

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property: Country Club Hill Historic District

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historic name: na

other name/site number: Country Club Hill Historic District

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2. Location:

=====

street & number: along Whitethorn, Lebanon, and Liberty Streets

not for publication: _na

city/town: Bluefield

vicinity: na

state:WV

county: Mercer

Code: 55

=====

3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
51	10	buildings
	_____	sites
	_____	structures
	_____	objects
<u>51</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of South Bluefield, West Virginia.

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. See continuation sheet

William G. Laney
Signature of certifying official

6/1/92
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
5. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

 determined eligible for the
National Register

 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the
National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic: Domestic; Single dwelling
Recreation; sports facility

Current : Domestic; Single dwelling
Recreation; sports facility

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Neo Classical Revival;
Colonial Revival;
Bungalow.

Other Description: na _____

Materials: foundation brick; block; stone
roof slate; asbestos; asphalt; metal; tile
walls brick; stone; wood; other: stucco

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuati
sheet.

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property i
relation to other properties: state .

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : na

Areas of Significance: Architecture _____
Community Planning and Development

Period(s) of Significance: 1915 to 1940

Significant Dates : 1920 _____

Significant Person(s): na

Cultural Affiliation: na

Architect/Builder: Architect - Alex B. Mahood

Builder - na

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria

considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

na preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

na previously listed in the National Register

na previously determined eligible by the National Register

na designated a National Historic Landmark

na recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

na recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State historic preservation office

Other state agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: 27.75 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 17. 479490. 4122320. B 17. 479610. 4121900.

C 17. 478980. 4121620. D 17. 478880. 4121710.

E 17. 479140. 4121770. F 17. 479120. 4122210.

na See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

Refer to sketch map for site numbers etc. Beginning at the north-east corner of the property lines of site number 12 at the inter-

section of Maryland Ave. and the alley; thence following Maryland Ave. southerly to the southeast corner of the property of site no. 33; thence following the alley at the rear of the property lines in a westerly direction to the north east corner of site no. 41; thence following the east property line to the south property line; thence following the south property line to inter-

section of the property line of site 216; thence following the east property line for a distance of 400 feet to a point 100 feet

behind the south wall of the garage; thence in a westerly direction to a point 100 feet to the west of the west wall of the garage; thence north to the intersection of the north property line; thence east following the property line to a point approximately 70 feet to the west of the private drive, in line with the north west corner of the country club, site no. 24; thence parallel with the drive passing behind the country club to a point 170 feet to the north of the country club; thence east to the intersection of the east property line of site no. 215; thence south to the north property line of site no. 3; thence east following the property lines and the alley to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

The boundaries include the sites that were associated with the single family residential boom of the period of development of the historic district. They include the country club on the western edge of the district, the Tierney house on the southern edge, and extend to Maryland Ave. on the east. On the opposite side of Maryland Ave. the structures are of a later period and there are more institutional and multi-family residential units. On the edge of the south east boundaries the residences are predominantly ca. 1950' and 1960's ranch style.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Michael Gioulis

Organization: N/A

Date: December 1, 1991

Street & Number: 612 Main Street

Telephone: (304) 765-5716

City or Town: Sutton

State: WV ZIP: 26601

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The Country Club Hill Historic District lies in the southwest corner of Bluefield, Mercer County, West Virginia. It sits on a hill that overlooks the adjacent residential districts and is removed from the downtown. The Country Club and the golf course are on the south west boundaries and the terrain is rolling with woods. On the east side is a residential district of later single family residences and earlier multiple family units. To the south, the residential community continues, but it is a later development of the 1960 and 1970's. The terrain also rises to the south as one approaches the Virginia state line.

This area developed later than the early downtown portion of the city. The earliest identifiable structure in the survey area is the Lilly House, 1301 Lebanon St., (33), 1916. One other pre-dates 1920, 2126 Reid, (43), 1919. These two are large two-story Neo Classical and Georgian Revival- Style houses. The other resources in the area post date 1920 with the majority in the 1924-1928 range. The Country Club, designed by A.B. Mahood, was constructed in 1920. This is probably the reason for the development of the upper scale residential units in this neighborhood at this time.

