

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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**1. Name of property:**

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historic name: Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District  
other names/site number: N/A

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**2. Location:**

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street & number : Buffalo Street, Church Street, Portions of Main Street, Poplar Street, Railroad Alley and Railroad Street.

city or town: Rowlesburg  
state: West Virginia code: WV

county: Preston code: 077

not for publication: N/A  
vicinity: N/A  
zip code: 26425

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**3. 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  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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Signature of certifying official

Date

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State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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

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Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

---

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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**4. National Park Service Certification:**

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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): _____ _____ _____	_____	_____

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**5. Classification:**

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**Ownership of Property:**

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property**

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
51	27	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
52	27	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

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

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## 6. Functions or Use

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### **Historic Functions:**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure;

COMMERCE/TRADE: business, financial institution, specialty store, department store;

RELIGION: religious facility, church-related residences.

### **Current Functions:**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure;

COMMERCE/TRADE: business, financial institution, specialty store, department store;

RELIGION: religious facility, church-related residences.

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## 7. Description:

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### **Architectural Classification:**

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, Folk Victorian;

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival;

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial, Cottage Bungalow, Bungalow;

OTHER: Four Square.

### **Materials:**

Foundation:

Stone; concrete; brick; terra cotta.

Walls:

Aluminum; wood; asphalt; vinyl; brick; stone; metal; concrete; asbestos.

Roof:

Asphalt; metal; fiberglass.

Other:

Chimneys: brick; stone.

Cornices: metal.

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**Narrative Description**

(See continuation sheets.)

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**8. Statement of Significance:**

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**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.

**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.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

**B** removed from its original location.

**C** a birthplace or a 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:**

Commerce;

Community Planning and Development.

**Period of Significance:**

1848 to 1952.

**Significant Dates:**

N/A

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**Significant Person:**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect/Builder:**

Unknown.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(See continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographic References**

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**Bibliography**

(See 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:**

  X   State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_\_\_ Other State agency

\_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_\_\_ University

  X   Other

Name of Repository: Rowlesburg Area Historical Society

Buffalo Street

Rowlesburg, WV 26425

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**10. Geographic Data:**

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Acreeage of property: Approximately 19 acres.

Quad Map Name: Rowlesburg, W.Va.

**UTM References:**

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A. 17	614610	4356108	F. 17	614479	4355910
B. 17	614630	4356043	G. 17	614320	4355881
C. 17	614721	4356071	H. 17	614311	4355958
D. 17	614761	4355880	I. 17	614482	4356002
E. 17	614549	4355820	J. 17	614462	4356079

**Boundary Justification**  
(See continuation sheet)

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**11. Form prepared by:**

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Name/Title: Firm of Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Organization: Same as above

Date: January 30, 2005

Street & Number: 612 Main Street

Telephone: (304) 765-5716

City or Town: Sutton State: WV

Zip: 26601

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**Property owner**

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Name: Multiple/Over fifty (50) property owners within district.

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The Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District consists of the central business district of the town and includes adjacent residential sections also. It contains all of the extant historic concentration of the downtown commercial buildings and many of the early merchant residences and adjacent residential portions in Rowlesburg that were developed at the same time. Rowlesburg is located along State Route 72 in Reno District in Preston County, in the south central part of the county. The district is composed of Buffalo Street, Church Street and portions of Main Street, Poplar Street, Railroad Alley and Railroad Street. The terrain is relatively flat and the entire town is enfolded by a large bend in the Cheat River.

The nominated area consists of approximately 19 acres. There are seventy-nine (79) resources in the district: fifty-one (51) are considered contributing buildings; twenty-seven (27) are considered non-contributing buildings; and there is one (1) contributing site, Our Lady of the Cheat Park.

The business district is composed of mostly late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings and they are located mostly on East Main Street. They are one and two-story, masonry and wood buildings with storefronts on the first floor and housing or other offices on the upper floors. The buildings are free standing and fill their lots. The majority of the commercial buildings date from ca. 1900 up to ca. 1950.

The residential buildings within the district are mostly late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, single family homes. The residences located downtown and to the west of downtown consist of many of the home of early merchants, doctors and businessmen of the town. Many of the railroad workers, engineers, etc. also lived in these residences. Most of the residences have small front, side and rear yards. The majority of the residences are wood frame but there are a few brick homes.

The residences, for the most part, do not have a particular architectural style although Queen Anne and Folk Victorian styles are evident, representing the Late Victorian period. The residences are commonly Gable-Front, Gabled-Ell and "I" house types in plan. Sidewalks connect all areas of the town with a small town park along the Cheat

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River to the north. The Main Street is very wide with front-in parking typical of many river-side towns.

There are three churches located along Main Street. Site #PR-0061 is the St. Paul's Methodist Protestant Church and it is on East Main Street. It is Romanesque style. On West Main Street are the other two churches: St. Philomena's Roman Catholic Church, #PR-0089, and site #PR-0084, the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church in the Gothic Revival style. These three churches have been in Rowlesburg since their inception.

The Gothic Revival style is also illustrated through the Rowlesburg School, site #PR-0079. The church and the school all have red brick facades with Gothic Revival style openings. The school has a large, three-story entrance tower with dogtooth detailing at the corners and crenellated parapet. An addition was added to the school in 1925 and it is Colonial Revival style which reflects that time period.

There are a few other Colonial Revival style buildings within the district. These are sites #PR-0056 and PR-0057. The Waybright House, PR-0056 is a two-story, red brick home with shingles and a Palladian window in the gable end. The Weaver House, PR-0057 is a two and one-half-story, end gable, wood frame house; it is simpler in detail than the Waybright House.

The oldest known building in Rowlesburg is site #PR-0054, the Nassif Home and Store building, ca. 1848. This building is a typical commercial building with a front parapet wall, central recessed entrance and flanking display windows. It has been a church, a school, a community building, a store, a restaurant and a bar among other things. It has been, and remains, in the Nassif family since 1912.

The second oldest building in town is the Rowlesburg Area Historical Society/IOOF building. It is a very simple, two-story, end gable building constructed for the IOOF in 1875. It is a wood frame building and is in good condition. The railroad depot, site #PR-0111, is also from this same time period with a construction date of ca. 1873. It is a

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typical railroad building in a Folk Victorian style: one-story, side gable with a projecting, three-sided bay for the railroad ticketmaster. It too is in good shape.

The most common commercial building within the downtown is Commercial style. These mercantile buildings are functional rather than highly decorative. This style particularly befits the working class town of Rowlesburg. The remaining Commercial style buildings include: PR-0054, PR-0059, PR-0060, PR-0064, PR-0066, PR-0068, PR-0078, PR-0110 and PR-0112.

The old Adams and Moore Store building is somewhat decorative having a pressed metal façade on the second floor. It is site #PR-0065 and it was built in 1907. As is typical of the time period, the metal façade was most probably shipped in on the railroad. It is considered Neo-Classical Revival style as is the Hollis/Nine Building, site #PR-0058.

As stated earlier, the majority of the residences are not constructed in a particular architectural style but are types or plans typical to this time period and location. The plans include Gable-Front, Gabled-Ell and "I" house plans. There are several Queen Anne style homes. One is the Proudfoot Home, site #PR-0086. It is ca. 1880 and is a large, two-story, front facing "T" house. It has an unusual overhanging gable with an arched vertical 2/2 novelty window in the gable end. All of the windows have novelty upper sashes in a geometric pattern. The front entrance is within an arched recessed bay and has arched openings. A more typical Queen Anne style home is the Morgan/May Home, site #PR-0081, ca. 1885. It is a steep two-story, end gable house with a two-story, off-set, projecting, three-sided tower on the east corner with a pyramidal roof and a small wall gable. It has a wraparound porch with a wall gable entrance.

The following is a complete list of resources in the district. The numbers are consistent with the Rowlesburg Historic Resource Survey completed in January of 2005 and with the accompanying map. There are seventy-nine (79) resources in the district: fifty-one (51) are considered contributing buildings; twenty-seven (27) are considered non-contributing buildings; and there is one (1) contributing site.

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**Summary:**

The majority of the buildings associated with the Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District are in good condition and maintain their original character defining elements. The district contains the extant downtown commercial district along with the adjoining residential portions of Rowlesburg that housed many of the early merchants and businessmen of Rowlesburg. The period of significance, 1848 to 1952, dates to the construction date of site #PR-0054, the Nassif Home and Store and goes to 1952 when the Rowlesburg School Annex building, site #PR-0080, was constructed.

**LIST OF SITES**

**BUFFALO STREET**

**PR-0073. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**  
**Rooks/Hollis House/Fike Watson Funeral Home**

date: ca. 1880

description: Very large, two-story, rear facing "T" house. Central wall gable on the front. "V" seam metal roof. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. 1/1 wood windows with simple hoods and surrounds. One-story, modified hip roof, three-quarter length, front porch with non-original slender square posts on a wide slatted balustrade. Novelty entrance door has a decorative hood. One-story, shed roof, back porch with chamfered posts on a wood deck. Stone pier foundation infilled with a variety of brick, concrete and stone. 3 X 3 bays. "T" house.  
1 contributing building.

**PR-0074. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**  
**Orescanin/Carrie Dawson House**

date: ca. 1930

description: One-story, side gable house with shed roof, enclosed porches on the front and the rear. House is oriented with the end gable portion facing Buffalo Street. Metal roof. Clapboard siding with corner boards, 1/1 wood windows with simple hoods and surrounds. Front porch has painted shingles in the balustrade area. Small, shed roof

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addition on the rear with concrete block foundation. Pier foundation covered with wood. 3 X 4 bays. Cottage Bungalow style.  
1 contributing building.

