

EARLY WARNING CIRCULAR 132
THE ASTRONOMER

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1215-17 Crv

C.W. Tombaugh discovered a possible nova in Corvus on a plate taken on 1931 Mar 23 with the 0.33-m A. Lawrence Lowell Astrograph at Lowell Observatory when the star's magnitude was 12. Subsequently David Levy searched 260 plates in Harvard College Observatory's archives which revealed 9 further maxima on: 1932 Mar 2; 1940 Feb 12; 1941 Feb 5; 1952 Apr 21; 1971 Apr 20; 1983 Feb 22; 1985 Mar 15; 1987 Mar 6 and 1988 May 21. A further outburst was then detected on 1990 Mar 23.270UT with $m_1=13.6$. The recurrent nature suggested a cataclysmic variable which was subsequently confirmed by examination of the spectrum. The position is: RA 12h 17.8m DEC -18 10' [1950].

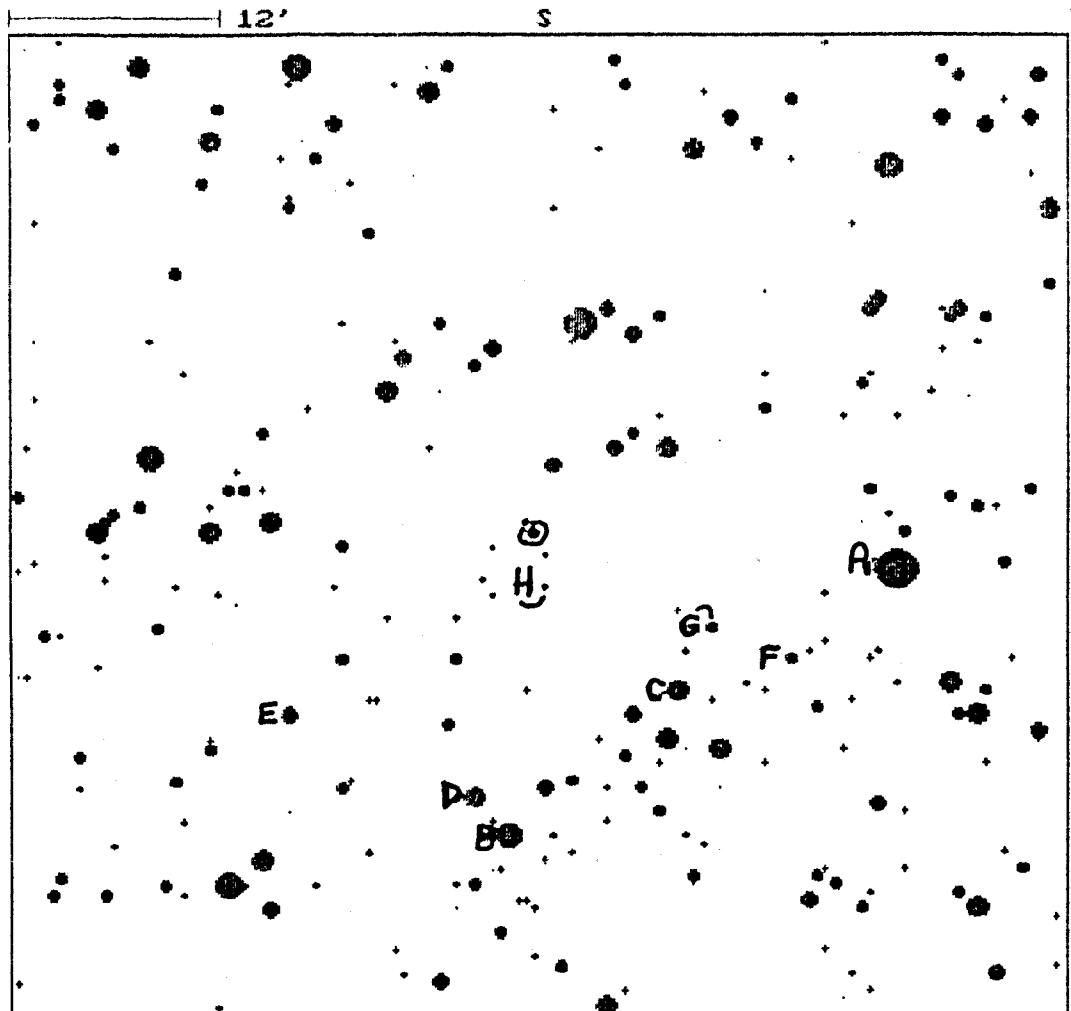
AAVSO have relayed word from Dr. S.B. Howell, Planetary Science Institute that the star is again currently in outburst and further observations are requested. A chart and sequence follows:

Chart
S up
W left
Scale as
per bar.

Sequence
based on
GSC download

A	8.34
B	11.29
C	11.87
D	12.18
E	12.93
F	13.65
G	14.46
H	15.34

Seq Ref:
TA930219



VARIABLE STAR CATALOGUE

A new edition of this catalogue (1993/2) has been released today. It contains 504 entries relating to 480 available paper charts and 85 electronic charts plus comprehensive data on a wide range of variable stars. The cost is £5.00. Remittances should be made payable to 'The Astronomer' and orders sent to the Editor.

Guy M Hurst