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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Within the eastern sector of the city of Charleston, West Virginia, lies a district identified by sites and events associated with the entire history of the community. Appropriately, remnants in the form of buildings, monuments, and planning patterns survive from all periods. It is, however, the period of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries that is best exemplified in the evolution of an important neighborhood from late Victorian modes to the balanced, more symmetrical tastes of the post-1890's revivals. Of special interest are rows of houses reflecting transitional design qualities rejecting the late Victorian love for the irregular and picturesque, but displaying persistent Victorian elements along with the Oriental and Prairie School themes advanced by Frank Lloyd Wright. Among the most obvious of these influences are square or rectilinear plans, low hip roofs, and deep, nearly cantilevered eaves.

The East End Historic District is set on a broad, ancient flood plain bordered by the Great Kanawha River on the south and by commercialized Washington Street on the north. The West Virginia Capitol complex (presently included in the National Register of Historic Places) forms an axis between the two important residential East End neighborhoods. The Statehouse, an Italian Renaissance structure designed by Cass Gilbert, dominates the sixteen acre esplanade shared by the Governor's Mansion, "Holly Grove" Mansion (also listed in the National Register), and the West Virginia Science and Culture Center.

The Capitol dome, rising 300 feet above Kanawha Boulevard, is a landmark dominating vistas from all directions in the district. "Holly Grove," built in 1815 by Daniel Ruffner, is the oldest house in situ in the East End. The Governor's Mansion, designed by Walter F. Martens in 1925, is a porticoed Georgian Revival brick structure. The two East End historic areas flanking the government complex derive special identity and character as part of the Capitol environs, and the entire district is further enhanced by high hills on both sides of the river which provide impressive vistas and subtle backdrops for buildings.

The East End displays a variety of architectural styles ranging from isolated surviving examples of the Greek Revival to the late Victorian Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque. Turn-of-the-century revival upsurge is noted in the Classical and Colonial compositions, while Eclecticism of this period is seen in certain Spanish Colonial and Tudor style houses. Georgian Revival and Chateauesque modes appear most frequently in the late teens and early twenties. Several vernacular compositions of Italinate and Renaissance styling are rare but pleasing complements to densely situated neighboring buildings, and occasional frame Victorian cottages and bungalows appear among the otherwise predominant brick structures of the district.

Both architectural and aesthetic integrity of the East End is noteworthy. This may be attributed in part to the development of the area from west to east, with the older buildings in the Victorian tradition more common between Ruffner and Bradford Streets, while the symmetrical Colonial, Georgian and English style buildings prevail in the areas between Ruffner and Elizabeth Streets. East of the Capitol, excellent cottages and bungalows may be seen, their development associated with the period 1918-1925. Architects and contractors building in the area after its first growth were careful to maintain textures, materials, perspective, and height in accordance with the existing scheme. Walter F. Martens, designer of the Governor's Mansion and Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, assured that the Colonial and Georgian manner of the hearly dozen

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buildings he designed on Virginia Street in the early 1920s did not detract . from the integrity of the earlier structures. So too did architect Fred Crowther, who designed six English cottages on an ingeniously conceived <u>cul de sac</u> in the 1500 block of Virginia Street.

Evident in the designs of the Davidson Brothers of Charleston is the appeal of the vernacular. In the Shadel House at 1511 Quarrier Street, the use of brackets, peaked gables, and tendril-like porch columns in the tradition of Art Nouveau recalls the tastes of another era. Although the prominent local architect H. Rus. Warne anticipated the Georgian Revival in Charleston with his redesign of the Staunton-Zimmerman House at 1300 Kanawha Boulevard, status and the appeal of eighteenth-century tradition led to the commissioning of such non-area architects as Wilbur T. Mills of Columbus, Ohio, who designed the house at 1425 Quarrier Street, the first of Georgian Revival lines above Bradford Street.