**PR-0075. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, commercial**  
**Exxon Gas Station/CM Shaffer Esso Station**

date: ca. 1949

description: One-story, hip roof, gas station building. Gas pumps with canopy in front. Asphalt shingle roof. Façade is metal panels above and red brick veneer below; these veneers are over a concrete block building. One-story, shed roof wing on the south contains two bathrooms and has curved glass block corners and metal panels. Two garage bays and main corner entrance with large display windows. 3 X 3 bays. Oblong Box type.

1 contributing building.

**M14. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**

**Paul Riggs House**

date: ca. 1988

description: One-story, side gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. End gable, entrance porch with square posts. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 2 bays.  
1 non-contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1978

description: One-story, side gable garage with attached car port/machine shed. Corrugated metal roof. Vinyl siding. Concrete block foundation. 3 X 1 bays.  
1 non-contributing building.

**M15. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, commercial**

**Si Faris Restaurant**

date: ca. 1962

description: One-story, end gable building. Asphalt shingle roof. Concrete block façade with brick veneer on the front. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 1 bays.  
1 non-contributing building.

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**M16. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**

**Faris House**

date: ca. 1962

description: One-story, end gable house. Gable dormers on the side. Asphalt shingle roof. Red brick façade. Picture windows on the front. Concrete block foundation. 3 X 3 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1962

description: One-story, side gable garage. Asphalt shingle roof. Concrete block façade and foundation. 2 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0076. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**

**Lewis House/Mooney Sypolt Storage Building**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, rear facing "L" house. Asphalt shingle roof. Asbestos shingle siding. Shingles in the gable ends. 1/1 wood windows with novelty stained glass transoms. Entrance door has transom. One-story, shed roof, full length, front porch with square posts on an enclosed block balustrade. Concrete block foundation. 2 X 3 bays. Side Hall house.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0077. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, commercial**

**IOOF HALL/ROWLESBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

date: 1875

description: Large, two-story, end gable, commercial building. Asphalt shingle roof. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. 1/1 wood windows. Two entrance doors with covered transoms flank a large display window divided into two with a divided transom. Arched sun cartouche in the gable end with "IOOF" in a strip below. Stone foundation. 3 X 4 bays. Gable-Front House.

1 contributing building.

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**PR-0078. SOUTH BUFFALO STREET, commercial**  
**Bell's Grocery Store/Mooney Sypolt Store**

date: ca. 1947

description: Large, long, two-story, flat roof, commercial building. Terra cotta cap. Concrete block façade covered with red brick veneer on the front. Metal louvered windows with metal canopies on second floor. First floor has aluminum storefront framing with large display windows and painted brick kickpanels. Exterior stair on the south side covered with metal canopy that wraps around the front to cover the whole front. Large, two-story, concrete block addition on the rear. 3 X 4 bays. Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

**M17. NORTH BUFFALO STREET, residential**  
**Harold Hixenbaugh House**

date: ca. 1988

description: One-story, side gable house with end gable, projecting entrance porch. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 3 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0079. NORTH BUFFALO STREET, school**  
**Appalachian Whitewater/Rowlesburg High School**

date: 1910/1925

description: Large, two-story, hip roof, school building with a large, projecting, three-story, entrance tower on the west side. The tower has projecting, three-sided, dog toothed pilasters framing the Gothic arched entrance way. Metal roof. Red brick façade. Modern metal louvered windows with blonde brick belt course and concrete sills. Blonde brick quoins and blonde brick belt courses. The north elevation has a central wall gable, entrance bay with blonde brick quoins and a double entrance door with a hip roof canopy with large knee braces. Large, two and one-half-story, red brick, flat roof addition on the south side of the building added in 1925. The addition has blind arches on the upper floor windows which are modern 1/1 windows with undivided transom and concrete sills. Addition has an arched double door entrance with fanlight

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and a brick bay with concrete cap and curved corners. Stone and concrete foundation. 14 X 7 bays. Collegiate Gothic style with Colonial Revival style addition. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0080. NORTH BUFFALO STREET, commercial**  
**Cheat River Wood Products/Rowlesburg High School Gymnasium**

date: 1952

description: Tall, two-story, end gable, school annex building with flanking, one-story, shed roof wings. Asphalt shingle roof. Tan brick façade. Metal multipane windows. Long, one-story, shed roof, enclosed wing on the front. One-story, shed roof addition on the rear of concrete block. Concrete foundation. 7 X 6 bays. Modern. 1 contributing building.

**CHURCH STREET**

**PR-0052. 40 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, commercial**  
**Coniff Building/Burke's Tavern & Store**

date: ca. 1885

description: Two-story, end gable, commercial building with diagonal corner entrance. Asphalt shingle roof. Interior, brick chimney. Aluminum siding. 4/4, modern 1/1, 6/6 wood windows. Projecting, two-story, gable addition/wing on the side. Concrete foundation. 2 X 3 bays. Gable-Front type. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0053. 36 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, residential**  
**Nassif/Stockman House**

date: ca. 1905

description: Two-story, side gable house with off-set, projecting, end gable, three-sided bay on the second floor. One-story, gable wing on the rear. Two, interior, brick chimneys; rear wing has an interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Board and batten siding. Vertical 2/2 and 1/1 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch: left side is enclosed; right side has turned posts and pilasters and an enclosed

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balustrade. Rear wing has small, shed roof porch with square posts on an enclosed balustrade. Stone pier foundation. 3 X 3 bays. Queen Anne Cottage style.  
1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1905

description: One-story, shed roof outbuilding. Roll roofing. Vertical board siding. Small shed roof addition on the side with horizontal board siding. Shed roof additions on the front with garage bays. Pier foundation. 4 X 1 bays.  
1 contributing building.

**PR-0054. SOUTH CHURCH STREET, commercial & residential**  
**Joe's Place/Nassif Home and Store**

date: ca. 1848

description: Two-story, end gable, commercial building with front parapet wall and attached to a two-story, side gable house on the rear. Metal roof. Interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle siding on commercial portion; clapboard siding on the residence. Vertical 3/1 and 1/1 windows on commercial portion; 1/1 windows on the residence. Commercial portion has a one-story, modified hip roof over the entrance and it wraps around to the side. Recessed entrance door with transom flanked by display windows with transoms. Far right side of store has been enclosed and added to, ca. 1930. Exterior stair on the side to the upper floor has second floor porch with squat battered posts on an enclosed balustrade. Stone pier foundation. 3 X 7 bays.  
Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1905

description: One-story, shed roof barn/outbuilding. Roll roofing. Vertical board (chestnut) siding. Pier foundation. 3 X 1 bays.  
1 contributing building.

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**B. Our Lady of the Cheat**

date: ca. 1950

description: Small pocket park across the street from the store with ornamental plantings and statuary.

1 contributing site.

**PR-0055. SOUTH CHURCH STREET, residential**

**Nassif/Hulstine House**

date: 1900

description: Two-story, side gable house. Interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Vertical 2/2 wood windows with storms and shutters. One-story, modified hip roof, entrance porch with turned posts on a wood deck. Stone pier foundation. 3 X 2 bays. "T" house.

1 contributing building.

**M1. SOUTH CHURCH STREET, residential**

**Cook/Hartley House**

date: ca. 1986

description: One-story, end gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Concrete block foundation. 3 X 4 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1986

description: One-story, end gable garage. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Two garage bays. Concrete foundation. 2 X 1 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**MAIN STREET**

**PR-0056. 38 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Parkinson/Waybright/Pickering House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, hip roof house with central wall gable on the front and side. Palladian window and fishscale shingles in the wall gables. Interior, brick chimney.

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Asphalt shingle roof. Red brick façade. 1/1 windows with arched hoods with garland decoration and rusticated stone sills. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, enclosed front porch with wrought iron roof balustrade and windows with vertical 3/2 windows. Projecting, two-story, three-sided bay on the side with 6/6 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, rear porch with roll roofing: left side of porch is enclosed with bricks; right side has Tuscan columns. Back porch has brick pier foundation. Stone foundation. 4 X 3 bays. Colonial Revival style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 2004

description: One-story, end gable garage. "V" seam metal roof. Metal siding.

Concrete foundation. 1 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0057. 36 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Weaver/Kearns House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-and one-half-story, end gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Paired, 1/1 windows with shutters with arched louver above in gable end. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. 1/1 wood windows with simple hoods and surrounds and shutters. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch with battered square posts on an enclosed shingled balustrade. Front porch windows have undivided transoms.

One-story, shed roof, rear porch. Pier foundation. 3 X 2 bays. Colonial Revival style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0058. 10 EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**  
**Hollis/Nine Building**

date: 1908

description: Large, two-story, flat roof, commercial building. Large, overhanging metal cornice with modillions and entablature. Red brick façade. Second floor windows divided into three horizontally and have stone lintels and sills. Two storefronts with central recessed entrance door to upper floor. Simple metal secondary cornice with large end brackets. East storefront has been infilled with siding and modern door and display

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windows. West storefront retains original central recessed entrance flanked by large display windows with brick kickpanels. Both transom areas have been infilled with metal siding. One side elevation has been covered with vinyl siding. Non-original, metal stair on the rear. Stone foundation. 7 X 6 bays. Neo-Classical Revival style. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0059. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**  
**Knights of Pythias Building**

date: ca. 1900

description: Two-story, flat roof, commercial building with stepped parapet on the side elevations. Simple metal primary cornice with end brackets. "K. OF P." red brick accent sign in cornice area. Tan brick façade. 1/1 wood windows with concrete lintels and sills on second floor. Simple metal secondary cornice divided by brick pilasters with corbelled brick caps. Two storefronts: east storefront has been infilled with tan brick and a flush entrance door; west storefront retains original central recessed entrance with transom flanked by display windows with transoms and brick kickpanels – transom covered with wood infill. Concrete foundation. 4 X 5 bays. Commercial style. 1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1950

description: One-story, shed roof garage. Metal roof. Metal siding. Pier foundation. 5 X 1 bays. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0060. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**  
**First Community Bank/Peoples National Bank**

date: ca. 1912

description: Long, one-story, flat roof, commercial building with front parapet wall and terra cotta cap. Red brick façade. Non-original front composed of Tuscan columns flanking an enclosed brick entrance bay with a spindled roof balustrade. Multipane windows. Concrete foundation. 3 X 2 bays. Commercial style. 1 contributing building.

