

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1, JULY 2010

DETAILS



A Newsletter from the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office
West Virginia Division of Culture and History



Greenwood Cemetery at Wheeling.



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Governor

Dept. of Education and the Arts
KAY GOODWIN
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Turning Fifty Becoming Eligible for the National Register

Recently I turned 50 years old. It's a bit hard to admit, but as they say it's better than the alternative. A friend gave me a birthday card that read "You're 50 and a national treasure. Sadly, Congress has allocated no funds for your maintenance." Inside he wished me "happy National Register birthday." We laughed at the idea of me being eligible for the National Register. It's not as if I feel that old or august. It's just that we associate 50 years old as a significant turning point in our lives. And just as we think about our own age and getting older, turning 50 can also impact how we think about places.

For the National Register of Historic Places, it is a turning point for eligibility. Generally, a resource has to be 50 years or older to be listed. It's hard to understand how something that was built in 1960 could possibly be historically significant. However, recently my staff and I have been discussing the age and architectural significance of a building completed in 1958. Because of current federal security requirements, the building will likely change completely in appearance to make it safer. We think it's eligible to the National Register because of how the architect applied to its design the contemporary architectural philosophy of the mid twentieth century. The irony is that when I first started at the Division of Culture and History, I knew the architect and worked with him. If he were alive, I think he

would be pleased his design was considered eligible for listing in the National Register.

We've compared the current dislike toward modern buildings of the late twentieth century to the opinions people used to have about Victorian architecture. Many wonderful examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture were torn down before people recognized their unique character and beauty. Will we recognize the significance of mid twentieth century architecture before we lose many of them? These buildings may have been designed to reflect a style that has proven uncomfortable for their occupants, such as the use of small windows or no windows at all. Therefore, they are demolished or altered, sometimes beyond recognition of their original features.

Recent history sometimes also does not provide enough distance for people to understand a building's social significance or its relationship to events and patterns of history. For example, mixed opinions were voiced last spring at the demolition of Building 82, the 10 story office building associated with Union Carbide's South Charleston campus. Built in 1948, the building represented the history of the chemical industry in the Kanawha Valley. There was sadness expressed not just about the building, but the disappearance of an industry from the valley. For preservationists, the demolition represented a lost opportunity for adaptive reuse of an historic building.

Similarly, events of the recent past seem too, well, *recent* to be considered history. The Farmington Mine Disaster of 1968 occurred just forty two years ago; yet this event led to a miners' strike, influenced new

The activity that is the subject of this newsletter has been financed with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The program receives Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Continued on page 3

Road Trip to Historic West Virginia

Did all the snow this winter have you stir crazy and feeling house bound? We have a challenge for you, one that will get you out of the house, into your cars and test your sense of exploration!

Ten years ago, we published *Historic West Virginia: the National Register of Historic Places*, a compilation of the state's historic buildings, sites and structures listed in the National Register. Around here at the SHPO, it has become affectionately known as the "Purple Book" (because of the purple cover.) Well, we are at it again, but this time with a twist. The new compilation will include all of the properties that were listed in the old "Purple Book" and all of the new properties that have been listed in the past ten years. This time around, the book will be divided into chapters, each representing a region of the state. At the end of each chapter will be a series of driving tours that will take you to a sampling of historic properties scattered throughout each region. The driving tours are based on the Works Progress Administration tour

guides, written by unemployed writers during the Depression.

Now our challenge to you: On our website you will find a sample tour from Pocahontas County which we want you to take and provide us with feedback. Go to <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/drivingtour/roadtrip.pdf>. Is there anything we can improve? Were the directions easy to follow? Is the layout of the tour easy to follow? We want your opinion on how to make these tours as enjoyable, educational and accessible as possible.

David Thelen, a professor of history, once said that "the challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present." We, as preservationists, struggle to achieve this every day and it is our hope that you accept our challenge and join us in developing these tours as tools to introduce the past to the present. Please submit any questions or comments to aubrey.c.vonlindern@wv.gov. —Aubrey Von Lindern

Historic Landscapes

The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has

recently discussed opportunities with the West Virginia chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) to record historic landscapes in the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS).

