

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: West Virginia	
COUNTY: Tyler	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Durham-Peters Residence	
AND/OR HISTORIC: E.A. Durham Home	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 110 Chelsea Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Sistersville (1st. Congressional District)			
STATE West Virginia	CODE 54	COUNTY: Tyler	CODE 095

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Peters			
STREET AND NUMBER: 110 Chelsea Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Sistersville	STATE: West Virginia	CODE 54	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Tyler County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Middlebourne	STATE: West Virginia	CODE 54	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: An Historic Preservation- Economic Development Study for Sistersville, West Virginia			
DATE OF SURVEY: January 1971 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Sistersville Planning Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: Sistersville City Building			
CITY OR TOWN: Sistersville	STATE: West Virginia	CODE 54	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: West Virginia
COUNTY: Tyler
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered </div> <div> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This twenty room residence was built in 1921 for Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Durham, oil executive, by Edward B. Franzheim, architect of Wheeling, West Virginia.</p> <p>The building is an "Italian Villa style featuring. . . pale stone and stucco with low pitched green tile roofs. It is elaborate and distinguished with handsome stone panels carved in the Quattrocento manner also with two loggie--one an open porch and the other a sun room which suggest pleasantly the pavilion of the Villa Medici at Rome."</p> <p>The exquisite details of the exterior of the home feature the use of stone in the Ionic columns, pediment of the front entry, porch balustrades, and the carved stone shields and della robbia design in the panels. Delicate iron grille work was used on the front doors as well as the second floor balconies. Elaborate scrolled wood was used in the eaves with Italian tile for the porches.</p> <p>All the interior rooms display the finest detailed execution of workmanship and beauty. The spacious reception hall has four Ionic wood columns and the paneled wood walls display moulding, garlands, Grecian urns and dentil grooved carvings. The wide stairway of the hall leads to a landing with a huge, clear leaded glass window of intricate pattern and beading relieved with delicate pink glass garlands of opaque glass. The Bernini type spindles of the staircase are enhanced by scrolled wood carvings on the exposed side.</p> <p>The mahogany paneled living room has beautifully carved wood in the cornices and door pediment. The ceiling was elaborately decorated while this floor, as well as others, are parquetered. The focal point of the room is a magnificent six foot Carrara marble fireplace. It is decorated with the shield, della robbia, and dentil design with the shield motif repeated in the brass hood and the cast iron backing of the fireplace opening.</p> <p>The Durhams traveled to Europe to select many fixtures and furnishings for the home. This is most evident in the two marble fireplaces; all the crystal chandeliers, sconces, decorated silver ones, and most notably the Dresden chandelier, sconces, and ceiling lights in the master bedroom; Italian tile used in the sunroom floor and rear entry hall; German silver in the sink of the butler's pantry and in the door knob, hinges, and window fittings of the dining room. Italian milk glass is found as the wall tile of the kitchen, powder rooms, bathroom, and utility room.</p> <p>Though the home is centrally steam heated, all rooms have gas burning fireplaces with wood carved mantels with either marble or tile facing and hearths. The oak paneled billard room with oak beamed ceiling has a massive stone woodburning fireplace.</p> <p>The home was meticulously and methodically maintained by Mrs. Durham until her death in the 1960's. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Peters purchased it in 1971 from her heirs.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>Of the private residences constructed in Sistersville, West Virginia, as a result of the rich oil strikes of the 1890's, the Durham-Peters home is the most elaborate and elegant. Although its first owners were from Ohio, they chose to make their home, and to build their mansion in West Virginia, close to the source of their wealth. So intimately related to this source is the home that in its backyard there is a producing oil well which was capped in 1948.</p> <p>As was to be expected, this local showplace became the center of the social life which grew up around the Sistersville oil industry. There are records of elaborate parties, balls, and other gatherings which were held amid the Mediterranean-type surroundings of the Durham home. Caterers from Wheeling, Pittsburgh, and Columbus furnished food and drink to the guests.</p> <p>Edward B. Franzheim, the architect, painstakingly oversaw the entire construction with its myriad details. One story, related by Mr. Franzheim's daughter, illustrates this:</p> <p>"Mr. Franzheim wanted the eaves to be painted <u>cafe au lait</u> and when the painter said that he couldn't mix the paint that color, Mr. Franzheim went to Springer's Restaurant, bought a cup of coffee with cream, carried it to the paint shop, and worked with the painter until they had the exact shade desired."</p> <p>There are other fine residences in Sistersville which resulted from the discovery of oil, but none are so representative of the community's desire to have the best that money could obtain. The Durham-Peters House is a symbol of the gifts that petroleum can bring.</p>			

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES						
<p>An Historic Preservation-Economic Development Study for Sistersville, West Virginia, by Zeighler, VanTrump & Shane of Pittsburgh, 1971.</p> <p>Original Blueprints, Edward Bates Franzheim, architect, Wheeling, W.Va., 1921</p> <p>Bryant, Laura, <u>Notes on the History of Sistersville, West Virginia</u>, Annual Report of the West Virginia Antiquities Commission, 1971, Morgantown, W.Va.</p>						
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA						
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 150' x 200'						
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES						
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			
11. FORM PREPARED BY						
NAME AND TITLE:						
Mrs. Harry Peters, Owner; Maurice G. Brooks, Research Analyst for the						
ORGANIZATION				DATE		
West Virginia Antiquities Commission				April 23, 1973		
STREET AND NUMBER:						
Old Mountainlair--West Virginia University						
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE		CODE	
Morgantown			West Virginia		54	
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION			NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION			
<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Maurice G. Brooks</p> <p>Title <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>May 30, 1973</u></p>			<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