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**PR-0061. EAST MAIN STREET, church**  
**VFW Hall/St. Paul's Methodist Protestant Church**

date: 1923

description: Wide one story, front facing "L" church building with a two-story tall, square tower with pyramidal roof in the corner of the ell. Tower has stone modillions and a circular louver with stone keystones at the compass points. Asphalt shingle roof. Interior, brick chimney. Stone cap. Brown red brick façade with stone accents. One-story, end gable, projecting, entrance bay with knee braces and an arched entrance outlined in brick and stone. Large arched opening in the front gable – infilled with wood siding. All window openings have been infilled with wood or wood and smaller modern windows. Rusticated stone sills. Cornerstone reads: 1<sup>st</sup> line – "1923"; 2<sup>nd</sup> line – "Laid by A.F. and A.M. June 23 AL 5923"; 3<sup>rd</sup> line – "E. Carl Frame G.M." Concrete foundation. 4 X 4 bays. Romanesque style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0062. 33 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Felton House/Church Parsonage**

date: ca. 1929

description: Two-story, hip roof house with central hip dormer on the front. Asphalt shingle roof. Brown red brick façade. 1/1 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, three-quarter length, front porch with square brick columns on brick piers and an enclosed brick balustrade with rusticated stone caps. Modern deck on the side. Concrete foundation. 3 X 4 bays. Four Square style.

1 contributing building.

**M13. 35 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Craig Felton House**

date: ca. 1995

description: One-story, end gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Wraparound deck. Concrete block foundation. 3 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

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**PR-0063. EAST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Sypolt/Ross Hollis House**

date: ca. 1900

description: Large, three-story, end gable house with gable dormer on the side. Front gable is slightly recessed and has brackets in the recess. Asphalt shingle roof.

Aluminum siding. Modern 1/1 and slider windows. One-story, end gable, entrance porch with square posts and lattice. One-story, shed roof, enclosed, rear porch with an exterior stair. Stone foundation. 4 X 4 bays. Gable-Front house.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0064. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**

**Charlie's/Carrico Building**

date: 1947

description: Tall, one-story, flat roof, commercial building. Terra cotta cap. Faux stone veneer over red brick façade on the front; the remainder of the building is concrete block.

Storefront is a series of large display windows and the entrance door is slightly recessed and off-set. Concrete foundation. 1 X 1 bays. Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0065. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**

**Cheat River Tavern/Adams & Moore Store**

date: 1907

description: Large, two-story, end gable, commercial building with front parapet.

Asphalt shingle roof. Interior, corbelled brick chimney. The front parapet and the entire second floor front is decorative metal and has a central parapet block. Side elevations have unpainted German siding. 1/1 wood windows on second floor. First floor has original central recessed entrance flanked by non-original multipane windows. First floor has been covered with plywood siding. Concrete block and concrete block pier foundation. 4 X 4 bays. Neo-Classical Revival style.

1 contributing building.

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**PR-0066. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**  
**Curiosity Shoppe/V.M.D. Black Box/CM Shaffer Building**

date: ca. 1920

description: One-story, flat roof, commercial building. Concrete cap. Stepped parapet on the side. Concrete block façade covered with red brick veneer on the front. Two storefronts: east storefront has central flush entrance door flanked by display windows; west storefront has same. Both storefronts appear to have been somewhat infilled with different brick than the façade brick. Concrete foundation. 2 X 5 bays. Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0067. EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Waybright/Newton Dawson House/Darrel Lantz House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, rear facing "L" house with two-story, three-sided, projecting, off-set bay on the front. Central, interior, stone parged chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. Vertical 2/2 and 1/1 windows. One-story, shed roof, front porch with turned posts on an enclosed balustrade. Decorative novelty window on front porch. One-story, shed roof, rear porch is partially enclosed. Stone foundation, partially parged. 3 X 2 bays. "I" house.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1880

description: One-story, end gable, chicken coop. Roll roofing. Board and batten siding. Pier foundation. 2 X 1 bays.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0068. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**  
**Curiosity Shoppe/Nassif Mercantile Building**

date: ca. 1889

description: Large, two-story, flat roof, commercial building. Large, primary, metal cornice with end brackets and frieze board. Metal roof cap. Asphalt shingle and vinyl siding. 1/1 windows on upper floor. Central recessed entrance flanked by large display

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window divided into four panes and divided transoms. Secondary entrance door has non-original stained glass transom. Concrete foundation. 2 X 5 bays. Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0069. EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Bucklew/Davis Store & House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, rear facing "L" house with the rear section having a third story that is below-grade. Central, interior, brick chimney. Roll roofing. Clapboard and cove siding with frieze and corner boards. 1/1 and vertical 2/2 wood windows. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch: west side of porch is enclosed; east side of porch has non-original Doric posts on a wood deck. One-story, shed roof, rear porch with square posts on a concrete deck on below-grade portion. Stone foundation. 2 X 2 bays. "I" house.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0070. EAST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Hixenbaugh/Emerson House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, rear facing "L" house with two-story addition on the rear. Central, interior, brick chimney. Roll roofing that runs vertically. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. Vertical 2/2 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, wraparound porch with octagonal posts with caps on squat brick piers; as the porch wraps around to the side it has turned posts and a cut-out balustrade; rear most portion of porch is enclosed. Stone pier foundation covered with metal veneer. 4 X 3 bays. "I" house.

1 contributing building.

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**PR-0071. 19 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Bruno//DeMoss/Giffin/Graney House & Dr. Prince's Dental Office**

date: ca. 1890

description: Two-story, front facing "L" house with one-story, flat roof, attached, dentist's office to the east. Three-story addition on the rear with exposed, brick chimney and concrete block addition. Modern deck attached to rear addition with large square posts and a slatted balustrade. Two-story, projecting, three-sided bay on the front gable. Two, interior, brick chimneys. Asphalt shingle roof. Aluminum siding. Modern louvered windows, 1/1 and fixed pane windows. One-story, shed roof, front porch with Onduline roof and squat turned posts on an enclosed balustrade. Stone and concrete block foundation. 6 X 2 bays. Gabled-Ell house.

1 contributing building.

**PR-071A. 21 EAST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Dowling House/Dr. Prince's Dental Office**

date: ca. 1890

description: One-story, flat roof building. Originally Dr. Prince's Dental Office attached to the above; currently a residence. Aluminum siding and faux stone veneer. Modern 1/1 windows. Stone and concrete block foundation. 3 bays wide.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0072. EAST MAIN STREET, commercial & residential**

**Wilson's Jewelry**

date: ca. 1880

description: Two-story, end gable house with end gable, projecting, off-set dormer on the second floor on the front. The dormer sits atop a one-story, full length, modified hip roof, enclosed, front porch with parapet wall and metal canopy. The front porch operates as the entrance to the business. Interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof.

Asbestos shingle siding. 1/1 windows with shutters. Two entrance doors on front porch with large display windows. Stone pier foundation infilled with concrete block. 2 bays wide. Gable-Front House.

1 contributing building.

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**PR-0081. 10 WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Morgan/May House**

date: ca. 1885

description: Tall, steep, two-story, end gable house with two-story, off-set, projecting, three-sided tower on the east corner with pyramidal roof with small wall gable. Partial return cornice. Gable dormer on the east. Interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. 1/1 modern windows with shutters. One-story, modified hip roof, curved, full length, front porch with modern Doric columns on a wood deck. Porch has wall gable entrance. Two and one-half-story, shed roof addition on the rear with a below grade car port and two, one-story, shed roof additions; one of the additions is concrete block. Parged concrete and concrete block foundation. 3 X 3 bays. Queen Anne style. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0082. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Hollobaugh House**

date: ca. 1890

description: Two-story, front facing "L" house. Roll roofing. Asbestos shingle siding over clapboard siding. Vertical 2/2 and 1/1 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, front porch in corner of ell has been enclosed with modern slider windows and painted plywood. One-story, modified hip roof, enclosed, rear porch. Stone foundation. 4 X 2 bays. Gabled-Ell house. 1 contributing building.

**PR-0083. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Hayden/Slayton House**

date: ca. 1890

description: Two-story, side gable house with gable wing on the rear. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Modern 1/1 windows with shutters. One-story, modified hip roof, three-quarter length, front porch with modern Doric columns on a concrete deck. One-story, shed roof, back porch with modern Doric columns and wrought iron railing. Parged foundation. 3 X 1 bays. "I" house. 1 contributing building.