The mission of HALS, a program of the National Park Service, is to "record historic landscapes in the United States and its territories through measured drawings and interpretive drawings, written histories, and large-format black and white photographs and color photographs." Historic landscapes can vary in size from a small garden to a thousand-acre park and can be a vernacular or a designed space.

Examples of historic landscapes in West Virginia include the Capitol Complex in Charleston, Oakhurst Links and the Greenbrier property in White Sulphur Springs, and Camden Park in Huntington. The SHPO is creating a list of potential landscapes for expanding West Virginia's resources recorded in HALS. If you have any suggestions for our effort, please contact Erin Riebe at SHPO, 304.558.0240 or erin.m.riebe@wv.gov. —Erin Riebe

Oakhurst Golf links, White Sulphur Springs

Continued from page 2

mine safety laws, and impacted leadership of the United Mine Workers of America. The tragedy is still real to the living. Not yet 50 years in the past, these events are obviously significant to our country's story.

Sometimes our history isn't old and dusty. That may not sit easily with us when we think of the number 50. Yet history is real and will keep happening...sooner than we think.

—Susan Pierce



Cemeteries and Graves

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) receives calls requesting information on how to list cemeteries in the National Register of Historic Places nearly as often as calls to list houses. In most cases, the caller's motive is similar; to protect the cemetery. However, as with all property types, listing in the National Register does not guarantee preservation or maintenance. Furthermore, many cemeteries and graves are not eligible for listing. The following is a summary of the SHPO's role in cemetery protection, information on what qualifies a cemetery for listing in the National Register, and information regarding the SHPO's cemetery survey program

Mt. Calvary Cemetery at Wheeling.



THE SHPO CANNOT:

- Enforce state laws.
- Investigate complaints about damage to cemeteries.
- Grant or deny permission to access a cemetery.
- Determine if a cemetery/grave exists or determine the boundaries of a cemetery.
- Move cemeteries.
- Establish cemeteries or tell someone how to establish a cemetery.
- Create a plan for protecting a cemetery.
- Provide funding for routine maintenance.

THE SHPO CAN:

- Work with the general public to help document cemeteries.
- Provide limited guidance with respect to the care and maintenance of cemeteries.
- Provide an opinion regarding a cemetery or grave's National Register eligibility.
- Provide guidance in listing an eligible cemetery/grave in the National Register.
- Provide the owners of a National Register listed cemetery/grave the opportunity to apply for Development Grant funding to restore contributing resources, such as mausoleums.
- Issue permits to archaeologically excavate cemeteries.
- Review state and/or federal projects to determine their effects to historic cemeteries/graves. Historic is defined as properties that are eligible for or listed in the National Register. If it is not historic, the SHPO's role ends, regardless of the effect.



Johnstown Church in Jefferson County.

Listing in the National Register

All properties that are eligible for listing in the National Register must be at least 50 years old, must retain historic integrity and must meet one of the four National Register Criteria: (a) Association with events, (b) Association with people, (c) Design/Construction, (d) Information potential.

Cemeteries and graves are among several property types that are generally NOT considered eligible for listing in the National Register unless they meet additional special requirements. This is because objective evaluation can be overshadowed by a sense of reverence and devout sentiment by descendants of the interred.

In addition to the criteria listed above, most cemeteries and graves must also meet special requirements of Criterion Consideration C or D.

Criterion Consideration C: Birth-

places and Graves. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure is eligible if the person is of outstanding importance and if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life.

Criterion Consideration D: Cemeteries. A cemetery is eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.

The West Virginia Cemetery Survey

The West Virginia Cemetery Survey is a program designed to help genealogists, archivists, and other interested persons to record and preserve information about cemeteries within our state. The Survey is designed to assist in the collection of many kinds of data from many types of cemeteries.

