

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 303 Dayton Boulevard not for publication: N/A
city/town: Belington vicinity: N/A
state: West Virginia code: WV county: Barbour code: 003 zip code: 26205

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet.)

Susan M. Pierce, Deputy SHPO

Date

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the		
National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the		
National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain):		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-contributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of Property

County and State

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions

Domestic:Single Dwelling

Current Functions

Domestic:Single Dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Early 20th Century: Queen-Anne

Materials

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick

Roof: Steel

Other: Sandstone

Narrative Description

(See continuation on sheets.)

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Applicable National Register Criteria

- _____ **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.
- X **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.

Name of Property

County and State

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

_____ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

_____ **B** removed from its original location.

_____ **C** a birthplace or 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.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1913

Significant Dates

1913

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

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
_____ 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

Name of Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References:

Quad Map Name: Belington

Zone	Easting	Northing
<u>17</u>	<u>591873</u>	<u>4320338</u>

Verbal Boundary Description

(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(See continuation sheet.)

Name of Property

County and State

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Nancy Snider–home owner, and Ryan Burns–Historian, WVSHPO.

Organization: _____

Date: 10-8-04

Street & Number: 303 Dayton Blvd.

Telephone: 304-823-3538

City or Town: Belington State: WV Zip: 26250

=====

Property Owner

=====

Name: Richard and Nancy Snider

Street & Number: 303 Dayton Boulevard

Telephone: 304-823-3538

City or Town: Belington State: WV Zip: 26250

=====

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 7

Page 1

LOCATION AND SETTING

The Wilmoth House is located on the northern end of Dayton Avenue within the city limits of Belington, Barbour County, West Virginia. The house occupies five city lots with a contributing single-car garage on the south eastern lot and a non-contributing modern four-car garage on the northern lot. The property is bordered on the western side by the Tygart River and in all other directions by residential housing. The main entrance to the Wilmoth House faces Gall Avenue and the side entrance faces Dayton Avenue. Of the houses surrounding the Wilmoth house and within the general vicinity, only the house directly to the south can be compared in size and craftsmanship.

BERNARD E. WILMOTH HOUSE (1913)—CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

Exterior:

The Wilmoth house is a two and one-half story masonry structure with a massed floor plan. The Wilmoth House is a fine example of the move from Victorian, Queen-Anne architecture to the Arts and Crafts Movement in the early 20th Century. The house appears to be a direct lineal descendant of the Queen-Anne houses of the 1880 to 1910 period, while the relatively simple, unornamented surfaces reflect the Craftsman Style influenced by the early 20th century American Renaissance. Construction began on the house in 1911 and was completed in 1913.

The roof of the house is corrugated steel with cross gables on all four sides. Contained within each cross gable is a dormer along with one dormer protruding from the center of the roof. Each dormer has a hipped roof with one dominant walled dormer facing the front of the house, three smaller walled hipped roof dormers on each additional side, and one central hipped roof dormer. The dominant front facing dormer's roof extends from the ridge line of the main roof and is defined by a Palladian window. The walls of all the dormers are decorated with patterned wood shingles. At the base of each dormer, the cornice is broken defining the windows above. Along the various ridges of the roof are decorative circular cresting. There is a simple brick chimney with a cut-stone rim rising from the rear portion of the house.

The exterior of the house consists of speckled tan-colored bricks. Other than the wood walled dormers, the brick encompasses the majority of the house. A portion of the concrete foundation is visible from the exterior of the house and is separated from the brick by large cut-stone pieces. The house is surrounded on one and one-half sides by a large veranda, with original honey-comb style tile floor and a planked wood ceiling. Wide cut-stone steps enter from the front, side, and rear entrance. The front and side stairs enter onto the Veranda porch, but the rear steps enter a small enclosed sunroom also containing the original tile floor and wood ceiling. The veranda balustrade and heavy-squared porch supports are also brick and match the rest of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 7

Page 2

the exterior of the house. The balustrade around the entire porch is capped with large cut stone pieces. At the top of each of the heavy-squared porch supports are decorative wooden brackets. The western portion of the porch has been partially enclosed by a sixteen pane window.