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**PR-0084. WEST MAIN STREET, church**  
**Christ United Methodist Church/Trinity M.E. Church**

date: 1915

description: Very similar to the ME Church at the east end of Main Street. Tall, two-story, front facing "L" church building with a two-story, square tower in the corner of the ell. Corbelled brick belt courses with brick dentiling. Tower has Gothic arches wood louvers with stone Gothic arched hoods with keystones and stone sills. Same for the other window and door openings. Stained glass windows. Asphalt shingle roof. Red brick façade. Stone foundation. 4 X 4 bays. Cornerstone reads: 1<sup>st</sup> line – "M E. Church"; 2<sup>nd</sup> line – "1915." Gothic Revival style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 2003

description: One-story, gable picnic pavilion. "V" seam metal roof supported by square posts with braces on a concrete deck.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0085. 24 WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Church parsonage**

date: Ca. 1915

description: Two-story, hip roof house with central hip dormer on the front. Exposed, brick chimney on the side. Asphalt shingle roof. Aluminum siding. Modern 1/1 windows. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch with large, square columns on brick piers and a wrought iron balustrade. One-story, hip roof, three-sided, projecting bay on the side. Novelty window on the side. Concrete and concrete block foundation. 2 X 3 bays. Four Square style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1915

description: One-story, end gable garage. Asphalt shingle roof. Weatherboard siding. Concrete foundation. 1 X 1 bays.

1 contributing building.

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**PR-0086. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Mullenax/Dr. Milton H. Proudfoot House**

date: ca. 1880

description: Large, two-story, front facing "T" house. Two, interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Front gable overhangs the front and has an arched vertical 2/2 novelty window in the end of the gable. Gables have shingles. Asphalt shingle siding. 1/1 wood windows with upper sash a novelty stained glass in a geometric pattern. Arched, recessed front entrance with an arched opening on the side. One-story, flat roof, projecting, five-sided bay on the front with a slatted roof balustrade with newel posts and 1/1 wood windows with the upper sash a novelty stained glass in a geometric pattern. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, enclosed, rear porch. Rear porch has vertical 2/2 windows, German siding and brick foundation. Stone foundation. 2 X 2 bays. Queen Anne style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1950

description: One-story, end gable garage. Painted metal roof. Concrete block façade and foundation. 2 X 4 bays.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0087. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Wilt/Buckner House**

date: ca. 1890

description: Large, two-story, compound plan house. Asphalt shingle roof. Exposed, brick chimney on the side. Vinyl siding. Modern multipane and modern single pane windows with shutters. Two-story, projecting, three-sided bay on the side. Small, one-story, hip roof, bow window on the side. Projecting, two-story, shed roof, front porch in the corner of the ell: second floor has been fully enclosed; first floor has non-original squat Tuscan columns on brick piers. Faux stone veneer on the lower half of the front porch. One-story, hip roof, projecting, three-sided bay on the front with multipane windows and faux stone veneer. One-story, gable addition on the rear. Stone

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foundation; porch has concrete block foundation. 3 X 2 bays. Gabled-Ell house. Very modified.

1 non-contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1990

description: One-story, side gable outbuilding. Asphalt shingle roof. T-111 siding.

Pier foundation. 1 X 1 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**M19. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Ann Sagace House**

date: ca. 1986

description: One-story, side gable house with wall gable on the front. Asphalt shingle roof. T-111 siding. Modern deck on the front with ramp. Rear deck. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0088. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**St. Philomena's Roman Catholic Church Parsonage**

date: ca. 1890

description: Large, two-story, front facing "L" house. Parged, interior chimney.

Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Modern 1/1 windows with shutters. Two-story, shed roof, front porch in the corner of the ell: second floor has been enclosed; first floor has modern slender Doric columns on a concrete deck. Large, two-story addition on the rear with concrete foundation. Stone foundation. 3 X 1 bays. Gabled-Ell house.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0089. WEST MAIN STREET, church**

**St. Philomena's Roman Catholic Church**

date: 1869

description: Tall, one-story, end gable church with central, two-story tall, square tower with pyramidal roof with cross. Asphalt shingle roof. Aluminum siding. 4/4 windows. Double entrance doors in the tower. Stone foundation. 3 X 3 bays. Gable-Front building.

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1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0090. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Carrico/Pierce/Wotring House**

date: 1884

description: Two-story, front facing “L” house with double end gables on the front. Asphalt shingle roof. Circular cut-out louvers in the gable ends. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards. Vertical 2/2 windows with simple hoods and surrounds; diamond shaped window on the south side; large window on porch has leaded glass transom. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch with turned posts and spindled balustrade on a wood deck supported by concrete blocks. One-story, side gable addition on the north side with two, exposed chimneys – one block and one brick. Addition has “V” seam metal roof and weatherboard siding. Parged foundation. 4 X 2 bays. Folk Victorian style.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0103. 39 WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Bulford/Carrico House**

date: ca. 1905

description: One-story, side facing “T” house. Front gable bay is three-sided. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Modern 1/1 windows. Small, shed roof over entrance door with square posts and slatted balustrade. One-story, shed roof porch on the side: partially enclosed on the rearmost portion; remainder has square posts and slatted balustrade. Stone pier foundation infilled with concrete and covered with metal veneer. 3 X 4 bays. Queen Anne Cottage house.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: Ca. 1995

description: One-story, end gable outbuilding with small, shed roof, enclosed wing on the front. Asphalt shingle roof. Painted plywood façade. Pier foundation. 1 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

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**B.**

date: ca. 1930

description: One and one-half-story, end gable outbuilding. Metal roof. Clapboard siding. Concrete block foundation. 1 X 1 bays.  
1 contributing building.

**PR-0104. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Baumgardner/Brook House**

date: ca. 1930

description: One-story, hip roof house with central, shed roof dormer on the front and gable wing on the rear. Interior, brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. 1/1 wood windows; some are large single pane windows with undivided transoms. One-story, front porch within roof overhang has been infilled with vinyl and T-111 siding between the original square slightly battered posts on enclosed balustrade. One-story, entrance rear porch with turned posts. Small, gable addition on the side on the rear. Rock-face concrete block and concrete foundation. 3 X 4 bays. Bungalow style.  
1 contributing building.

**PR-0105. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**  
**Drechsler/Hunter House**

date: ca. 1890

description: Two-story, hip roof house with projecting, two-story, gable bays. Interior, corbelled brick chimney. Asphalt shingle roof. Siding is in the process of being replaced. Modern 1/1 windows. Porthole window on the front porch. One-story, modified hip roof, full length, front porch with large square posts on an enclosed faux stone balustrade; ends of porch are enclosed with multipane windows. One-story, shed roof, rear porch/entrance porch. Concrete block foundation. 3 X 3 bays. Queen Anne style.  
1 contributing building.

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A.

date: ca. 2000

description: One-story, end gable garage. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Concrete block foundation. 1 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**M22. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Margaret Apartments**

date: ca. 1987

description: Four apartment buildings; all the same. Two-story, side gable, apartment buildings. Asphalt shingle roof. Brick façade. Concrete foundation. Named in honor of the former Mayor, Margaret Schollar.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0107. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Shupp House**

date: ca. 1900

description: Large, two-story, rear facing "L" house with central, wall gable on the front. Asphalt shingle roof. Interior, corbelled brick chimney. Shingles and round louvers in the gable ends. Clapboard siding with frieze and corner boards and entablature. 1/1 wood windows with simple hoods and surrounds. One-story, modified hip roof, three-quarter length, front porch with turned posts with cut-out and scrolled brackets and slatted balustrade. One-story, shed roof, enclosed, rear, entrance porch. Stone pier foundation infilled with terra cotta block. 3 X 2 bays. "I" House.

1 contributing building.

**PR-0109. WEST MAIN STREET, residential**

**Baumgardner/Clay Bucklew House**

date: ca. 1900

description: One and one-half-story, end gable with gable dormers on the side. Asphalt shingle roof. Exposed, concrete block chimney in the rear. Vergeboard and triangular window in front gable end. Partial return cornice. Asbestos shingle siding with corner and frieze boards. 1/1 wood windows; window on front porch has novelty transom. Entrance door has an undivided transom. One-story, hip roof, projecting, off-set, three-

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sided bay on the front. One-story, modified hip roof, wraparound porch with slender Tuscan posts on a wood deck with a pier foundation. Stone pier foundation infilled with concrete block. 3 X 3 bays. Queen Anne Cottage style.

1 contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1980

description: One-story, end gable garage. Roll roofing. Vertical board siding. Concrete block foundation. 1 X 1 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**M23. WEST MAIN STREET, commercial**

**Verizon Building**

date: ca. 1995

description: One-story, flat roof, commercial building with stepped parapet on the end. Concrete cap. Red brick façade. Concrete foundation. 1 X 1 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0110. 24 EAST MAIN STREET, commercial**

**Bannister Building/Glover's Drug Store/Dr. Proudfoot's Office Upstairs**

date: ca. 1880

description: Large, long, two-story, end gable, commercial building. Asphalt shingle roof. Roof monitors. T-111 siding. Recessed, entrance on the front. Variety of modern windows and doors. Concrete block foundation. 2 X 4 bays. Commercial style. Very modified.

1 non-contributing building.

**POPLAR STREET**

**M25. POPLAR STREET, residential**

date: ca. 1985

description: One-story, side gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. One-story, shed roof, entrance porch with slender square posts. Concrete block foundation.

5 X 1 bays.

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1 non-contributing building.

**M26. POPLAR STREET, residential**

date: ca. 1985

description: One-story, side gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. One-story, end gable, projecting, entrance porch with square posts on a wood deck. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 2 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**A.**

date: ca. 1985

description: One-story, end gable garage. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Concrete block foundation. 1 X 1 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**M27. POPLAR STREET, commercial**

date: ca. 1985

description: Tall, one-story, side gable, commercial storage building. Metal roof. Metal siding. Concrete foundation. 5 X 3 bays.

1 non-contributing building.

**PR-0112. POPLAR STREET, municipal**

**City Hall**

date: 1931

description: Two-story, flat roof, municipal building. Concrete cap. Concrete panel in cornice area reads: "City Hall 1931". Red brick façade. Recessed 1/1 wood windows with brick lintels and concrete sills. One-story, flat roof, garage bay on west side; concrete block façade with brick veneer on the front. Garage bay on east side of building also. Concrete foundation. 3 X 5 bays. Commercial style.