All of the buildings are residential. They are single family detached and most were constructed prior to 1940. They all have generous front and rear yards, with the older houses having more area. Most of the styles are of the 1920's period with Colonial Revival and Bungalow being heavily represented. There is a particularly handsome Tudor Revival, 1425 Whitethorn, (23); it is a good example of this style of architecture with the steeply pitched varied massing roofs and stucco siding. The Bungalow Style is well represented by number 3, 1408 Whitethorn. This is a one story end gable brick Bungalow with a massive brick chimney on the gable end and decorative porch entrance. The Colonial Revival Style represented in this area is similar to that influenced by developments at the Colonial Williamsburg project in Virginia. It is the side gable type with steep roofs, irregular massing, projecting bays for entrances and rooms, and dormers on the roofs. A good example is number 38, 1337 Lebanon. Number 1, 1430 Whitethorn, is one of the finest houses in the area. It is

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a large Spanish Revival mansion in blond brick with a red tile roof. It was designed by Alex Mahood, as were many other prominent Bluefield homes. In fact Mahood designed 6 of the buildings in the survey area. These include:

The Bluefield Country Club
1430 Whitethorn
1420 Lebanon
2126 Reid
1408 Lebanon
1300 Whitethorn

All of these buildings display his talents at defining the Revival styles of architecture. The grandest, 2126 Reid (43), 1420 Lebanon (25), and 1408 Lebanon (26), are all in the Neo Classical Revival Styles of the Beaux Arts school. The Country Club was not in the Neo Classical style but in a Shingle/Chateausque Style of architecture. Unfortunately, it is the one structure that has suffered the most from insensitive development and has lost all of its architectural integrity due to additions and remodelings. One of the most interesting structures in the district is the Tierney House. This one sits off to itself bordered by the golf course of the Country Club. It is an excellent example of the English Cottage Style of romantic revivals. It is a long two-story brick structure with a steep gable roof and tall clipped gable dormers. There is an engaged end chimney. On the west end of the house is an intersecting gable mass. The front of the house, facing the country club, has a square tower in the intersecting corner that is capped with a steep hip roof. At each gable end of this wing is a three sided oriel with concave roof. The roofing is clay tile in a heavy rusticated imitation of shingle roofing. Windows are metal casement with diamond shaped leaded divisions. The garage is attached to the house with a timber construction breezeway and is a similar style to the house with matching roofing and brick facade.

The structures in the Country Club Hill Historic District are well maintained and have retained a large portion of their integrity, with few alterations or additions. There are a few newer

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houses in the district, but these occur on the south east corner, on Lebanon Street. Across Maryland Avenue, the eastern boundary of the survey, the residences are smaller, newer and not as significant architecturally as the remainder of the area. They do not fit into the same period of development. To the north, the area is more urban with a school, Piedmont, and apartment buildings on College Avenue.

All of the houses are on generous lots with landscaped lawns and rear yards. The streets are tree-lined and it is a very suburban setting in the 1920's Green Acres type of urban development.

In all there are 61 structures in the district. 10 of these are non-contributing and the remainder contribute. This includes garages. Following is a list of sites in the district. The numbers refer to the sketch map and the original survey of the area for the multiple property documentation.

- 1) 1430 Whitethorn - Two story blonde brick, red tile roof. Spanish Colonial Revival. 1924. Criteria A/B/C. Contributing. Two story garage, contributing.
- 2) 1416 Whitethorn - Modern. Non-contributing.
- 3) 1408 Whitethorn - One story, red striated brick Bungalow.ca. 1925. Criteria C. Contributing.
- 4) 1404 Whitethorn - Two story Bungalow with roof dormer.ca. 1927. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 5) 1400 Whitethorn - One and one half story, stucco Bungalow.ca. 1927. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 6) 1338 Whitethorn - Two story Colonial Revival.ca. 1925. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 7) 1324 Whitethorn - Two story, painted brick Four Square.1924. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 8) 1320 Whitethorn - Two story brick which has been sided. Bungalow. ca. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 9) 1312 Whitethorn - Two story Greek Revival/Colonial Revival. ca. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 10) 1308 Whitethorn - Two story, red striated brick. Stick. 1925. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 11) 1304 Whitethorn - Two story Eastern Stick/Bungalow.ca. 1925.