There is a minimal amount of patterned masonry on the house. It is limited to the two protruding bays on the east and west sides of the house. The bay on the west side of the house begins at the base of the second floor with decorative wooden corner brackets that mark the point where the first floor walls indent into a triangular shaped bay. The bay on the eastern end of the house is independent and has an oval shape rather than triangular.

There are a variety of window styles contained within the Wilmoth House. There are several one-over-one windows with the upper portion containing artistic lead work. Other than the Palladian window of the dominant dormer, the other dormers all contain single pane windows. However, the dormer facing north, at the rear of the house, has a small lead decorated transom light. One of the most distinctive feature of the house is the oval cameo stained-glass window on the western side of the house and other various leaded glass elements listed in more detail below. The stained glass cameo window is surrounded by small triangular cut-stone keystones and decorative patterned brick work on the exterior.

Interior:

The Wilmoth House has a massed floor plan with irregularities in shape. The basement has been finished allowing for a livable space with finished walls, floors, and bathroom. The first floor contains a family room, dining room, kitchen with butler's pantry, living room, and bathroom. The second floor contains four bedrooms and a bathroom. The attic contains a ballroom which encompasses the entire space. The spaces are connected by a main stairway adjacent to the main entrance and a servants stairway off of the kitchen, in the rear of the house.

The detailing and craftsmanship contained within the Wilmoth House may be its most outstanding feature. The main entrance is into a front vestibule which displays oak walls and an oak stairway to the second floor. The cameo stained-glass window mentioned above is at the foot of the stairway. The ceilings are ten-feet-tall as they are through the entire house with the exception of portions of the attic. The flooring on the first floor is still the original oak hardwood floors. The main entrance itself is a oak door with the original oval leaded glass insert. All exterior and interior doors are oak with functioning transoms atop. Many of the original interior doors still have the original knobs and locks that were present following construction of the house.

To the right of the front vestibule is the parlor. A large room with original windows which have
(NPS Form 10-900)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 7

Page 3

an upper transom made of leaded glass with nine inserts of pink and marbled glass tulips on frosted glass, with a green glass border. These same windows are in the large compass window (a circular bay window) area of the room directly behind the parlor. All of the windows throughout the house were made and purchased from the Morgan Sash and Window Co. of Chicago, Illinois. Receipts for the windows have remained in the house since their purchase on July 13, 1913.

The room directly behind the parlor, separated by two sets of solid oak sliding pocket doors, is the original library. Along with a green marble tiled fireplace, the library displays a hand painted *trompe l'oeil* mural which shows a framed, tranquil scene of a body of water in a valley surrounded by steep mountain peaks. The mural is initialed and dated April 14, 1917, but the artist is unknown with the exception of his or her initials.

To the left of the library is the dining room, which is connected by a two-way swinging door to the butler's pantry and kitchen encompassing the rear of the house. The dining room also exhibits a compass window. The butler's pantry has an original wall of oak cabinets. The servants stairway leads from the kitchen to the second floor.

The second floor consists of four large bed chambers and a large bathroom with a wide hallway connecting all. The second floor has the original oak flooring throughout with the exception of the bathroom, which has the same honey-comb tiling found on the Veranda and sunroom floors. The original gas light fixtures, some with glass prisms, are found throughout the house. Several of the light fixtures in the home retain the gas light apparatus used by the original occupants.

Ascending from the second floor, in the rear of the house, is an additional stairway into the attic. The attic also has oak hardwood flooring and walls. The ceiling in the attic takes the shape of the exterior hipped roof and has a raised center. The windows in the attic are the four dormers mentioned above that are, excluding the Palladian window, one pane with a leaded stained-glass transom above. The attic has historically been used as a ballroom area for recreational and social events.

GARAGE (ca. 1913)—CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

The contributing garage is a small single-car garage originally built for a carriage. It has a replacement garage door facing Gall Avenue, a front gable roof, original door and double-hung window on the east elevation, a small centered window on the north elevation, and a double-hung window on the west elevation. It exhibits the Craftsman detailing of the Wilmoth House including wide eaves with exposed roof rafters, decorative brackets, and matching masonry to the Wilmoth House.