The setting, period of construction, and design of the following pivotal buildings contribute to the character and integrity of the East End:

- 1. Frank Woodman House, 1210 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built . 1886 for Frank Woodman, wealthy businessman and civic leader, the house is representative of late nineteenth century Queen Anne style. High, corbel-capped brick chimneys emphasize the vertical heave of the multiple-gable hip roof. Multi-textures personified in half-round, imbricated wooden shingles, rock-face stone, glass-and-marble plaster, and wrought iron decorate projecting brick bays topped by shed and half-conical roofs. A semicircular brick driveway paved in a herringbone pattern passes through the original, ornate, wrought-iron gate.
- Revival design of this brick mansion is the work of noted Charleston architect H. Russ Warne. The house was built in the 1890s for W.T. Thayer and redesigned during the Zimmerman occupancy in the 1900s. Its symmetrical composition is enhanced by a two-story front portico supported by wooden, fluted Corinthian columns. The shallow hip roof is pierced by evenly spaced gabled dormers. Classical detailing, including modillions, draws attention to the plain wooden frieze skirting the house. Thayer started an iron foundry that later became Trojan Steel of Charleston, and E.W. Staunton was part-owner of the Diamond Ice and Coal Company as well as city clerk of Charleston in 1904. The house is now the District 17 headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America.
- 3. MacFarland-Ruby House, 1310 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built and designed by Norris Whittaker in 1835, this brick house is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture. The two-story portico at the front elevation is surmounted by a triangular pediment. Two single-story side pavilions (the one on the west a porte-cochere) add balance to the plan, while a low-pitched roof with ridge running front to rear details the Greek temple theme.
- 4. Johnson-Davis House, 1422 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built in 1888-89

 by Judge Okey Johnson, this large, clapboarded Queen Anne style house is

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dominated by a tall, three-sided bay at the front sheathed in imbricated wooden shingles. The angular, slate-covered roof is accented with finials, and a veranda with turned, wooden columns fronts the house. Judge Johnson was a Harvard Law School graduate and Justice of the West Virginia Supreme Court from 1876 until 1888. M.T. Davis was president of the Kanawha Mine Car Company, and he resided in the house after Judge Johnson, living here from 1896 to 1922.

- 5. Hall-Lewis House, 1500 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Considered among the most important residential designs of Charleston architect Walter F. Martens, the house is representative of the Georgian manner popular nation-wide during the 1920s. The five-bay center block is flanked by 1½-story wings. A centered entranceway is sheltered by a small rounded porch supported by fluted Doric columns and decorated with fluted pilasters, and a semi-elliptical fanlight and leaded-glass sidelights surround the doorway. The high foundation and the use of stone pavement and wrought-iron rails point to other Georgian influences. The English leadstone wall treatment is enhanced by the subtle use of wrought iron, a trademark of the architect. Built in 1929 for Myrtle Wood Hall, widow of Judge Cyrus Hall, it is now the Dean Lewis law office.
- 6. Augustus Ruffner House, 1506 Kanawha Boulevard, East. The Augustus Ruffner House, once called "Cedar Grove" because of the cedar trees which formerly surrounded the place, was built in 1834 as a farmhouse for Augustus Ruffner, a farmer and lumberman. This three-bay wide and two-bay deep house is tall with a medium-pitched gable roof. Cornices, balustrades, and the door-surround are decorated with ornate woodwork and brackets. A one-story porch runs the full length of the front of the house, protecting the tall, double-hung windows and the fancy doorway that is surmounted by a bracketed, carved cornice. The walls at the front are done in Flemish bond.
- 7. O.F. Payne House, 1510 Kanawha Boulevard, East. The Colonial Revival style of the Payne House typifies the national taste for stately homes in this century's first decade. Built in 1909, the tall, balanced features represented in the rather heavy two-story portico point to the adaptive and interpretive techniques of the local builders. The dentiled cornice, wide entablature, Ionic columns and pilasters underscore the Classical basis of the design.
- 8. John Carver House, 1516 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built in 1902-03 for coal operator John Carver, the massive red brick mansion was designed by the Davidson Brothers (John and Wayland) of Charleston. Eclecticism is reflected in the designers' application of picturesque massing, classical detail, and rich textures. The spectacular wooden, three-story front bay is crowned by a Baroque pediment, with windows at the second and third levels of the bay divided by Ionic pilasters. The solidarity of the building is emphasized by the rock-face voussoirs in the arched entryway flanked by matching stone-trimmed side windows. Enormous corbel-capped brick chimneys rise above the slate-covered, multi-gable hip roof that is punctuated with classically detailed gabled dormers.