1 contributing building.

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**RAILROAD ALLEY**

**M24. RAILROAD ALLEY, residential**  
**Riggs/Fretwell/Lambert House**

date: ca. 1971

description: One-story, side gable house. Asphalt shingle roof. Vinyl siding. Squat 1/1 metal windows. One-story, end gable, projecting, entrance porch with square posts and slatted balustrade. Concrete block foundation. 4 X 1 bays.  
1 non-contributing building.

**RAILROAD STREET**

**PR-0111. RAILROAD STREET, depot**

**Railroad Depot**

date: ca. 1873

description: One-story, side gable, depot building. Asphalt shingle roof. Two, interior, brick chimneys. German siding. One-story, hip roof, projecting, three-sided bay on front with 4/4 windows in each bay. 6/6 wood windows. Wood herringbone freight doors. Concrete block foundation. 8 X 1 bays. Folk Victorian style. Building has been moved about 50' from original location and rotated.  
1 contributing building.

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**Statement of Significance:**

The Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District is significant under Criterion A for Commerce through its association with the growth and development of Rowlesburg's commercial area, Preston County, West Virginia. The district is also significant under Criterion A for Community Planning and Development through its association with the establishment and growth of the town through the railroad and timber industries. The period of significance spans from ca. 1848 when site #PR-0054 was constructed to 1952 when site #PR-0080 was constructed. The district retains many of the characteristics of its origins as a railroad town and architecturally displays a variety of styles and plans appropriate to a railroad town.

**History:**

Rowlesburg sits on the west side of the Cheat River on what is known as "the tongue of the river bottom." Rowlesburg is also known as the "River City" and early on in its history as "Vicksburg." The first known settler to live "in the tongue" was Hezekiah Frazer; he made a clearing and built a cabin in 1775. Other early settlers include the Grahams, Wheelers, Goffs and Hootons.

The land that Rowlesburg sits on was first patented by James Goff in 1783 and it was then passed on to his son, Salathiel. David Wonderly purchased the land in 1825. The first house built in Rowlesburg was built by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for either Thomas Rowles or Daniel Loudon. Rowlesburg is named for Thomas Jefferson Rowles, a division construction engineer for the B&O RR. The town was incorporated on February 27, 1858 under an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia. The General Assembly granted David Wonderly Jr., Russell Finnel, H.H. Wheeler, T.T. Hebb and William Hall the authorization to hold an election on the first Saturday in April. As a result of that election, the first town council consisted of William Hall, Mayor; A.L.

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Hooton, T.F. Head, H.H. Wheeler and Alonzo Henry, Council Members. The town was laid out by David Wonderly, John Totten and Howard Pulliam.

David Wonderly was one of the earliest settlers and the largest land owner in the area. He was born November 22, 1793 and died February 27, 1870. He married Nancy Laman and they had seven children. In 1852 Wonderly donated the land for a cemetery; it is called Riverview as it overlooks the river. The first person to be buried in Riverview was his daughter who had tragically drowned in the Cheat River.

The first store established in Rowlesburg was kept by a Mr. Offutt in 1850; Bishop & Morris bought him out in 1851. Other commercial enterprises soon followed with the arrival of the railroad. The bluestone quarry was located at the east end of the railroad bridge and large quantities of the dressed stone were sent to Baltimore via the railroad. The quarry operated as the Preston Bluestone Quarry. In addition to Baltimore, dressed stone was sent to Washington, D.C., New York City and Philadelphia to be used in building construction. The stone was also used in Rowlesburg for foundations and sidewalks. The last sidewalk to be replaced in 1989 was on Commerce Street.

There were few people in Rowlesburg prior to the arrival of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. The B&O arrived in Rowlesburg on Christmas Day in 1852 after having completed a bridge across the Cheat River. The railroad was instrumental in the growth and development of the timber industry and the quarrying of the local bluestone. Chief Engineer B.H. Latrobe and his assistants were the primary designers and implementers of the route that traversed the very difficult path through the mountains and the river valleys from Cumberland to Wheeling. The estimated cost of the route was \$6,278,000.00. Between Cumberland and Wheeling, the B&O's final destination, eleven tunnels were bored and 113 bridges constructed. The bridge across the Monongahela, which was 650' long, was then the largest iron bridge in America. The tunnel at Tunnelton was the longest railroad tunnel in the world at the time of its construction, 1849-1852. In 1850 the work on the railroad route was conducted by 3,500 laborers and 700 horses. This was a boon to the local economy as well as a big draw for immigrants. The physical development of Rowlesburg was impacted as well by the location of the railroad. The depot, both the original freight depot and the extant passenger depot, were located

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alongside the railroad and as passengers exited from the trains they crossed the tracks to the Church and Main Street area which became home to many businesses. The Tray Run Viaduct just a mile west of downtown Rowlesburg was also a significant engineering feat. It is featured on the West Virginia State Seal. The Viaduct spans the Tray Run Gorge overlooking Cheat River. It is 450' long and the original trestle was completed in 1856 with the viaduct completed in 1888. It is built of massive cut stone. The railroad spawned the development of many towns along its route, including Rowlesburg.

There were several major accidents associated with the railroad. One of the deadliest occurred on Easter Sunday of 1853 about one-half mile west of Rowlesburg. Two locomotives were drawing a train when the tracks spread spilling two passenger cars 60' over a "fill" killing nine persons and wounding four. In 1872 an engineer and fireman were killed in a boiler explosion on an engine in Rowlesburg. In 1913 three B&O workers were killed in an accident near Rowlesburg.

The railroad allowed the rapid growth of the timber industry in the area. According to a *Scientific American* article dated February 4, 1860: "The British government is drawing largely on the white oak forests of Virginia. Above 300 men are now employed in getting timber in the mountains near Rowlesburg, on the Cheat river, which is to be used for gun-carriages. The contractor has orders which it will take two years to complete. The Cheat river oak is said to be the best yet imported into England, and far surpassing the Canada oak, which it is fast superseding....."

A large lumber mill was built by O.D. Downey and it was succeeded by the Rowlesburg Lumber & Iron Company. The latter burned down May 23, 1881. In that same year, the Allegheny Land and Lumber Boom Company opened a three-story, lumber mill. It had a capacity of 75,000 feet of dressed lumber per day. Two booms in the river supplied the timber. S.F. Brown was the general superintendent and C.S.M. Hooton, book keeper. During this same time period there were three steam saw mills and one grist mill. By 1891 Rowlesburg was the second largest community in Preston County; Kingwood, the county seat, was first.

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The Hulings Lumber Company planned to build an ark in 1884 to live in while driving logs down the Cheat River to market and then use horses to pull the ark back up the river. It is unknown if that actually occurred.

Rowlesburg was at one time the largest lumber operation in the county. The county had nine saw mills scattered throughout the county after 1840-1850. The first circular saw mill was brought to the county by James Cain and it was located about two miles south of Tunnelton in 1854. Two years later another was opened by Major U.N. Orr about two miles east of Newburg and a third followed near Austen by Martin L. Shaffer. After 1870 when portable steam mills were available the mills were common throughout the county.

A.A. Perry and Company opened a gang saw mill and stave factory in Rowlesburg in 1870. It was operational until 1879 and was supplied with logs floated down the Cheat River. There was also a circular mill in Rowlesburg from 1885 to 1895 that supplied Hinkle and Company. Samuel Hinkle and his first partner, a Mr. Senseman from Clarksburg, began the company prior to 1885. The first plant was located on the present athletic field of the Rowlesburg School. Hinkle came from Weston, WV to settle in Rowlesburg. John Albert Hostetter came to Rowlesburg in 1885 and became a partner to Hinkle. The plant was moved after the 1888 flood to the south side of the railroad tracks along the river and operated until 1906. George Hayes was also a partner in Hinkle and Company and he began the Allegheny Land and Lumber Boom Company on land leased from Hinkle. The stave industry was boosted with the arrival of the railroad in 1852. A group of Philadelphia businessman bought a large number of oak stands in the county for the production of staves. The stave industry also profited from the portable saw mills. There were about 100 still operating in 1914. The tan bark industry also thrived in Rowlesburg from about 1876 up until at least 1914 and it of course utilized the B&O RR. The lumber boom continued until shortly after World War I. The last major lumber operator in the Rowlesburg area was Jack & Bowman.

In 1907 the M (Morgantown) & K (Kingwood) Railroad ran into Rowlesburg connecting with the B&O at M&K Junction, a mile east of downtown Rowlesburg. This only added to the development of the area and its capacity for moving freight and people. M&K

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Junction was the site of the shops for the B&O and the M&K. The tipple at the Rowlesburg shops supplied coal, water and sand at its 600 ton facility opened in 1913. The M&K's extension up the Cheat River to the Western Maryland RR at Parsons made Rowlesburg the only town in the county with intersecting lines of railroad.

The first Postmaster was John C. Hooton; Charles M. Bishop was appointed Postmaster in 1852. The Hooton family was to be important to the development of Rowlesburg. As stated earlier, A.L. Hooton was on the first town council. John Hooton was a hatter and he came to Rowlesburg in 1851 from Kingwood. He operated the River House, a large hotel in town that served the railroad and other workers and travelers. The River House was built by A.A. Perry in 1831 and was the first building erected in Rowlesburg. The "Virginia House" was opened shortly after by John A. Peters. Norwood D. Hooton was one of a group of men who formed Rowlesburg's first fire department in 1913. It was called the Vigilant Reel and Hose Company. The first water plant was installed in Rowlesburg in 1909 which allowed for the formation of the Reel and Hose Company with ready access to water. Prior to this company a fire brigade had been organized in 1899 with one set of ladders and tin buckets. The first fire chief under this organization was N.C. Dawson, the local undertaker.