National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 7

Page 4

MODERN GARAGE (ca. 1985)–NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

The non-contributing garage is located at the northern end of the Wilmoth property. It is four-car garage with an aluminum garage door located to the east of the property facing Dayton Avenue. It sits upon a poured concrete foundation with a poured concrete pad in front of the garage door. The southern elevation, facing the Wilmoth House has an aluminum door. The entire exterior of the four-car garage is covered in clapboard siding.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

Section number

8

Page

5

Statement of Significance

The Wilmoth House is significant under *Criterion C: Architecture* on the local level as embodying the distinctive characteristics of a Queen-Anne-style house with Craftsman-style elements. The period of significance is 1913. The Queen-Anne-style elements include the steeply pitched roof of irregular shape, full one-story veranda, patterned shingles on the dormer walls, and protruding bay windows. The Craftsman-style elements include the tapered square porch supports with decorative wood brackets at the top, decorative wooden corner brackets on at the base of the second floor, and transomed windows. The size, intricate design, and craftsmanship make the Wilmoth House very unique in Barbour County. The house retains a remarkably high level of architectural integrity.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The land on which the Wilmoth House and all of Belington now occupies was originally part of 1,400 acres granted to Elias Barker in 1781. Following settlement of the area, it was called Barker's Settlement. Barker, and later his heirs, sold off the land in parcels between 1800 and 1850. The current name of the town, Belington, was adopted in the 1880s for a local merchant named John Bealin. Belington was incorporated in 1894 in the area on the east bank of the Tygart River. In 1897, the area on the west side of the Tygart, where the Wilmoth house is located, was incorporated as Alston. In 1903, the people of Belington tried to have the county seat moved from Philippi to Belington and failed. This dramatically slowed the growth of Belington as compared to Philippi at that time. Then, in 1906, Belington and Alston joined to form present-day Belington.

The Wilmoth House was constructed by Bernard E. Wilmoth between 1911 and 1913. Bernard, his wife Mary Williams Wilmoth, and only child Sevva Wilmoth lived in the house. Following graduation from Westminster College in Maryland in 1912, Sevva, a high school teacher in Belington, lived in the house until her death in 1976. Following Sevva's death, James Keen purchased and lived in the Wilmoth house. Mr. Keen sold the property to Mr. and Ms. Snider who currently reside in the house.

The circumstances surrounding the construction of the Wilmoth House can be realized by following the railroad to Belington and the advancement of Bernard Wilmoth in the railroad industry. Bernard E. Wilmoth was employed in Grafton, Taylor County for the Greenbrier Railroad at the end of the 19th century. He was made tie inspector and later an engineer for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. His route was primarily from Grafton to Belington where he discovered the land on which the home is built. Wilmoth purchased the original eight

(NPS Form 10-900)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 8

Page 6

lots in 1894 from the Tygart Coal Company. The Wilmoth family lived in an existing home on one of the original eight lots until they moved the original house to the back three lots for construction of the Wilmoth House. The older house following its movement and the construction of the Wilmoth house was sold along with three lots, leaving the current five lots on which the Wilmoth House sits today. The original house is still occupied and sits behind the Wilmoth House.

During the period when Wilmoth moved to Belington, the railroads were coming in from all directions to haul extracted materials from the area surrounding Belington. These railroads include two branches of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Western Maryland Railroad. The vast areas of forest allowed for a booming lumber industry and underground, coal was abundant. This led to a building boom in Belington, both related to coal and timber. It is apparent that wood was an easily accessible material in Belington. Most of the historic structures in Belington are constructed of wood, which is an important factor that separates the Wilmoth House from others in Belington with its exterior brick and cut-stone construction. However, the interior of the Wilmoth House with its extensive use of oak throughout illustrates the relative abundance of wood in the Belington area.