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- 9. Cunningham-Hallanan House, 1520 Kanawha Boulevard, East. The symmetrical, Georgian design of this stuccoed house pleased Cass Gilbert, Sr., who viewed it while attending the affairs of the Capitol Building Commission in Charleston during the 1920s. The centrally placed, one-story entrance pavilion is pedimented and supported by paired Doric columns. Three evenly spaced gabled dormers with arched windows accentuate the symmetrical qualities of the design, and the rear elevation reveals the "U" plan of the house. Centered high between the two blocks is a large window which lights the landing of an impressive interior, two-angle Georgian stairway. The house was built c. 1920 for James S. Cunningham, and from 1925 until 1962 it was the home of Walter Hallanan, former president and board chairman of the Plymouth Oil Company. Hallanan was a prominent Republican official who served as temporary chairman of the Republican National Convention in 1952 and was a vice-chairman of the Republican National Committee for several years afterward.
- 10. <u>Baer-Crickard House</u>, 1564 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Renaissance and Tuscan elements dominate the arrangement of square shapes and horizontal lines in the Baer-Crickard House. A square tower (elevator shaft) rises above the shallow hip roof at the northwest corner, open rafter ends and paired brackets embellish the eaves and cornice, and decorative panels and belt courses in the stuccoed facade provide a backdrop for the small piazza fronting the house. The symmetrically placed entrances are headed by elaborate stone hoodmoulds, while windows at the entrance elevation are detailed in architrave trim. Mr. Ben Baer was a prominent wholesale liquor dealer who commissioned the house c. 1920. Mr. Crickard is a Board member of the Charleston National Bank.
- 11. Meredith P. Ruffner House, 1636 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built for wholesale grocer Meredith Ruffner about 1890, this tall frame house is a carpenter's delight. Imbricated wooden shingles in half-round, diamond, and rectilinear shapes decorate the four tall gables, while simulated half-timbering and sawwork may be viewed in projecting bays and window alcoves. Fronting the weatherboarded house is a porch supported by turned columns and gingerbread brackets.
- 12. Thompson-McClung House, 2006 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Standing in a row of late teen and early 1920s dwellings immediately east of the Capitol, the Thompson-McClung House is typical of the Colonial Revival styles popular at the time. The building's size, setting, and texture prefigure other units in Boulevard, Virginia, and Quarrier Street rows especially because the house is situated sideways on the lot with the recessed entrance centered in the facade at the eastern elevation. A columned, three-bay porch facing the street is topped with a plain deck rail, and two evenly placed hipped dormers grace both sides of the building's steep, slate-covered roof. The house was built as a manse in 1923 for Dr. Ernest Thompson of the First Presbyterian Church.
- 13. <u>Lindenberg-Glass House</u>, 2300 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Representing the apogee of private East End Colonial style construction is the Lindenberg-Glass House built in the early 1930s at a cost of over \$200,000. The pink

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stucco, Spanish Colonial building combines excellence of proportion and harmony of detail and color. The use of Baroque ornamentation is particularly effective in the facade where the design of details is in complete accord with the entire structure. The arched casement windows are for the most part in groups of three, and the typical Baroque feel is complemented with the use of twisted pilasters that serve as mullions. Other Baroque notes include the cartouche on the east wall and the ogee-moulded curve near the east chimney. An ornate hanging lantern and wrought-iron balcony dominate the entrance. The front elevation is approached by a small, graduated patio flanked by urns, the latter motif being carried out in the finials on the red Spanish tile roof and in the open rafter beams. The flatness of the exterior walls is broken by bays, and a continuity of surfaces is viewed in massive chimneys, a rare buttress, and a battered wall at the rear.