Cemeteries are all too easily

neglected and forgotten, their contours hidden by weeds and overgrowth. Headstones may erode until their inscriptions are unreadable. They may be broken from their bases, removed, and even vandalized. Each time a cemetery is lost in this manner, the irreplaceable information that it contains is also lost. The West Virginia Cemetery Survey is an attempt to gather this data and maintain it in a manner that renders it accessible for later research. All of the material gathered in the course of a survey is kept on file at the SHPO.

If you would like to document a cemetery in West Virginia, visit our website at <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/forms.html> or call the Cemetery Survey Coordinator at 304.558.0240.

For a list of WV codes pertaining to cemeteries, go to <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/cemcodes.html>

The Jenkinjones Coal Company Store and Office

Unlike today, West Virginia during the late 19th and early 20th century did not have super highways or giant retail stores like Walmart or Target. West Virginians that lived in the very sparse coal camps relied mainly on their feet and an occasional horse to transport themselves through small paths along rugged terrain. Sustenance in the coal camps was a combination of what could be grown or made at home, or what could be bought at the coal camp's company store. Workers were often paid in scrip, currency that could only be used at the company owned stores. Therefore, early coal camps in West Virginia were largely dependent on company provided goods. Generally, the coal companies extended railroad lines into the camp

to export the mined coal and import goods for the company store. The company store was typically constructed at a centralized location within the camp so that the workers and families would have easy access. The company store was a status of pride for many communities and usually constructed to reflect the camp's prosperity. After the introduction of better kept roads and automobiles, less dependency was placed on company goods. West Virginians were now able to visit other communities to shop. One such store, at Jenkinjones, is an example of original prosperity and subsequent abandonment.

The Pocahontas Fuel Company, Inc. company store and office

buildings at Jenkinjones were built in 1917 by the renowned architect, A. B. Mahood. Constructed with a massive brick design, showing off a little elegance and flare, these buildings served a multi-functional role by housing the company store, post office, payroll office, train station, and other company offices. Because of the remoteness of the location, the company store offered a wide variety of produces, such as groceries, clothing, jewelry, and furniture. This multi-functionality was a unique feature to Jenkinjones and other company buildings in the southern coal fields.

Today, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is proposing a reclamation




project that would entail the removal of the coal camp's company store and office buildings in Jenkinjones. Historic photographs show the prosperity of the community and the variety of available goods. Although these buildings are now deteriorating empty shells; they are a lasting reminder of this once prosperous coal camp in southern West Virginia. Because of their historic significance, these buildings at Jenkinjones were determined eligible under Criteria A and C for the National Register of Historic Places for their unique architecture and design, and for their importance to the industry and community. Therefore, the project was determined to have an adverse effect

Jenkinjones Company Store 1928 (left), and 1930 (below). Photos courtesy of www.wvgenweb.org. Company store, 2008 (upper right).



to the buildings. As a result, a federal Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is being drafted for execution between the Office of Surface Mining (OSM), the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP),

and the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (WVSHPO) stipulating how this project will be implemented. For more information, contact Kelly Ristau at the SHPO. —*Kelly Ristau* 



Kimball War Memorial

I am a proud daughter of the southern West Virginia coalfields, having been born and raised by a coal mining family in Wyoming County. When I saw the focus of the 2009 Pioneer America Society Conference, professional and personal interests were piqued. The conference focused on the history and architecture of the coalfields, including a tour of the coalfields. The informative and interesting tour of coalfield buildings conducted on October 31 was capped with a stop at the Kimball War Memorial in Kimball, McDowell County. The story of the Kimball War Memorial is an inspirational story of determination, community pride and the strength that characterizes so many West Virginians.

Designed by local architect Hassell T. Hicks and constructed in 1928, the

Kimball War Memorial is the first and only World War I memorial to commemorate the service of African Americans during that war. McDowell County, once home to thousands of African Americans, paid homage to these soldiers through the construction of this War Memorial.