The first doctor noted in Rowlesburg was Dr. Alonzo Henry in 1853. Henry was also a member of the first city council. Other doctors included William Parks Jamison, Thornton McIntire, Jerome Cayton Arnett, Dr. Owen and the most fondly remembered, Milton Proudfoot. Proudfoot began practicing in Rowlesburg in 1884 at the age of 24. He practiced elsewhere for three years but soon returned to Rowlesburg where he served the community, the B&O RR workers and the Manheim Cement plant workers for fifty-six years. He delivered over three thousand babies during his practice. He retired in 1930 at the age of 77. His residence was site #PR-0086 and his office was located in the second floor of the Bannister Building, site #PR-0110. Dentists in town at the turn of the century included Eugene Price and Bruce Smith. Dr. Douglas Glover served as pharmacist at this same time and his business was located in the Bannister Building, site #PR-0110.

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Rowlesburg's population grew steadily through time although the population figures are somewhat misleading. They only account for those who lived within city limits but Rowlesburg itself served many through its connection with the railroad, the timber industry, stone quarry workers, cement plant workers and immigrants. Regardless, the figures do show a steady growth:

1870 – 258 persons

1880 – 402

1890 – 560

1900 – 652

1910 – 936; this is a 43% increase in ten years.

Reno District in Preston County showed a similar growth:

1870 – 2560

1880 – 3229

1890 – 3565

1900 – 4136.

The census for Preston County states that in 1900 there were only 382 persons of foreign birth listed in the county but by 1910 this had jumped to 1,361. Of this total figure the vast majority were from Italy, 854; 130 from Germany; 106 from Austria; 76 from England; 44 from Russia; 27 from France; 25 from Scotland; 21 from Ireland; 19 from Wales; 16 from Hungary; and 43 from other places.

Reno District in 1881 had 25 schools and levied twenty buildings. It is also listed as containing 61,279 acres in farms with a total value of \$417,566.00, a significant value in this time period. The listing shows town lots worth \$35,390.00 and buildings worth \$42,509.00.

According to the oral history of Mr. Bill Ford, there were only about twenty houses in Rowlesburg when the Civil War began. The Rowlesburg Directory of 1891 lists 6 general merchants; 1 grocer and barber; 1 sewing and fabric shop; 1 doctor, Dr. Proudfoot; 2 telegraph operators; 2 seamstresses; 2 contractors/builders, Dawson Brothers and D.N. & I.L. Shaffer; 2 blacksmiths; 3 hotels; 1 shoemaker; 1 meat market; 1 undertaker; 6 lumber merchants and manufacturers; 3 churches; 1 public school; 7 secret societies; 1 B&O agent; and 7 B&O engineers. As can be seen by this list, the railroad

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and timber industries were the driving forces in the development of Rowlesburg. Rowlesburg was the second largest community in Preston County in 1891 and remained so until the late 1940s.

The turn of the century was a boom time in Rowlesburg. General stores alone in Rowlesburg at this time included the stores of W.W. Shock, Adams and Moore (Luther L. Adams and Adolpha J. Moore), E.F. Giffin, H.R. Hollis and A.A. Pickering. Adams and Moore was located on the first floor of the Knights of Pythias building and they moved out and Giffin moved in. They exchanged buildings.

Flooding has always been a specter that hangs over Rowlesburg due to its location on the Cheat River. Its greatest asset is also its greatest liability. As stated earlier, there was a devastating flood in 1888 but others followed. These include 1844, 1954 and the worst in a century, November 4-5, 1985. The 1985 flood was Rowlesburg's worst recorded flood with a gauge height of 36.9'; the 1888 flood had a gauge height of 23.6'.

Fire was a major factor in Rowlesburg's development as well. The worst fire occurred in April of 1908. It destroyed a whole business block of Main Street but was instrumental in the formation of the water plant in 1909. The town issued bonds for the purchase and installation of an electric plant in 1907. The plant was installed in early 1908. Natural gas also became available in 1909. City water did not become available until 1912. City sewage also became available in 1912 allowing for indoor toilets and baths. The turn of the century saw the town surveyed and plotted; the town limits set; sidewalks built; first electric lights installed; and the Civic and Community League organized.

The year 1912 also saw the formation of the People's National Bank with Alfonso A. Pickering as President. Pickering arrived in Rowlesburg in 1906 along with his wife, Blanche. Blanche was well known as Rowlesburg's first feminist. Pickering was a wholesale grocer for many years. The People's National Bank was founded on September 3, 1912 by a group of citizens including Harry R. Hollis. Pickering was the bank's first President; H.R. Hollis and F.M. Fogle, Vice-Presidents; and Directors: Pickering, Hollis, Fogle, R. McVicker, C.E. Emerson, C.A. Miller, John G. McKone, Jr., J.E. Stitzinger and A. Bliss McCrum. Stitzinger was the owner of the Erwin sawmill and

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he built the Dinky Track. The bank was established to serve Rowlesburg, Manheim, Erwin and the M&K communities and the surrounding rural areas. The original bank building had large columns and a marble floor. The rear portion of the bank building originally had a couple of storefronts one of which was the E.P. Davis metal market and the other was Cook's Restaraunt. When the Great Depression was at its worst in 1933, the People's National Bank was the last in the county to close and did so only because President Roosevelt ordered the closing of all banks. It was the first bank to reopen after the "bank holiday." The banks presidents were justifiably proud of this fact and it was a boon to the community in hard times. The bank remained the People's National Bank until the early 1990s when it was purchased by CB&T. It is currently owned by the First Community Bank with headquarters in Bluefield, Virginia.

A long time President of the bank was Harry Robert Hollis. He was President from 1920 to 1962 and weathered the Great Depression. Hollis was born in Newburg on January 2, 1878. He graduated from Rowlesburg School and then went on to study at Mountain Lake Private School. As a youth he worked at various general stores in Rowlesburg finally forming his own, H.R. Hollis and Company, with his father. Harry also worked as a mail clerk on the B&O Railroad traveling from Cumberland to Parkersburg. He closed his general store in the Hollis Building, site #PR-0058, in 1947 but continued as the bank president until 1962. He was also Director of the First National Bank of Terra Alta. Harry Hollis married Adeline B. Peaslee in 1930 and they had one daughter. Hollis was well known for his service to the community of Rowlesburg. He served as Mayor, councilman and recorder for the town. He was chairman and served on committees which placed the water system in town; on the Life committee which bought, paid for and maintained the community park; served on the board responsible for paving Rowlesburg's streets; secretary of the Civic Club; treasurer of the Rowlesburg Community League; a Notary Public; and chairman and member of the Preston County Republican Committee from 1929 to 1962. He never ran for office himself but served the people that did. Harry Hollis is held in high regard by the citizens of Rowlesburg for his honesty and decency as evidenced by the help he gave many during the Great Depression and after.

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Another outstanding citizen in Rowlesburg was William Wallace Shoch. Shoch was born in York, PA in 1843 and attended a private school in Philadelphia. He helped to support himself by working in a music store which also was a telegraph office. Shoch learned the techniques of sending messages, etc from his brother, George. Shoch served as a volunteer telegraph operator for the Union Army during the Civil War and came to Rowlesburg in 1865, settling here for fifty-six years. Shoch had served as a telegraph operator in Harpers Ferry from 1861-1865 where he sent the message moving Sheridan's Army and the order relieving Burnside of this command of the Army of the Potomac. Shoch started a telephone company, Rowlesburg's first, in 1890 and it remained a local company throughout its history. The telephone offices were first located in his own building but he then moved it to the Nassif Building, site #PR-0054, to a room on the second floor and finally to a small building across Church Street from the Nassif Building.

Shoch was a leading merchant in Rowlesburg, a half owner of the Bluestone Quarry and served as President of the First National Bank. He also served as President of the Board of Education a number of terms. Shoch had the distinction of knowing every President from Buchanan to Harding and was close friends with Governor William G. Conley of West Virginia. Shoch owned one of the first telegraph apparatus' made by Morse and he used it frequently during the Civil War to communicate with President Lincoln. Shoch also knew Thomas Edison in addition to other inventors of the time and told stories about Edison and Alexander Graham Bell.

Shoch was first married to Sarah Spaulding and they had two sons, Wallace and Horace. Sarah died in 1875 and she and their two sons are buried in Rowlesburg's Riverview Cemetery. Shoch then married Fannie Benzant of Frederick, Maryland who also preceded him in death. Shoch finally retired in 1921 and moved to Pasadena, California with his daughter where he was struck by a car after getting off a street car and died.

There is a difference of opinion in Rowlesburg about who was the first telephone operator in Rowlesburg. According to some the first operator was Gertrude Shaw followed by Ms. Winifred "Miss Winnie" Malloy. Nassif family oral history believes the first operators were Eleanor and Lola Hulstine. It is known that Eleanor Hulstine was the

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operator until dial telephones came to Rowlesburg. Shoch's company ran lines to Amboy, Aurora Terra Alta. The stockholders of the company included: William Shoch, Peter Wotring, A.J. Moore, Orlando Crane, Andrew Goff, George Hayes and Paige McCrum. McCrum lived in Aurora and was the agent for the company responsible for selling phones and getting customers on line. It is said that a second telephone office was operated in the C.M. Bishop Building at the railroad crossing and the owner was A.A. Pickering, President of the People's National Bank. This was in 1888, two years earlier than Shoch's company. This other telephone company was headquartered in St. George in Tucker County. Pickering sold the company to a Mr. Marsh of St. Marys who sold it to C&P Telephone Company. C&P opened offices in Rowlesburg in 1938.