- 14. <u>Dr. Point House</u>, 2444 Kanawha Boulevard, East. Built and designed in 1920 by Charleston architect-contractor Wallace Knight, this bungalow with Colonial Revival detailing has five shallow gables at the front elevation that lend emphasis to the low effect. Five massive brick pedestals support the wrap-around porch that absorbs the height of the second story, endowing the building with an illusion of the horizontal. Wallace Knight was a well-known architect-contractor who constructed the West Virginia Governor's Mansion. Dr. Walter Point was one of Charleston's earliest and best known obstetricians.
- 15. Smith-Giltinan House, 1223 Virginia Street, East. Late nineteenth century Eclecticism is revealed in the asymmetrical plan of the buff brick Smith-Giltinan Mansion. Both Queen Anne and Richardsonian qualities are evident in the use of projecting bays, rounded arches, and rock-faced trim, but the effect of the whole is that of the vertical manifest in the height of two dominant bays merging as gables with the high-pitched hip roof. rounded eastern bay is marked by curvilinear detailing, including arched windows, a rounded veranda on the ground floor, and a third story recessed balcony beneath a half-conical roof; the northern bay is five sided and pierced by rectangular window openings. The corner lot design of the mansion is evinced by the double-door entrance vestibule located facing the corner between the two bays. A sense of the delicate in the design is advanced with the use of finely molded box cornices, dentil rows, and narrow, blond bricks. A leaded-glass oriel at the eastern elevation lights an octagonal oaken stairwell on the interior. Golden oak, cherry, and birdseye maple are several of the hardwoods found throughout the house. Built c. 1890, the mansion was commissioned by Harrison B. Smith, prominent attorney, businessman, and president of the Kanawha Banking and Trust Company.
- 16. Jacob Friedman House, 1306 Virginia Street, East. The Friedman House displays the picturesque Victorian qualities popular in the late 1890s. Its southwest corner is a rounded bay of textured brick surmounted by a stuccoed, crenelated parapet trimmed with stone finials. The front gable is sheathed in glass-and-marble-studded plaster, and the recessed balcony in the Denotes significant buildings that

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gable is hooded and decorated with short columns and a solid, crenelated rail. Mr. Friedman was a dry goods merchant who operated a business at 17 Capitol

- 17. J.C. Morrison House, 1330 Virginia Street, East. Built in 1904, this Tudor style house of brick and wood emphasizes a design centered upon four gables at the front elevation. Projecting window bays and simulated half-timbering break the structure's surface continuity. The roof is high-pitched and tile covered. A stone watertable and stone porch details add a recurrent note of solidarity to the design. J.C. Morrison was a president of the Capitol City Bank.
- 18. John Seale House, 1400 Virginia Street, East. This large brick house is shored upon a massive, rusticated stone foundation, a theme carried through in a rock-faced belt course heading the second-story front windows. A tall chimney is braced by a decorative metal rod, and an eyebrow dormer is complemented by corner brackets beneath several gables of the irregular, slate-covered roof.

 John Seale was a coal operator and Charleston National Bank official.
- 19. Marion Gilchrist House, 1412 Virginia Street, East. Built in 1902, this brick house features a centered entry sheltered by a columned veranda running to the west around the corner. The gabled, three-sided bay on the opposite side is centered at the front and has a stone-arched window decorated with a beveled, leaded-glass fanlight. Marion Gilchrist was Assistant-Postmaster of Charleston in 1907.
- 20. <u>Kay-Ferguson House</u>, 1419 Virginia Street, East. This orange-glazed brick house built in 1912 is dominated by two enormous front dormers projecting from the tiled, gable roof. A top-heavy note is evident in the wide projecting eaves decorated with paired wooden brackets. This upward thrust is emphasized by the radiating half-timbers in the dormer gables. Rusticated porch columns of simulated ashlar support the mosaic tile porch, and a large stained-glass window graces the structure's west elevation. James Kay was a Scottish immigrant businessman, coal operator, and president of the West Virginia Clay Products Company.
- 21. Swisher-Blundon House, 1418 Virginia Street, East. A frame, late Victorian-era structure with Eastlake overtones, this house has gables on each side that are decorated with imbricated wooden shingles in half-round and diamond shapes. A two-tier porch at the front elevation is designed in arch and pedimental forms. A narrow, wooden watertable skirts the brick foundation whose corners are detailed in rock-faced stone quoins. The roofline is typically irregular due in part to the high, brick corbel-capped chimneys, and metal ridge cresting and sea horse finials decorate the high-pitched hip roof. Mr. Charles Swisher, once Secretary of State of West Virginia (1905-1909), lived in the house from 1909 to
- 22. Myers-Haley House, 1502 Virginia Street, East. The "1910 brick rectangle" motif of this dwelling is only subtly disguised by a two-story portico supported by large, wooden Ionic columns. Built in 1906-07, the design incorporates a picturesque hip roof, complementary dormers, and ridges at the

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eaves slightly upturned, a recollection of the Oriental. Victorian-era references are conspicuous in the leaded glass entrance sidelights and transom, and in the idyllic stained-glass window at the west elevation depicting a Greek goddess. The Soloman E. Myers family, from whom the house takes part of its name, owned the "Myers Brothers of Charleston" plumbing business, and Dr. Haley is the current owner.