In 1991, a fire gutted the interior of the building. While still a ruin, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1993 as a historic site. Since that time, the community has rallied with pride and a sense of purpose around this regal, Classical Revival building. Their concerted efforts resulted in obtaining money from grants and other financial assistance to restore the building. In April 2010, community members will have a celebration of the building's 82nd anniversary.

On that rainy, October afternoon, we were privileged to hear the story of the community, the memorial and the people from Mr. E. Ray Williams, a veteran of World War II. Mr. Williams spoke with pride and admiration for those soldiers that came before him and the county and community that had the vision to erect a statue in honor of its African American soldiers. Even when the Memorial was severely damaged by the 1991 fire, community members fought to save their heritage. Now fully restored and functional, the building once again is the center of activity and pride in this southern West Virginia community. As I left the building that day, I also was filled with pride in the perseverance and dedication these proud West Virginians had for their heritage and the building that symbolizes their past, present, and future.—*Shirley Stewart Burns*

The restored Kimball War Memorial. Inset: Before renovations.



Camp Allegheny

Camp Allegheny rests inside the Monongahela National Forest (MNF) amidst the Potomac Highlands of Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Most visitors to the area are not aware of this resource, one of the best preserved Civil War battlefields. It is situated along the historic Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike (Rt. 250) on Allegheny Mountain. Recently members of the State Historic Preservation Office had a rare opportunity to tour the landscape with Hunter Lesser, one of West Virginia's experts on Civil War history.

Author of *Rebels At The Gate: Lee and McClellan on the Front Line of a Nation Divided*, Lesser walked the ridgetop with us, pointing out the area of combat and the Confederate winter quarters of 1861-1862. The Union soldiers, under the command of General Robert Milroy, also wintered in the same area on Cheat Mountain, about twenty miles to the northwest.

The Battle of Camp Allegheny, also known as Top of Allegheny, Allegheny Mountain Summit, or Camp Baldwin, occurred on December 13, 1861. Union forces moved from their winter quarters at Cheat Mountain Summit and planned a two prong attack on the Confederates at Allegheny. Approximately 1,900 Federal troops attacked 1,200 Confederate soldiers. Several charges and counter-charges were made throughout the day. In all, the fighting took seven and a quarter


hours with no decisive outcome. The losses were about even with Union at 147 to the Confederate's 146.

After the battle, Confederate and Union troops stayed in their respective winter quarters. In the spring, both armies left the area and the vital road—the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike—was unguarded. Later in the war, Confederate General “Stonewall” Jackson took advantage of this, using the turnpike during his famous Valley Campaign. Confederate General Edward Johnson would also earn both his full rank and nickname, “Allegheny” during the fight and harsh winter on Allegheny Mountain.

Lesser narrated the battle as well as shared stories recorded by the encamped soldiers, such as the letters written to and from a seventeen year old Union soldier, Josie Gordon. Upon joining the army his father, who was also a soldier wrote, “Write to me often, obey your officers, and die sooner than be a calf or a coward.”²¹ Josie was indeed killed during the fight. His last letter addressed to Major Jonathan Gordon illustrates his sense of duty. “You surely should not be surprised that I should, in this hour of extreme peril to my country, offer



her my feeble aid.”²² In 1903 Ambrose Bierce published *A Bironac of the Dead* about the area and the battle's events. Bierce wrote, “Crowning some low hills within a stone's throw of the house are long lines of old Confederate fortifications, skillfully designed and so well “preserved” that an hour's work by a brigade would put them into serviceable shape for the next civil war.”²³


The significance of this landscape is enriched by the retelling of these accounts. It is also humbling to view this landscape. In 1990 Camp Allegheny was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as nationally significant for its association with the American Civil War, landscape architecture, and its potential for additional information through archaeological investigation—*Bethany Canfield*. 



Hunter Lesser (upper right) describing the Civil War battle scene at Camp Allegheny in Pocahontas County (lower right).

