** – Schell Residence  
1536 State Street

**In use** – 1966-1979  
**Purchase Price** - \$36,000  
**Renovations**  
**Architect**  
[Photographs](#) – digitized

**Name** – President's Home  
**Other** – 1700 Chestnut Street

**Date Built**  
**Purchase Price** - \$266,000  
**Renovations**  
**Architect**  
[Photographs](#) - digitized

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## Documents

UA1C WKU Archives Photograph Collection

[UA1C2/28 Craig Alumni House](#) – collection inventory

[UA1C2/64 President's Home](#) – collection inventory

[UA1C3](#) – digitized

[UA1C11/1 WKU Public Relations](#) – collection inventory

UA2/1 Board of Regents – Meeting Minutes

[1931](#) – June 3

[1964](#) – October 30

[1978](#) – April 29

[1979](#) – February 12

UA3 President's Office

UA3/1 Henry Cherry Correspondence

Box 16, Folder 10 – correspondence with Henry Wright, 1930

Box 18 Folder 2 – correspondence with Brinton Davis, 1931

Box 19 Folder 4 – correspondence with Henry Wright, 1931

[UA3/1/4 Henry Cherry Speeches](#) – collection inventory

[Volume 5, part 1](#) – digitized

[Volume 5, part 2](#) – digitized

[Volume 5, part 3](#) – digitized

[UA3/2/1 Paul Garrett Correspondence / Subject File](#) – collection inventory

[UA3/3/4 Kelly Thompson Construction File](#) – collection inventory

President's Home Bid Opening

Ben Johnson correspondence 1966  
President's New Home  
City of Bowling Green 1965  
Business Office 1966-67 correspondence to Harry Largen  
Correspondence to W. Gerald Edds, 1966 – next board meeting at the president's new home

UA3/4 Dero Downing Records  
President's Temporary Home, Kelly Thompson to Harry Largen, Aug. 1, 1966  
Committee on President's Home, 1978  
Construction – 1700 Chestnut  
Purchase of 1700 Chestnut, 1979

UA3/8/1 Thomas Meredith Correspondence / Subject File

UA11 University Relations  
Robertson, Lisa. "Western Kentucky University, President's Homes," 1993

[UA30/1/2 Planning, Design & Construction Building File](#) – collection inventory, some records restricted

UA68/8/2 Oral History Committee  
[Marie Adams Oral History](#) – transcript

UA9/4 College Heights Foundation  
Meeting Minutes Apr. 21, 1965

[Robertson, Lisa "Western Kentucky University, President's homes," Office of University Relations, December, 1993](#)

## Articles

*Alumni Bulletin*, Vol. 32, No. 2, April 1965

### *College Heights Herald:*

1931 – June, July  
1937 – Nov. 16 – remodeling for President Garrett  
1964 – Oct. 7 purchase of M.E. Schell residence  
1966 – Oct. 6 Thompson's moving into Schell House  
1978 – Oct. 31 committee appointed to search for new home  
1979 – Feb. 20 editorial against new home  
Feb. 27 & March 6 – 1700 Chestnut  
1980 – Feb. 14 – cost of purchase \$266,000

Armstrong, Bryan. "Foundation Buys President's Home," Mar. 6, 1979 – 1700 Chestnut  
"Property Found for President's Home," Feb. 27, 1979 – 1700 Chestnut  
Carpenter, Steve, "Home Costs \$266,000," Feb. 14, 1980. – 1700 Chestnut  
"Zacharias Moves Into New Home," May 8, 1980 – 1700 Chestnut  
Helm, Ken. "Three Presidents Have Occupied Campus Home," Mar. 21, 1962  
Spradlyn, Betty. "Herald Reporter Gives Look at Newly Remodeled President's Home," May 25, 1956, p. 7  
"Study Four Bids on New Home for Western President," April 21, 1965

### *Park City Daily News*

Ishmael, Susan. "University Showcase is a Family Home Too," Dec. 8, 1994 – 1700 Chestnut  
Larsen, Katrina. "Annual Bowling Green Tour of Homes and Gardens is Scheduled for Saturday," May 13, 1987. – 1700 Chestnut  
"Club's Tour Provides Look at Homes, Gardens," May 17, 1987 – 1700 Chestnut