- 23. <u>Baer-Roderick House</u>, 1578 Virginia Street, East. The English style of this tall, gable-roofed house is accented by simulated half-timbered gables and groups of peaked dormers on the east and west elevations. Clusters of square stone columns support the one-story front porch detailed in half-timbering and open rafter ends. Centered in the facade on the west side is a rounded oriel with stained glass, and a hooded oriel graces the front center gable. The house was built in 1914 for Dave Baer and designed by Charleston architect-contractor A.G. Higgenbotham.
- 24. Henry C. Dickinson House, 1579 Virginia Street, East. Built in 1903, this gray-painted, brick mansion echoes the symmetrical and rectilinear proportions favored by East End builders. Interior corner chimneys flank the shallow hipped dormers centered in each roof elevation. The dominant one-story portico gently curves in two angles about the front of the house. Ionic columns, a balustrade, and a matching deck rail with turned balusters detail the porch.
- 25. The Woman's Club of Charleston Building, 1600 Virginia Street, East. Designed by Walter Martens and built in the late 1920s, the Woman's Club is a striking example of Chateauesque architecture. Set beneath high-pitched, hip roofs of gray slate, the ornate facade features three arched entrance doors above which a decorative wrought-iron balcony extends across the center block. Symmetry and balance is achieved by ironwork above the entrance joining the main block with the side pavilions. Walls are of stucco in cream color with cornices of corbeled brickwork, and corners are strengthened with painted brick quoins. The use of plaster swags and plaster lattice designs enhances the building's side elevations.
- 26. Charles Capito House, 1605 Virginia Street, East. This mansion was built c. 1910 for Charles Capito, Charleston grocer and wholesale liquor dealer. The pedimented two-story portico is supported by paired, footless Ionic columns with smooth shafts. The rusticated foundation for the columns forms the base for flanking one-story, octagonal kiosks detailed with dentiled cornices and matching but smaller Ionic columns.
- 27. <u>Gluck-Pushkin House</u>, 1615 Virginia Street, East. Vernacular treatment of a Renaissance theme is revealed in the stone-appointed loggia fronting the Gluck-Pushkin House. The arched openings are repeated in the treatment of the windows and doors of the brick facade, while stone medallions and decorative wrought-iron balconies lend additional Italianate touches to the balanced theme. The house was built for businessman Jacob Gluck c. 1920.
 - 28. L.E. McWhorter House, 110 Bradford Street. The McWhorter House is

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a turreted brick mansion of the early 1890s. The five-sided tower at the northwest corner is divided into three levels by the ground level porch and by a horizontal panel between the second and third stories. Half-round, wooden columns outline the tower window frames. Gables are plastered with marble-and-glass stucco veined with simulated half-timbering, and rock-face stone belt courses and stone consoles enrich the chimney bay on the building's northern side. L.E. McWhorter was a prominent attorney associated with Isaac Loewenstein.