GRANTS AWARDED

FY2010 Survey and Planning Grants

At its January 2010 meeting, the West Virginia Archives and History Commission awarded the FY2010 survey and planning grants. These grants are funded through the annual Historic Preservation Fund of the National Park Service. Each year at least 10% of the state's annual grant is set aside for use by Certified Local Governments (CLG) to conduct historic preservation activities. For more information, please contact the SHPO.—*Pam Brooks* 

Western Hampshire County Survey and National Register Historic District Nominations, \$14,000. Hampshire County Commission.

Buckhannon Historic District National Register Nomination, \$7,000. Buckhannon Historic Landmark Commission.

Berkeley County National Register Nominations, \$5,460. Berkeley County Historic Landmark Commission.

Harrisville Historic District Nomination, \$5,600. Ritchie County Historic Landmark Commission.

Elkins Preservation Resource Center, \$1,400. Elkins Historic Landmark Commission.

East End Historic District Design Guidelines, \$5,250. Charleston Historic Landmark Commission.

Riverview Cemetery Historic Resource Conditions Report, \$3,185. Ronceverte Historic Landmark Commission.


Clayton Addition Survey, \$4,760. Mannington Historic Landmark Commission.

Luna Park Survey and National Register Historic District Nomination, \$21,000. City of Charleston/Charleston Historic Landmark Commission.

Guyandotte Historic District Survey, \$7,000. Huntington Historic Preservation Commission.

Greenbrier County Survey, \$7,000. Greenbrier County Commission.

FY2010 State Development Grants

The FY 2010 State Development Grant recipients were approved by the WV Archives and History Commission on May 29, 2009 and awarded by Governor Manchin on July 1, 2009. The WV Legislature provides annual funding assistance for the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This matching grant program is competitive and based upon selection criteria included in our annual work program.—*Pam Brooks* 

Kump House Roof Replacement, \$49,150. City of Elkins/Kump House Trust, Randolph County.

Job's Temple Exterior Repair, \$32,500. Job's Temple Association, Inc., Gilmer County.

1841 Jail Roof Replacement, \$26,800. Historic Beverly Preservation, Randolph County.

Algoma Coal and Coke Company Store Roof Replacement, \$37,300. Travel Beautiful Appalachia, Inc., McDowell County.

Darden House Porch Repair, \$16,000. Elkins Historic Landmark Commission, Randolph County.

Waldo Complex Roof Replacement

and Masonry Repair, \$91,200. Vandalia Heritage Foundation, Marion County.

McMechen Inn Masonry Repair, \$10,006. Patricia Monopoli, Hardy County.

T.L. Burchinal Residence Exterior Repair, \$13,500. George Sprowls, Marion County.

Roxy Theater Roof Replacement, \$61,556. 25045-A New Clendenin, Inc., Kanawha County.

Jacob-Hutchinson Warehouse Building Roof Replacement. Main Street Fairmont, Marion County.

Virgil Highland Home Roof Replacement, \$103,000. Jennifer Lopez, Harrison County.

McGrew House Roof Repair, \$10,000. Society for Preservation of McGrew House, Inc., Preston County.

Bryant Pharmacy Structural Repairs, \$8,853. John and Donna Husband, Mercer County.

Old Stone House Roof Repair, \$1,038. Service League of Morgantown, Monongalia County.

Thomas Fleming House Roof Repair, \$3,175. Women's Club of Fairmont, Marion County.

Old Opera House Theatre Masonry Repair, \$7,000. Old Opera House Theatre Company, Inc., Jefferson County.

Waitman T. Willey House Exterior Repair, \$14,000. Frederick Schaupp, Monongalia County.

Berkeley Springs Train Depot Roof Emergency Stabilization, \$12,000. Town of Bath/Berkeley Springs Train Depot Committee, Berkeley County.

Bernard-Klieves House Foundation Repair, \$1,000. William & Lynda Armstrong, Ohio County.

YMCA Fairmont Roof Replacement, \$15,605. Main Street Fairmont, Marion County.