The Wilmoth House is an excellent example of a Queen-Anne-style house built on the fringe of the Victorian Era and the American Arts and Crafts Movement. The house, although, closely matching the massing, roof line, and materials of a Queen-Anne-style home exhibits many details that illustrate the Craftsman-style popular during the time of its construction. The interior of the house with its extensive use of oak exhibits many qualities of the Craftsman-style.

In Belington and the surrounding area, there is only one other known example of a house of this magnitude and similarities in craftsmanship. This house is located directly across Gall Avenue and has many similar details to the Wilmoth House including the cut-stone foundation, brick exterior, and wide eaves. However, this home does not exhibit the Queen-Ann detailing of the Wilmoth home and leans more towards the Craftsman Style. This is exhibited by the wide eaves with exposed roof rafters, square uniform porch supports, and low pitched roof. Although many of these characteristics are similar to the Wilmoth House, this house does not exhibit the Queen-Ann detail such as patterned brick masonry and decorative wood working. This home may be a later example, based on the similarities in design, floor plan, and materials, of the same designer of the Wilmoth House. The Wilmoth House meets *Criterion C: Architecture* due to its high level of integrity and its unique use of materials and display of high style architecture.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number 9

Page 7

Bibliography

Barbour Publishing Company, *The Barbour Democrat* (Belington, W.Va.) c.1992.

“Belington,” *The West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia*, vol. 2 (1976 ed.).

Deed Book No. 33 Page 243. Barbour County Court House, Philippi, W.Va.

The History of West Virginia, Old and New Vol. #3 (Chicago and New York: The American Historical Society, Inc.) 1923.

Payne, H. “Red.” Interview by Nancy Snider (Belington, W.Va.) April 2004.

Parrish, Zella. Interview by Nancy Snider (Belington, W.Va.)2000.

Poore, Patricia and Clem Labine. *The Old House Journal New Compendium* (New York: Dolphin Books) 1983.

Wilmoth, Sevva. Collection of personal papers. 1912-1976.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

<u>Wilmoth, Bernard E., House</u>	<u>Barbour County, West Virginia</u>
Name of Property	County and State

Section number	<u>10</u>	Page	<u>8</u>
-----------------------	-----------	-------------	----------

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot No. 8, in Block No. 5 in Section No. 3, Lot No. 9 in Block No. 5 in Section No. 3, Lot No. 10 in Block No. 5 in section No. 3, said thus (8) lots being bound by Dayton Blvd, Gall Ave. Lot No. 7 in said lot an alley in rear of said lots.

See also attached "Plat of Survey." October 1988.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries described above are those described in the Belington Deed Book in the Barbour County Courthouse located in Philippi, Barbour County, West Virginia.

National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Wilmoth, Bernard E., House
Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State

Section number Photo

Page 9

Name of Property: Bernard E. Wilmoth House

Address: 303 Dayton Boulevard

Town: Belington

County: Barbour

Photographer: Ryan Burns, Historian, WVSHPO

Date: April, 2005

Negatives: WVSHPO, Charleston

Photo 1 of 13: Main facade, camera facing south.

Photo 2 of 13: East side elevation, camera facing west.

Photo 3 of 13: North rear elevation, camera facing south.

Photo 4 of 13: West side elevation, camera facing east.

Photo 5 of 13: Veranda detail showing curved bracket.

Photo 6 of 13: Veranda detail showing hexagonal tile floor.

Photo 7 of 13: First floor entry hall, camera facing north.

Photo 8 of 13: Sliding pocket doors in living room.

Photo 9 of 13: *Trompe l'oeil* mural on library wall.

Photo 10 of 13: Cabinetry in kitchen.

Photo 11 of 13: South elevation of contributing garage, camera facing north.