Rowlesburg's history would not be complete without noting the Nassif family. Many of the buildings in town are associated with this family including site #PR-0052, PR-0053, PR-0054, PR-0055 and PR-0068 but the family home and store is PR-0054, Nassif Store and Home, which the family has owned since 1918. The building itself is the oldest standing structure in Rowlesburg, ca. 1848. It has been used as a church, a school, theatre, restaurant, store and residence. It was used by the Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant congregations, ca. 1850. It has also served as a community building and a city hall. The second floor was the Lodge for the Northern West Virginia headquarters of the Sons of Temperance, an anti-liquor Methodist men's lodge. The building is built on 20" poplar logs and is the only still standing structure from 1852 when the B&O RR built the original Cheat River railroad bridge.

Nassif Joseph settled in Rowlesburg at the turn of the century. He had previously settled in Uniontown, PA along with many other Lebanese immigrants. He was a traveling peddler and bought the building in Rowlesburg on March 20, 1918 for \$1,200.00 for use as his home and as a storage place for the goods that he sold door-to-door. He traveled throughout Preston County, WV and Garrett County, MD plying his trade. The deed was mailed to him at Rowlesburg at PO Box 112, the same post office box still in use for the Nassif family, eighty-six years later.

Nassif sold the building for a six month period in order to get money to save his only son from starvation and the effects of World War I but repurchased it, along with his business

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partner Frank and Elizabeth Thomas. In 1920 the son, Joseph Nassif, was able to rejoin his father in Rowlesburg and the following year, 1921, Nassif bought out his business partner. The building remains in the family to this day.

The spiritual well being of Rowlesburg's citizens was also well taken care of. The three churches listed in the Rowlesburg Directory of 1891 remain today although only one is an operating church. Rowlesburg has the oldest Roman Catholic church in Preston County, site #PR-0089. The Catholic congregation was established in 1867 and the church constructed in 1869. The congregation was finally integrated into St. Sebastian's of Kingwood in 1996. The church was made of local wood and the wooden altar is in the Gothic Revival style and was built by Newton Dawson. The original ceiling was embossed tin trimmed in gold. The original benches are oak and made by a Mr. Wheeler. Many improvements to the interior have been made in contemporary times through the generosity of local citizens. The first Pastor was Father Malone who apparently served for two years and then P.A. Boyce became Pastor here from 1871 to 1898, the longest single pastorate in Preston County. During most of his 27 year tenure he served all five of the Catholic parishes in Preston County while living in Rowlesburg. He was not only instrumental in building the church in Rowlesburg but also churches in Tunnelton and Thomas with plans for one in Davis which was not realized. He founded a Catholic School in Rowlesburg in 1868. Eight grades were taught in a one room building near the church by teacher, Michael Hoefer from Philadelphia. The school closed in 1875.

St. Paul's Methodist Protestant Church, site #PR-0061, was located on East Main Street at the corner of Main and Church Streets. The land the church is on was purchased from Mrs. Susan Coniff on June 23, 1885 and a frame building built. This date is in dispute because the church records state that the dedication was in 1880 under J.M. Conoway and other records and oral histories say the first preacher was J.A. Cobb in the fall of 1886. Mrs. Coniff left the church its lot in 1914 and her heirs honored her wish. In 1922 work on the present church was begun. The foundation excavation was done by volunteers. The stone, the bell, the windows and all the wood work was donated by volunteers. The new church was dedicated in the spring of 1923 under the pastorate of Rev. L.E. Weaver. The old parsonage next to the church was torn down ca. 1929 and the present brick

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parsonage was built for a cost of \$5,000.00. The church is Romanesque style, a typical church style.

The Gothic Revival style is illustrated in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, site #PR-0084, located on West Main Street and built in 1915. A Methodist Protestant congregation is first mentioned in the conference minutes in 1854 at the Pittsburgh Annual Conference. There were earlier church buildings prior to the existing building. The property was deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church on April 30, 1867. This portion of Main Street was known at that time as William Street. The lot was "eighty-six and a half square rods more or less" and extended up the street to the Roman Catholic Church. The first church building was begun in 1869 and made of local bricks laid in the street to dry. The one room building was completed in 1870. In 1914 this church and the adjoining parsonage were torn down. The pastor and his family moved to the flats across town and the congregation met in the school building.

The building committee for the new church was: Dr. M.H. Proudfoot, A.A. Pickering, Vern Hooton, A.W. Carrico, O.C. Heilman, Oliver Freeland, C.W. Carrico, Parker Ayersman and E.F. Giffin. They consulted an architect, W.A. Lillar, and he drew rough plans for the new church. The brick from the old church was used for backing brick and a foreman was hired in place of a contractor. Blaine Callis was the plasterer. The building was heated by gas stoves and the front of the church revealed a high platform with four, 6-8' lamp posts topped with globes. The church at the time of its construction was reported to have cost \$6,000.00 but was valued much higher because of all the volunteer labor. The church was dedicated in 1915.

The new parsonage was built ca. 1920 under the supervision of A.A. Pickering. In ca. 1923 the foundation of the church had begun to sink and the foundation had to be reset. The assessment was increased to \$20,000.00; the church was paid off during this time and the notes burned. In 1944 the trustees of the church had it re-roofed replacing the original slate and replacing needed supports. The parsonage was redecorated in 1943 and the Women's Society of Christian Service began decorating the interior of the church.

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In 1946 a plan of reunification created by Rev. Jennings Fast combined the Trinity Church and St. Paul's Church. A committee formed to select a new name and it became Christ Methodist Church and remains so today.

Along with the spiritual needs of the community, educational needs were also realized and met. A wooden school building was built in 1850 on the corner of Buffalo and Catherine Streets, the site of the existing school. The wooden school building was a large two-story building with a bell tower. The principal of the school in 1891 was Miss Lillie Elliot and she had two teachers, Miss Mattie Copeman and Miss Emma Ermerson. School teachers were almost all female then and they were not encouraged to get married while still teaching. When the present school building was built, the old school was moved across the street along the river and was used to house immigrant railroad workers. When the building was finally demolished some of the wood was used later in the Adams-Wable house. With an almost 43% increase in population from 1900 to 1910, Rowlesburg saw the need for a larger school with state of the art construction. The existing school building, site #PR-0079, was constructed of brick and stone in 1910. It is a very large and imposing building with a three-story, crenellated entrance tower in Collegiate Gothic style. A gymnasium/auditorium and five classrooms were added to the original building in 1925 on the south side in a more modern style that fit the time period, Colonial Revival style. A frame structure was built in 1945 to house the Home Economic Department, Shops for Industrial Arts, Band Room and a bus garage directly across the street from the school. A large gymnasium was built in 1952 next to the frame building. The frame building was replaced in 1980 but was completely destroyed in the flood of 1985. The high school officially closed in 1986 and the last class graduated in 1988.

Rowlesburg continued to grow steadily from 1900 with a population of 652 to a population of 936 in 1910 up to a population of 1,225 in 1920. Coal mining in the 1920s and 1930s began to impact the local economy. In the 1930s there were seven trains moving coal from Tunnelton and Newburg through Rowlesburg, eight passenger trains stopped there every day, M&K RR moved three freight trains with 95 plus carloads of coal at noon and 40 loads at night and that line also had two daily passenger trains. In 1927 Route 72 was constructed from Rowlesburg to Kingwood.

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During the 1920s there were four livery stables in Rowlesburg and when automobiles arrived with the new construction, two of the livery stables switched from horses to automobiles.

Along with the railroad, the timber industry, the stone quarry and coal mining the Rowlesburg area offered employment at the local cement factory. The company was originally known as the Buckhorn Cement Company at the turn of the century. It was soon purchased by the Alpha Portland Cement Company of Easton, PA in 1909. The company built a town known as Manheim that is located on the north side of the river from Rowlesburg. The employees were provided with housing, electricity and water. At a later date the "New Addition" was built in the community but it was privately owned housing rather than company housing. At one time Rowlesburg had about 200 people working at the cement company but they lived in Rowlesburg and of course the entire population of Manheim did all their business and shopping in Rowlesburg itself.

In 1948 when diesel engines replaced steam engines on the B&O, there were 75 shop workers at the M&K tipple; 42 helper crews at M&K and 77 helper crews at Hardman. Most were Rowlesburg men. Once diesels arrived only 8 crews remained. The cement company closed in the early 1950s and timber was long played out. The B&O discontinued passenger trains in the 1960s. All of this affected the economy of the area and it became a quiet village along the Cheat River.

**Summary:**

The Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its local commercial significance and for its significance as a community that developed along with the arrival of the railroad in 1852 and the subsequent development of the timber industry made possible through the railroad.

The Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District is locally significant for its association with the growth and development of the town and county through the railroad and timber industries. The period of significance, 1848 to 1952, relates to the construction date of site #PR-0054, ca. 1848, and the construction date of site #PR-0080, 1952.

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**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

**Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District**  
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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

The boundary of the Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map titled "Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District Preston County, West Virginia" and dated January 2005. The map is used as the verbal boundary description. The northern boundary is defined by Catherine Street; the eastern boundary is defined by Diamond Street; the southern boundary is defined by the railroad tracks with a small portion of Poplar Street which includes the City Hall building; and the western boundary is defined by site #PR-0090 which is where the Main Street narrows down and the neighborhood changes to a more dense concentration of housing.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:**

The Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District consists of the central business district of the town and includes adjacent residential sections also. It contains all of the extant historic concentration of the downtown commercial buildings and many of the early merchant residences and adjacent residential portions in Rowlesburg that were developed at the same time.