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Criteria A. Contributing.

- 12) 1300 Whitethorn - Two story, brick Colonial Revival. 1924. Criteria A/B/C. Contributing. Garage, non-contributing.
- 13) 1301 Whitethorn - Modern. Non-contributing.
- 14) 1311 Whitethorn - One and one half story, stucco Colonial Revival. 1924. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 15) 1315 Whitethorn - Modern Ranch. Non-contributing.
- 16) 1323 Whitethorn - Two story Shingle style. ca. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 17) 1327 Whitethorn - Two story, sided Colonial Revival. ca. 1925. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 18) 1331 Whitethorn - Two story Colonial Revival. ca. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 19) 1335 Whitethorn - Two story brick. Vernacular. 1923. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 20) 1401 Whitethorn - One and one half story brick Dutch Colonial Revival. 1927. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 21) 1405 Whitethorn - Two story Colonial Revival. 1936. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 22) 1423 Whitethorn - Two story brick. Colonial Revival. ca. 1927. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 23) 1425 Whitethorn - Two story, stucco Tudor Revival. 1923. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 24) - Country Club. ca. 1920. Criteria A/C. Non-contributing.
- 25) 1420 Lebanon - Two story brick. Neo Classical. 1922. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 26) 1408 Lebanon - Two story, painted brick, Neo Classical. 1939. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 27) 1400 Lebanon - Modern. Non-contributing.
- 28) 1336 Lebanon - Two story, brick Colonial Revival. ca. 1927. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 29) 1320 Lebanon - Highly modified. Non-contributing.
- 30) 1316 Lebanon - Two story Dutch Colonial Revival. ca. 1930. Criteria A. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 31) 1312 Lebanon - One and one half story, brick Colonial Revival. ca. 1935. Criteria A. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 32) Lebanon/Maryland - Modern. Non-contributing.
- 33) 1301 Lebanon - Two story, red brick Georgian Revival. 1916. Criteria A/C. Contributing. Garage, contributing.

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- 34) 1313 Lebanon - Two story, painted brick.Colonial Revival. 1937. Criteria A. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 35) 1321 Lebanon - One and one half story, brick/prime siding, Colonial Revival. ca. 1937. Criteria A. Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 36) 1325 Lebanon - Two story brick.Colonial Revival. ca. 1935. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 37) 1335 Lebanon - One and one half story, brick Colonial Revival.1935. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 38) 1337 Lebanon - One and one half story, brick.Colonial Revival. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 39) 1415 Lebanon - Non-contributing.
- 40) Lebanon - Non-contributing.
- 41) 1340 Liberty - Two story, painted brick.Colonial Revival. ca. 1930. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 42) 2116 Reid - Two story, stucco.Mediterranean Revival. ca. 1925. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 43) 2126 Reid - Two story, stucco.Neo Classical. 1919. Criteria A/C.Contributing. Garage, contributing.
- 44) 1339 Liberty - Two story, wood frame.Colonial Revival. ca. 1935. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 51) 2006 Reid - One story, wood frame with clapboard.Stick. ca. 1925. Criteria A. Contributing.
- 215)4 Whitethorn - Two story, Colonial Revival with siding.ca. 1932. Criteria A/C. Contributing.
- 216) Tierney House - Two story English Cottage Revival with brick facade and clay tile roof. Criteria A/C. ca. 1920 Contributing. Garage, brick and tile roof, contributing.