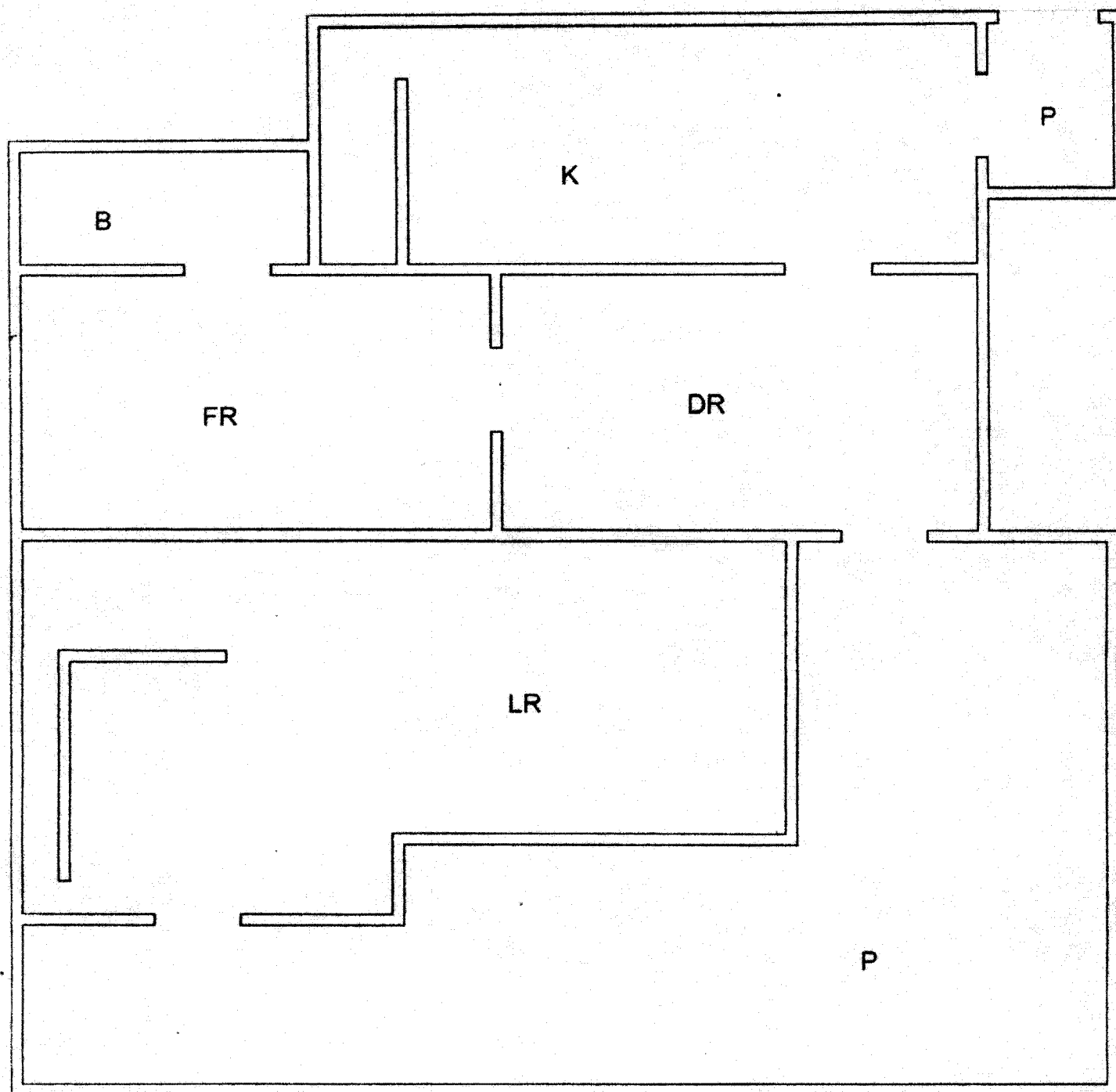
Photo 12 of 13: East elevation of contributing garage, camera facing west.

Photo 13 of 13: East elevation of non-contributing garage, camera facing west.