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Name:	Downtown Rowlesburg Historic District
Address:	
City:	Rowlesburg
County:	Preston
Photographer:	Jean Boger
Date:	October 2004
Negatives:	WVSHPO, Charleston, WV
Photo 1 of 17	Church Street streetscape looking northwest.
Photo 2 of 17	Buffalo Street streetscape looking north.
Photo 3 of 17	Buffalo Street streetscape looking southwest.
Photo 4 of 17	Main Street streetscape looking northeast.
Photo 5 of 17	Main Street streetscape looking east.
Photo 6 of 17	Buffalo and Main Streets streetscape looking northwest.
Photo 7 of 17	Main Street streetscape looking west.
Photo 8 of 17	Main Street streetscape looking west.

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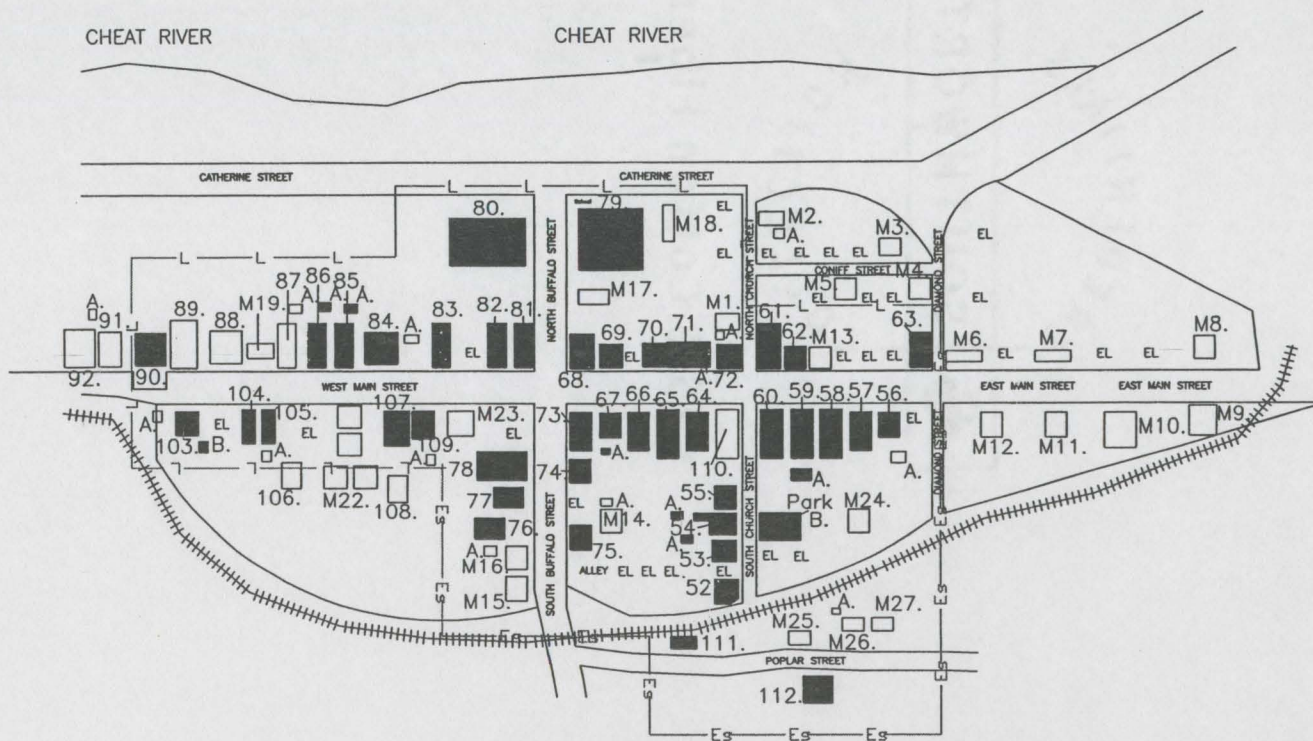
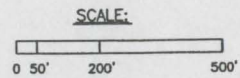
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Photo 9 of 17	Main Street streetscape looking east.
Photo 10 of 17	Site #PR-0059; building detail looking south.
Photo 11 of 17	Site #PR-0077; front elevation looking west.
Photo 12 of 17	Site #PR-0079; front elevation looking east.
Photo 13 of 17	Site #PR-0079; addition detail looking east.
Photo 14 of 17	Site #PR-0054; front and side elevations looking northwest.
Photo 15 of 17	Site #PR-0061 and PR-0062; front elevations looking north.
Photo 16 of 17	Site #PR-0086; front and side elevations looking northwest.
Photo 17 of 17	Site #PR-0090; front elevation looking west.

KEY:

- = Contributing Building
- = Non-Contributing Building
- ⊕ = B&O RR Tracks
- L — L — L — = Historic District Boundaries
- 00. = Building #
- M1. = Modern Building #
- EL = Empty Lot



DATE  
JAN 05

MICHAEL GIDULLIS  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
CONSULTANT  
612 MAIN STREET  
SUIT 204  
ROWLESBURG, WV 26601  
304 765-5716

DOWNTOWN ROWLESBURG  
HISTORIC DISTRICT/NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
PRESTON COUNTY, WV

DWG.  
NO.  
1 OF 2

DATE  
JAN 05

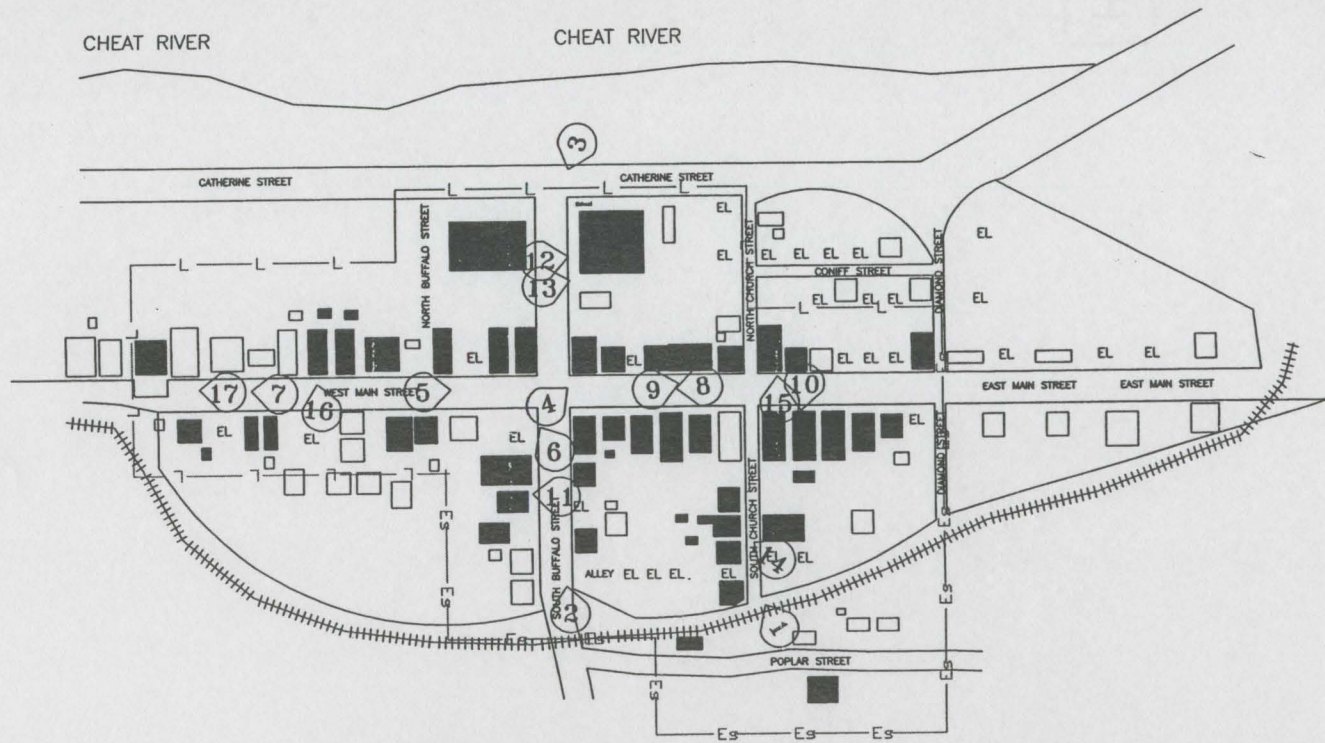
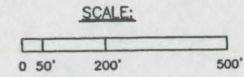
MICHAEL GIBULIS  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
CONSULTANT  
612 MAIN STREET  
SUTHERLAND, W.VA. 26041  
304.765-5716

DOWNTOWN ROWLESBURG/PHOTOGRAPH LOG  
HISTORIC DISTRICT/NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
PRESTON COUNTY, WV

DWG.  
NO.  
2 OF 2

**KEY:**

- = Contributing Building
- = Non-Contributing Building
- ⊕ = B&O RR Tracks
- L — L — L — = Historic District Boundaries
- ⊙ = Photo # & direction
- M1. = Modern Building #
- EL = Empty Lot





4357

310 000  
FEET

4356

TOWN OF ROWLESBURG  
DOWNTOWN H.D.  
PRESTON COUNTY,  
WVA

A. 17 | 614610 | 4356108

4355

B. 17 | 614630 | 4356043

C. 17 | 614721 | 4356071

20'

D. 17 | 614761 | 4355880

E. 17 | 614371 | 4355820

4354

F. 17 | 614479 | 4355910

G. 17 | 614320 | 4355881

H. 17 | 614311 | 4355958

I. 17 | 614482 | 4356002

J. 17 | 614462 | 4356079

4353