“Pool Construction Put on Hold,” April 12, 1987 – 1700 Chestnut  
“Master Plan Being Formulated for Development of Western,” Jan. 6, 1965 – Craig Alumni Center  
“Regents asking College Heights Foundation to Purchase 1700 Chestnut” – March 2, 1979  
Sandman, Ellen. “Alumni Center Being Renovated,” Feb. 5, 1984  
“Western Office Building Construction Authorized,” Feb. 24, 1967

*Louisville Courier-Journal:*

“College Building Bids Awarded,” July 8, 1931  
“Improvements Being Made at Western,” Jan. 8, 1938  
“Western President Reveals College Plans for Future, Jan. 6, 1965 – Craig Alumni Center

*Teachers College Heights*

[January 1931](#)  
November 1931

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## About the W.J. Craig Alumni Center

In 1929 Western’s Board of Regents proposed the construction on campus of a residence for President Henry Hardin Cherry. Wishing at first to have the school’s resources applied to other buildings, Cherry eventually agreed that he needed a “spacious home” in which “to receive large groups of students and to make personal contact with them.”

Louisville architect Brinton B. Davis designed a three-story, Federal-style brick building that was completed in 1931 at a cost of \$26,050. Presidents Cherry, Paul Garrett and Kelly Thompson occupied the home. Over the years, Western students and faculty aided in its maintenance and refurnishing. In 1966, President Thompson moved to a new residence at 1536 State Street and the Alumni and Placement Office moved into the former president’s home.

Seven years earlier, alumni and graduates seeking jobs had lost a longtime friend with the death of William J. “Uncle Billy” Craig in 1959. A faculty member since 1908, Craig filled many roles at Western including placement director and, from 1930 to his retirement in 1953, secretary-treasurer of the Western Alumni Association. In 1968 the Board of Regents recognized his long service by renaming the former president’s home the W.J. Craig Alumni Center.

-- WKU Archives, nd

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## Memo

Date: 3/26/1985  
Subject: President’s Homes  
To: Riley Handy, Head, Special Collections  
From: Helen L. Knight, University Archives

### Remarks:

Before 1931 Dr. Cherry lived at two different addresses on College Street and then built a home on 15<sup>th</sup> Street where a parking lot is now located. (Dr. Harrison said that he had already given you these addresses.)

In 1931 a home was built on Western’s campus for the president. This home was occupied by three of Western’s presidents: Dr. H.H. Cherry from 1932-1937; Dr. Paul L. Garrett from 1937-1955; and Dr. Kelly Thompson from 1955-1966. (This house is now the Craig Alumni Center)

In 1966 Dr. and Mrs. Thompson moved into the newly renovated house at 1536 State Street. This house was acquired by Western from the M.E. Schell estate in 1964 and was used for a time as a temporary student center and as emergency housing for women. This house served as the President's home for the Downings also.

In the spring of 1979 the house at 1700 Chestnut Street was purchased by the College Heights Foundation and rented by the University for the President's home. It was occupied by the Zachariases in May 1980.

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### 1700 Chestnut Street

Greek Revival architecture and spacious rooms with ten-foot ceilings are just a few of the distinctive features which mark the home of WKU's first family.

Located at 1700 Chestnut Street, the house stands on the original R.C.P. Thomas estate grounds. Remnants of a stone fence, built by slave labor prior to the Civil War, still frame the front lawn.

A former Bowling Green mayor, C.W. Lampkin, built the home in 1959, but he and his family never took up residence there. A cold storage room for Mrs. Lampkin's furs originally occupied the space now used for a stairwell to the second floor.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Hampton Moore, Sr., were the first residents, and ownership then passed to Edward Alford [1972] who sold the home to Western in 1979. Former President Donald Zacharias moved there in 1980 after the addition of a second story and the removal of a breakfast room partition.

The front façade features palladium windows and four Corinthian columns. The door is topped by an elliptical arch with keystone motif; leaded glass sidelight windows and transom complete the entry. On the west, a semi-circular colonnade, bordered with trimmed topiary trees, connects the house with a two-car garage. A sculptured, lighted fountain, surrounded by molded concrete benches, complements the grounds.

Expertly crafted woodwork adds to the stately grace of the home. Arched doors repeating the exterior pattern lead from the foyer into the living and dining rooms. Two carved oak and Italian marble fireplaces provide focal points in the family and living rooms. Eight-inch picture frame moldings in each room further enhance the home's beauty.

The original library is now a comfortable family room, and one first-floor bedroom functions as a library/study for the president. In the master bedroom, a large bay window affords an impressive view of the beautifully landscaped back lawn.

-- author unknown, nd, edited for use here.