- 29. Alexander-Gentry Cottage, 1421 Quarrier Street. This one-story, clapboard Victorian cottage, built c. 1891, represents the less pretentious housing occasionally seen in the district. The L-shaped house features porches with turned, wooden columns at the front and rear elevations. Rectangular wooden shingles cover each of the three major gables. The uncoursed sandstone block foundation, chimney pots, louvered shutters, and cast-iron fence point to the "Gay Nineties" period of its construction.
- Georgian Revival mode, this house is elevated on a high brick foundation and embellished with rich classical detail. Built in 1912-13 and designed by Wilbur T. Mills, the commanding proportions of the structure are due in part to the tall gambrel roof. A large dormer in the Palladian order is centered at the front. Classical details such as cornice modillions and dentils are carried through in the Doric order of the entrance pavilion that is set left of center. The fluted columns support an entablature embossed with tryglyphs. The red bricks in the facade are arranged in a Flemish bonding with glazed brick headers. Arnold Midelburg, a native of Austria, was a merchant in drygoods, landowner in Fayette County, and sawmill operator.
- 31. Judge Ira E. Robinson House, 1509 Quarrier Street. Designed and constructed in 1908 by the Davidson Brothers of Charleston, the house exemplifies imaginative vernacular interpretation of a Swiss Chalet theme. The expansive gable roof descends gradually, terminating in wide, projecting eaves underpinned with paired wooden brackets. The raking cornice in the front gable is decorated with a fancy bargeboard that is duplicated in the entrance bay of the front porch. Textured courses on the house are seen in the stucco of the gable, shingles of the second story, and orange brick of the ground floor. Ira E. Robinson was born near Grafton, served in the West Virginia Senate (1902-04), and was appointed to the State Supreme Court by Governor William Dawson, after which he was elected to the high court in 1908 and served until 1916.
- 32. Harold E. Shadel House, 1511 Quarrier Street. This house was built for lumber king Harold E. Shadel c. 1910 and designed by the Davidson Brothers of Charleston. The hip roof is intersected by bracketed gables at each elevation of the house. Centered at the front above the porch is a rounded window bay surmounted by a curved railing. The front porch is supported by unusual vase-like, open shaft wooden columns with tendril-like wooden capitals of Art Nouveau styling, and the entrance is flanked by intricately patterned, leaded-glass sidelights. Harold E. Shadel was president and general manager of

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the Morgan Lumber and Manufacturing Company, the largest firm of its type in the state c. 1910.

The East End Historic District maintains reasonable limits of scale, proportion and spacing throughout. Most buildings are single or double family dwellings of two or 2½ stories; exceptions are primarily apartment units of from three to six floors that blend quite well rather than more modern intrusions. Lots on a given block or facing a particular street are about equal in size, and the structures are fairly evenly spaced. Those on Kanawha Boulevard have generally larger acreage with more sizable buildings and greater spaces between, while those on the parallel streets to the north exhibit lesser dimensions, a more verticle sense and smaller lawns. This compacting effect also takes place from west to east, with the larger lots being at the former end.

Progressing from west to east one also observes more noticeable changes in style--from the Queen Anne and eclectic of the second half of the nineteenth century to the revivals of the pre-World War I period. Interspersed is a variety of adaptations and elements of almost every style: Italianate, Eastlake, Shingle and Romanesque features being more prevalent in the western area, while the Georgian, Neo-Classical, Jacobethan, Prairie and Bungaloid are more often seen toward the eastern section.

Buildings are predominantly of brick, but the number of frame and stuccoed houses and the distinctions in such things as brick color adds variety. Frame structures are painted variously, often the main body having a different color than outstanding details. Decoration of buildings differs greatly, but fenestration, especially in the use and treatment of dormers, is often decorative, deep eaves with bracketing appear regularly, classic columns support interesting porches on the many Georgian Revival examples, and tile roofs with ridge detail are numerous. Roof designs and shapes run from the plain and straight, through hip, gambrel, and combinations to variations like rounded and upturned gables.

For the most part, design quality and workmanship are average, but the number of buildings designed by respected local architects and constructed by reputable craftsmen is rather large. The Davidson Brothers, H. Rus Warne and Walter F. Martens, for example, played significant roles in district evolution, and their designs make up a sizable proportion of district buildings.

The district is in an area of fairly regular block patterns with evenly spaced and parallel streets. As noted before, lots along Kanawha Boulevard are larger than those along other streets, and building density tends to increase from south to north and west to east. Facades along the boulevard are generally set well back from the street line east of Bradford Street to Elizabeth Street, but yard depth is much less along Virginia and Quarrier Streets. Open areas that do exist have been created by the removal of housing or retaining of underdeveloped lots. Most such spaces are used for parking, but a few exceptions are seen where the area is grass covered. Ruffner Memorial Park is the only open space planned for community use; however, the area between Kanawha Boulevard and the Kanawha River is well maintained as a scenic esplanade, though its slope

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to the water line is relatively steep.