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The Country Club Historic District is significant under Criterion C for its association with major architectural styles of the early 20th Century, namely the Neo Classical and Colonial Revival Styles. The area is also significant under Criterion C for its association with noted West Virginia Architect Alex Mahood, who designed many of the structures in the area, including the Country Club itself and adjoining residences. The resources are also significant under Criterion A for their association with the development of the area and Bluefield. They reflect the 1920-era boom in Bluefield's economy through their representation of a major wealthy residential neighborhood. They also reflect the development of the area surrounding the Country Club as an exclusive residential district. Under Criterion A it is significant for the cumulative contributions of citizens association important to the development of Bluefield in particular and the region's and state's coal industry in general. These include, among others, W.A. Bodell, D.E. French, and Lawrence E. Tierney.

The resources are significant as representatives of major architectural styles of the time. These are mainly the Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Mediterranean Revival. 1425 Whitethorn, (23) is a good example of Tudor Revival architecture with the steeply pitched varied massing roofs and stucco siding. The Bungalow Style is well represented by number 3, 1408 Whitethorn. This is a one story end gable brick Bungalow with a massive brick chimney on the gable end and decorative porch entrance. Number 1, 1430 Whitethorn, is one of the finest houses in the area. It is a large Spanish Revival mansion in blond brick with a red tile roof. It was designed by Alex Mahood, as were so many of the prominent Bluefield homes.

Also integral to the district's significance is the work of Alex B. Mahood. Alex B. Mahood, architect, contributed immensely to Bluefield's development. Mr. Mahood was a noted West Virginia architect and his commissions ranged throughout West Virginia and the surrounding states. He designed many of the public and private structures in the city and his list of commissions is staggering. He was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, in 1888 and studied at the Ecole Des Beaux Arts in Paris. This is where many of the turn-of-the-century American architects learned of the

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Renaissance Revival and Classical Revival styles prevalent in Europe at the time. Charles F. McKim of McKim Mead and White in Chicago, is perhaps the most famous of the American architects who brought home the European styles, but many others contributed to the proliferation. Mahood is representative of this group. The presence of a professional of this caliber, concentrating his talents in Bluefield and southern West Virginia, is amazing. His influence is seen in many contemporary buildings throughout the state. His prowess is evident on the designs and details of his commissions.

Mahood came to Bluefield in 1912 and set up business. He was the architect for the West Virginia Hotel and for many of the projects in which the Cole Realty stockholders participated. In fact, most of his residential commissions are from stockholders and officers of the board. Many of his major residential works are in the South Bluefield area.

In other portions of the state, his commissions were also impressive. These include the Women's Dormitory at the West Virginia University in Morgantown, United States Steel Building in Gary, Skyway Drive-In Theater in Brush Fork, and the Guyan Theater in Logan, as well as a number of coal company offices and stores in the southern West Virginia region. Sites in this district associated with Mahood are:

The Bluefield Country Club
1430 Whitethorn Street
1420 Lebanon Street
2126 Reid Avenue
1408 Lebanon Street
1300 Whitethorn Street

All of these buildings exhibit his talents at defining the Revival styles of architecture. The grandest, 2126 Reid, 1420 Lebanon, and 1408 Lebanon, are all in the Neo Classical Revival Styles of the Beaux Arts school. The Country Club was not in the Neo Classical style but in a Shingle/Chateausque Style of architecture. Unfortunately, it is the one structure that has suf-

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ferred the most from insensitive development and has lost all of its architectural integrity due to additions and remodeling.

Under Criterion A the district is significant for its association with the development of Bluefield in general as an indicator of the building boom and expansion of the city in the 20th century. The second decade of the twentieth century saw growth of the city, although at a somewhat less frantic rate than at the beginning of the century. By 1920 the population stood at 15,292.

Bluefield's new City Hall, a monumental piece of Classical Revival architecture designed by prominent architect Wilbur T. Mills, was constructed as part of an \$850,000. bond issue passed in 1923. By 1930, the population of Bluefield had reached 19,339, greater than it's present population.

The 1920's period saw one of the greatest booms in residential development in Bluefield. This was centered in the South Bluefield area. The 1923 West Virginia Realtor magazine, January issue, rated Bluefield as the 7th largest city in the state. They state that the assessed valuation of properties in Bluefield in 1923 was \$23,329,282.00 and that 402 building permits were issued for new construction in 1922 and 314 in 1921. This represents a major percentage of structures in town.