WILMOTH, BERNARD E., HOUSE
BELINGTON, BARBOUR CO., WV
FLOOR PLANS

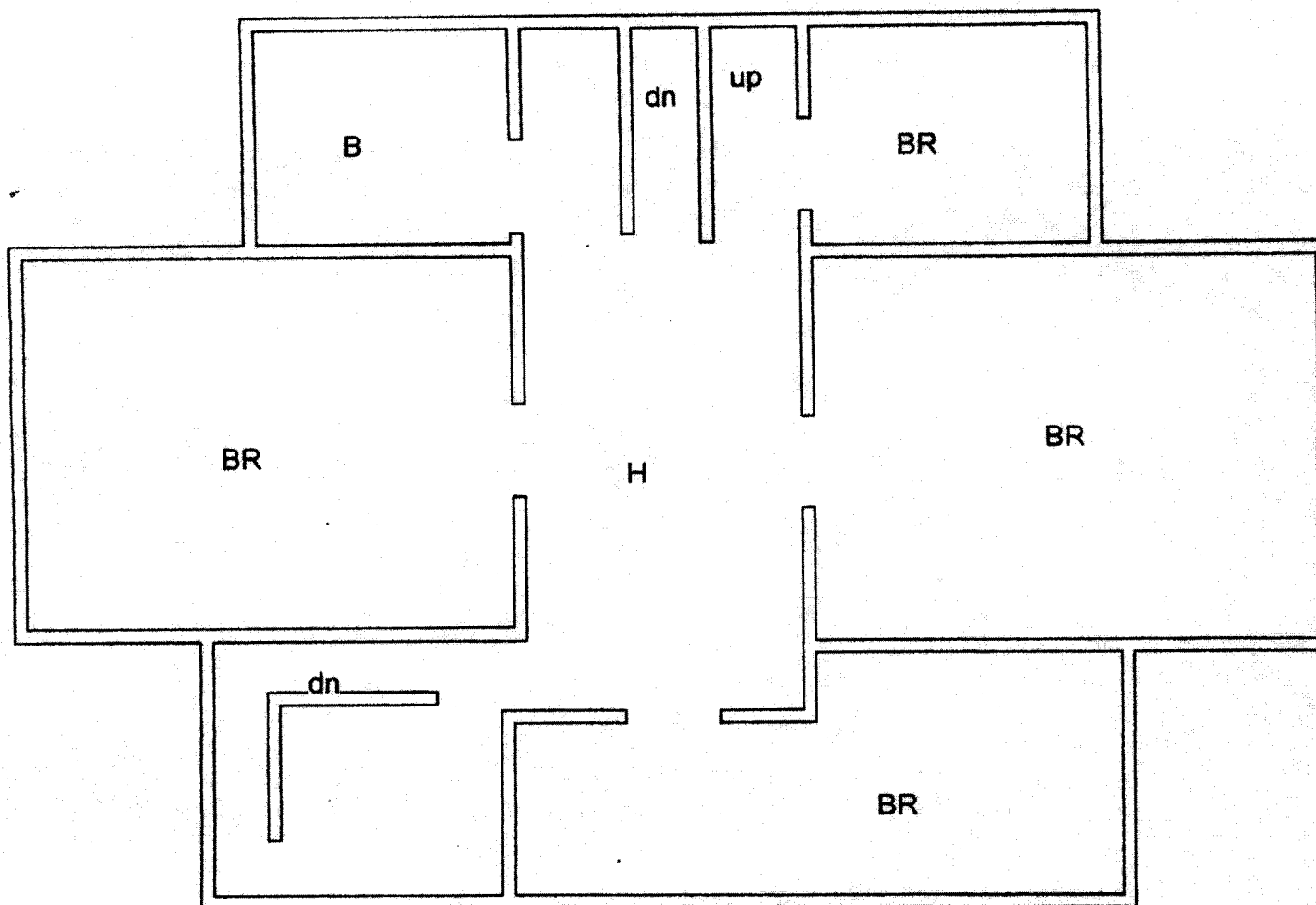
NOT TO SCALE

FIRST



WILMOTH, BERNARD E., HOUSE
BELINGTON, BARBOUR CO., WV
FLOOR PLANS

NOT TO SCALE SECOND

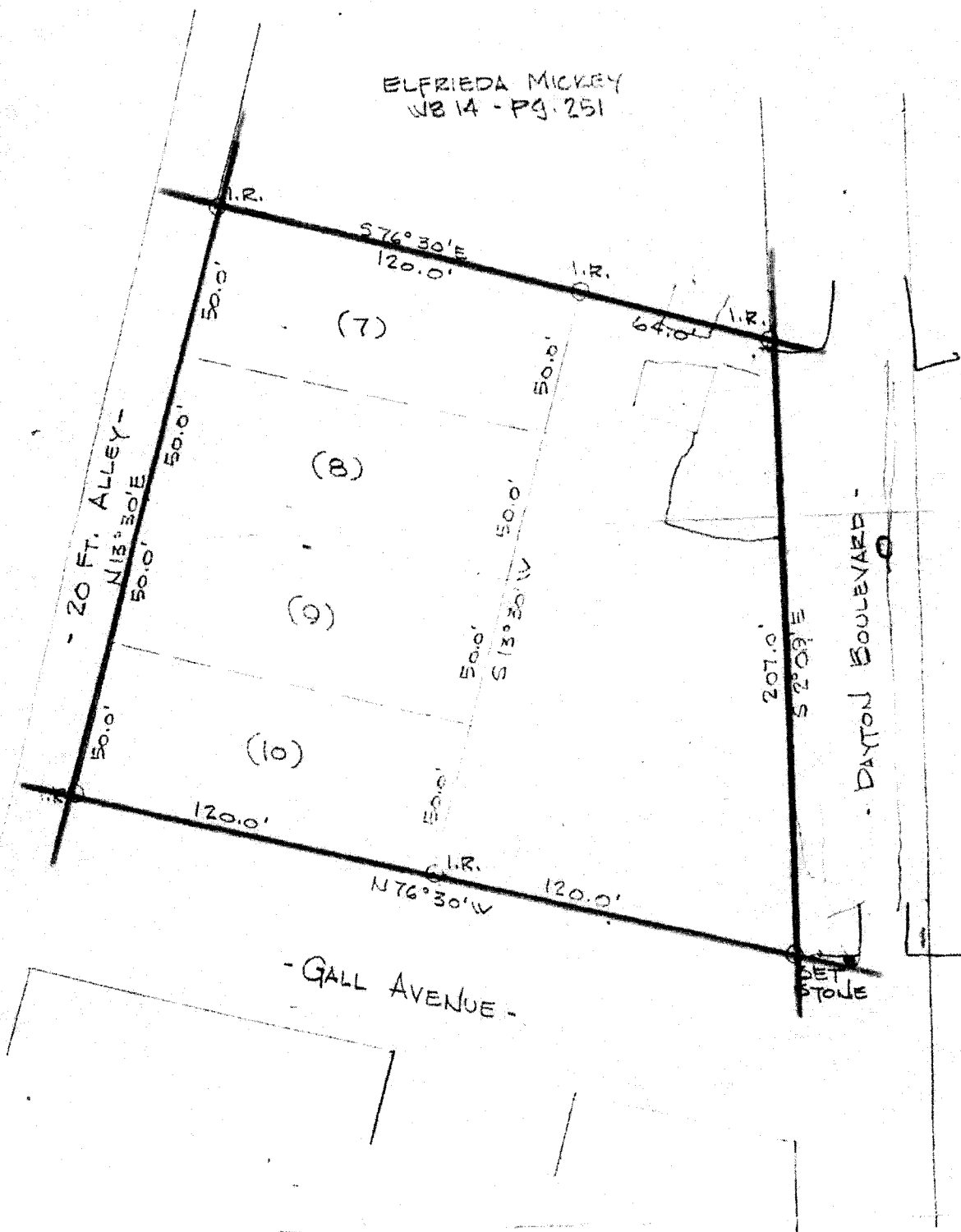


WILMOTH, BERNARD E., HOUSE
 BELINGTON, BARBOUR CO. WV
 PLAT MAP

MAGNETIC NORTH

5° West @
 PHILIPPI
 1" = 50'
 1.R. = 120W 201

ELFRIEDA MICKEY
 WB 14 - PG. 251



PLAT OF SURVEY
 FOR
 JAMES N. AND SHIRLEY J. KEEN