By and large, the district encompasses what was originally almost exclusively a residential neighborhood. Its basic character has always been, and continues to be, one of single and double family dwellings with small apartment buildings interspersed. Because of pressures of the downtown expanding from the west and the Capitol complex enlarging to take in more land, the district has witnessed a rise in land value and a corresponding push toward high rise apartments and larger office units. While the original character has been retained for the most part, many buildings along Kanawha Boulevard and the western part of the district have been successfully adapted to office use or replaced by new office or commercial structures (such as a motel and bank). Buildings still serving as residences have often been converted to small apartments that house several families.

Somewhat surprisingly, most district buildings are in good to excellent condition. There are a few exceptions, but these are predominantly due to a lack of maintenance and could be improved with a small amount of effort. Exteriors do not show many signs of alterations, and where work has been done it has almost always been to refurbish or rehabilitate, thereby retaining the integrity of the basic fabric wherever possible.

Only between five and ten percent of the buildings in the district can be classified as non-conforming intrusions. Even the majority of these have many qualities that blend rather than detract. For example, a high rise apartment building in the center of the 1500 block of Kanawha Boulevard is disproportionate in height, but the expanse of open space around it and the planting of trees and shrubs has helped to mellow the effect. The newer office units (as opposed to former residences that have been adapted to these purposes) generally conform to height and depth, but overall volume and style of construction detract from the area. This is especially true of the western part of the district, in particular in the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Kanawha Boulevard and Virginia Street.

PERIOD	A	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	HECK AND JUSTIFY RELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1500-1599 1600-1699	_AGRICULTURE XARCHITECTURE	ECONOMICS	LAWLITERATUREMILITARY	SCIENCESCULPTURE
1700-1799 _X_1800_1899	ART COMMERCE	ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	MUSIC	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIANTHEATER
<u>X</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	—PHILOSOPHY —POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	TRANSPORTATION XOTHER (SPECIFY) Community development

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1895-1925

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Long regarded as the major early twentieth century subdivision of Charleston, West Virginia's capital city, the "East End" embraces an area rich in historical sites and events antedating the "turn of the century." While the primary urban residential development of eastern Charleston occurred in the period 1895-1925, the late eighteenth century settlement of the city and the formation of the first Kanawha County government are events associated with the district. After 1795 the settlement on the banks of the Great Kanawha River expanded to the mouth of the Elk River where the retail and industrial growth of Charleston were to be centered for the better part of the nineteenth century. The broad bottomlands east of here were privately developed under the Ruffner family and remained plantation grounds and cornfields for over 100 years.

In April 1788, Colonel George Clendenin and his party built a fortification along the Kanawha River by order of the Virginia Assembly and Governor Randolph as part of the defense of that colony's frontier. In 1792 the fort was named for Governor Henry ("Light Horse Harry") Lee, father of General Robert E. Lee, and it continued to serve until 1795 when Indian wars abated. The location of Fort Lee has been placed in the vicinity of Kanawha Boulevard between Brooks and Morris Streets.

Official recognition of the settlement at the mouth of the Elk occurred in 1794 when the Virginia Assembly designated the location as "Charlestown" in honor of Charles Clendenin, father of the founder. Of much greater significance, however, was the purchase of a 502 acre tract by Joseph Ruffner, a German-American from Page County, Virginia. The land was located at Campbell's Creek, six miles east of Fort Lee, and included the famous salt licks that were to be developed as a thriving industry in the early nineteenth century. When Ruffner appeared in the spring of 1795 to inspect his new lands, he stayed for a time at Fort Lee where he purchased from George Clendenin the thousand acre tract now encompassing Charleston's downtown and East End residential neighborhood. It was in the latter of Ruffners built a house near today's "Holly Grove," and succeeding generations of Ruffners built their homes on this estate overlooking the Great Kanawha. Joseph, first of the Kanawha Ruffners, is buried in a tree-shaded cemetery in the 1500 block of Kanawha Boulevard, now called Ruffner Park.

During much of the first half of the nineteenth century, Charleston expanded along the river road (today's Kanawha Boulevard), a segment of the trans-Allegheny route known as the James River and Kanawha Turnpike. The necessity for a direct link between eastern Virginia and the Ohio Valley was recognized by the legislature as early as 1785. With the completion of the turnpike during the decade of the 1820s, the salt makers, farmers, herdsmen and early manufacturers had ready access to the markets of east and west, and Charleston, being a river crossing on the road, became a terminal point and stage depot.