The second residential boom followed toward the end of the Depression. Bluefield managed to hold its own through these years, despite the general economic slump. The Writers Works Project describes this period as one of intense activity with considerable development and construction. This included a new sewage disposal plant and new residential sections added to the city in 1937-38. This was the South Bluefield area. An ambitious street improvement program began in 1938. Here, according to the 1939 Semi-Centennial issue of the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, over 200 residences were constructed between 1934 and 1935. 50 were underway in 1939 alone in this residential section of the city.

Also under Criterion A, many of the residents of these grand homes were the bank presidents, architects, mine operators and

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owners, contractors, merchants, etc. who shaped the destiny of Bluefield. They were the "movers and shakers." They also were connected through the West Virginia Cole Realty Corporation in the development of downtown Bluefield and the West Virginia Hotel. Through the vision and cumulative importance of these prominent residents the face of South Bluefield was changed forever.

Many of the prominent residences are those of stockholders and officers in the company. The fine Mahood- designed Neo-Classical structure at 2126 Reid, 43, was occupied by D.E. French, an attorney and President of the First National Bank in Keystone and participant in the Hotel venture. W.A. Bodell, owner of 1430 Whitethorn, 1, was a prominent Plumbing and Heating Contractor. Dr. R.O. Rogers lived in 1300 Whitethorn, 12. Dr. Rogers is associated with the development of the Bluefield Sanitarium. T.H. Clagett occupied the house at 1425 Whitethorn, 23. He was Chief Engineer of the Pocahontas Coal and Coke Co.

One of the most prominent families was that of Lawrence E. Tierney, Sr.

The Tierney House was constructed ca. 1920. It is a rambling two story Tudor Revival or English Cottage style house in the romantic style of the period. It is set in the woods in a landscaped area to the south of the Country Club.

Laurence E. Tierney Sr. was significant in the coal fields and was associated with the Bramwell Insurance Company described below. Mr Tierney (1860-1922) was the President of the Pocahontas Company in 1895 and an organizer of the National Coal Association. He came to West Virginia in 1886 working for the Flat Top Land Trust and located the number three vein of Pocahontas coal. He was on governor William A. MacCorkle's staff.

Laurence E. Tierney Jr. was born in 1906 and came to Bluefield in 1922 at his father's death. He graduated from Yale in 1929. He became the youngest President of a National Bank in West Virginia, the Flat Top National Bank. He was associated with a number

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of mining companies and a prominent businessman. He was president of the West Virginia Coal Association and on the Board of Directors of the National Coal Association. He also became chairman of the National Bituminous Coal Advisory Council in 1942. He was later a friend and confidant of President Kennedy, Truman and Johnson.

Mrs. Katharine Tierney was also significant in the financial development of the region. She married Laurence in 1931. She was one of the incorporators of the Pocahontas Air Transport Co. which was formed in 1926. They pioneered aviation for the region and hired a former German World War One ace, Otto Comp, as their first pilot. Their company went bankrupt and Tierney and two of her sons, Lawrence and Louis, subsequently ran it.

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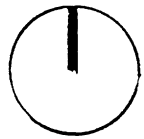
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NORTH



OHIO ST.

WHITETHORN ST.

LEBAZON ST.

REED AVE.

LIBERTY ST.

LIONEL AVE.

MARYLAND AVE.

REYNATE DRIVE

GOLF COURSE

SCALE - 1" = 200'



KEY:

--- HISTORIC DISTRICT

--- BOUNDARIES

--- PROPERTY LINES

① SITE NUMBERS



CONTRIBUTING



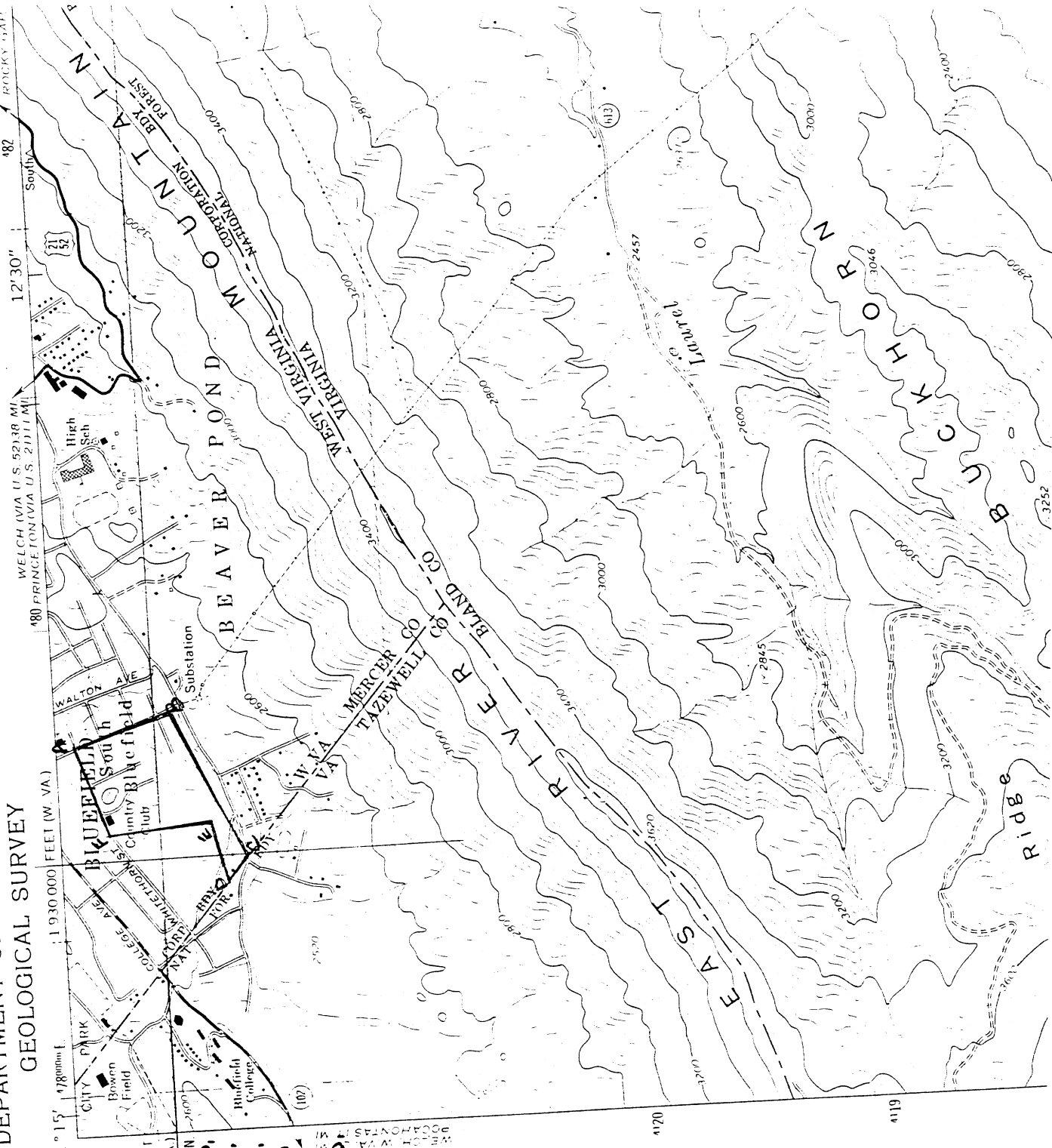
NON-CONTRIBUTING

COUNTRY CLUB HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BLUEFIELD WEST VIRGINIA
M. GIROLIS NOV. 1991

COI
DIV
JAM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

4756 IV SE
(BRAMWELL)



- 90 000 FEET
(W. VA.)
4172000m N
- A. 17. 479490, 412230.
 - B. 17. 479610, 412190.
 - C. 17. 478980, 4121620.
 - D. 17. 478880, 4121710.
 - E. 17. 479110, 412170.
 - F. 17. 479120, 4122210.
- 4170
4119