MILESTONES

A Lifetime of Historic Preservation

Don Wood of Berkeley County at the end of 2009 retired from his official position with the Berkeley County Historical Society. At his retirement dinner, he was honored with the Distinguished West Virginian award presented to him by Ms. Becky Frye on behalf of Governor Joe Manchin.

During his tenure, the Society purchased and restored the Belle Boyd House which has served for 17 years as a historic house museum and educational center. Mr. Wood served as president of the historical society, chairperson of the Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission, and curator of the Belle Boyd House. Mr. Wood is a native of Berkeley County with his ancestry in the area dating to the 1730s. After years of researching "Old Berkeley's" land and its people (Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties), he is *the* expert on local history.

He has volunteered his time to




Don Wood receiving the Governor's Distinguished West Virginian award.

Berkeley County for nearly four decades resulting in the National Register listing of more resources than any other county in West Virginia. Mr. Wood himself has prepared nearly forty nominations and has been instrumental in securing funding through the County Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office to list many more resources, totaling more than 3,500 properties. Mr. Wood has become one of the linchpins of heritage tourism in Berkeley County helping to organize annual house tours of National Register listed properties and conveying the history of the Belle Boyd House, a stop on the Civil War Discovery Trail, to thousands of tourists every year.

The Belle Boyd House at Martinsburg, WV.




The SHPO thanks Don for his tireless efforts on behalf of Berkeley County.—*Susan Pierce & Erin Riebe* 

In Memoriam

Two former members of the West Virginia Archives and History Commission passed away recently. Both left distinctive memories and contributed vigorously to their communities. They will be missed by their friends and colleagues.

Dr. Stuart McGehee served as chairman of the West Virginia Archives and History Commission for five years. He was first a professor at Bluefield State College and later at West Virginia State University in Institute. He authored five books and more than 50 learned articles that appeared in national and regional publications. As director of the Eastern Regional Coal Archives at Kraft Library in Bluefield, his knowledge of West Virginia's southern coalfields assisted many researchers. His desk at the library usually held a bowl of apples, available for snacking. Stuart brought enthusiasm to all his endeavors.

Marjorie Zirk served quietly and with dignity on the Archives and History Commission. A librarian with the Moorefield Library, she oversaw a local history collection for use by researchers and library patrons. Commission meetings sometimes included tours of National Register resources. On one such occasion she gamely hiked into Organ Cave to view the Confederate saltworks. During meetings, she focused on the significance of each National Register nomination and was supportive of staff. She was a reliable member of the Commission.—*Susan Pierce* 



PRESERVATION CALENDAR

July 29-August 1, 2010

"Grand Rapids Rendezvous"

Biennial Forum

National Alliance of Preservation

Commissions

Grand Rapids, MI

www.uga.edu/napc/index.html

September 9-12, 2010

"Preserving the Historic Road 2010"

Washington, DC

www.historicroads.org

October 27-30, 2010

67th Annual Meeting

Southeast Archaeological

Conference

Lexington, KY

www.southeasternarchaeology.org

October 27-30, 2010

"The Next American City, and the

Next American Landscape"

National Trust for Historic

Preservation Annual Conference

Austin, TX

www.preservationnation.org

October 28-31, 2010

77th Annual Meeting

Eastern States Archeological

Federation

Williamsburg, VA

www.esaf-archeology.org

October 31, 2010

Survey and Planning Grant

Application Deadline

WV State Historic Preservation Office

www.wvculture.org

MAKE THE CENSUS COUNT

The 2010 Census questionnaire is a simple document with important consequences, providing data that will impact our representation in the U.S. House of Representatives and the federal government's agency priorities and budgets.

The State Historic Preservation Office receives an apportionment of funding each year as part of the Department of the Interior budget. Each community in West Virginia will be impacted by the results of this questionnaire. If you haven't filled out the form mailed to you, please do so. Census takers will be visiting households to collect this information April through July. To learn more about the 2010 Census, visit <http://2010.census.gov>.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History

DETAILS

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The Cultural Center

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