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After the conclusion of the Civil War and with West Virginia's creation as the thirty-fifth state, the town rapidly grew. The decade of the 1870s marked an especially important period of growth when Charleston became a city by act of the legislature on February 17, 1871. Completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad to the town was celebrated in 1873, in 1875 Congress began making appropriations for lock and dam improvements on the Kanawha River, and the legislature designated Charleston as the state capital in 1869. When the seat of government was moved back to Wheeling in 1875, the question of a permanent location was again raised, so the legislature submitted the issue to the people in 1877, and the vote in favor of Charleston resulted in the permanent transfer of state government to this city in 1885.

The period in Charleston's development from 1885 to the end of World War I was marked by great expansion. Location of the city in the heart of vast fields of coal, gas, oil, and timber resources influenced its evolution from a rural village to an industrial and retail center. The increase in population necessitated expanded city boundaries, and more pretentious neighborhoods were a natural outgrowth of wealth and political power. Major development prior to 1876 was confined to the area west of Bradford Street, but municipal consolidation of the lands east of Bradford was completed during the years 1892-1914. Gradual dispersion of Ruffner lands accelerated with the First Ruffner Addition of 1895 and the Ruffner Brothers Additions of 1902 permitting the extension of major through streets to a point near Elizabeth, and by 1907 the present grid pattern of East End streets was generally established. The creation of the de Gruyter Addition between Michigan and Chesapeake Avenues was undertaken as early as 1904, and the Comstock and Kanawha Additions east of California Avenue were laid out by 1914.

Urban development potential soon outstripped agricultural values of the lands, and as the population of Charleston increased from 7,447 to 39,608 between 1890 and 1920, East Charleston became the city's most fashionable residential neighborhood. One U.S. Senator, five governors, five secretaries of state, two congressmen, numerous city mayors, literary figures, judges, artists, merchants, clergymen, industrialists, physicians, and other professionals made their homes on former Ruffner lands. It was not until January 3, 1921, however, that the most significant factor influencing the development of the district occurred, for on that date the statehouse on Capitol Street burned. Legislative provision for a building commission enabled Governor Ephraim Morgan to appoint a distinguished panel that secured a scenic East End site for the new capitol in the autumn of 1923. Construction began on January 7, 1924, and ended with the dedication ceremonies of June 20, 1932. The West Virginia Capitol Complex (which includes the Governor's Mansion), is sandwiched between the two residential sections that form the East End Historic District. With the seat of state government located here, the neighborhood continued its character of affluence and beauty in buildings still evident today.

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This area of Charleston has evolved, then, from open farmland with widely scattered houses in the early eighteenth century, through a prolonged period of subdivision that witnessed the start of a more residential character on the western end by the 1880s, into a concentrated segment of development before World War I, and finally to an established quality of a fine neighborhood of substantial houses by the time the West Virginia Capitol was dedicated in 1932.

Although showing a concentration of styles, techniques, materials and design of the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the district also displays elements of its early beginnings and interim periods. Greek Revival lines are evident in the MacFarland-Ruby House at 1310 Kanawha Boulevard, East (c. 1835), and transitional features are seen in the Augustus Ruffner House at 1506 Kanawha Boulevard, East (c. 1834).

An increase in the number of residences began in the late 1880s and continued relatively unabated through the 1920s and early 1930s. Because of the period and concern for style and fashion by the fairly affluent builders, many of the houses displayed excellent detail in late Victorian-era modes. Queen Anne is most prevalent, being seen in such houses as those at 1210, 1422 and 1636 Kanawha Boulevard, East. All three were constructed about 1890, and each has steep, multiple gables with ridge lines at right angles, high, paneled or corbled brick chimneys, and a variety of sized and shaped windows. In addition, the house at 1418 Virginia Street, East has some Eastlake features, and the eclectic is evident at 1223, 1306 and 1400 Virginia Street, East.

Only a few places show transitional lines moving toward the Colonial Revival styles, but the latter are profusely illustrated in buildings such as those at 1500, 1520, 2006, and 2300 Kanawha Boulevard, East and 1425 Quarrier Street. Built between 1912 and 1935, each of these has features peculiar to the individual unit, but the columned porches at all but 2300 Kanawha Boulevard are a common element. The latter is of a Spanish or Mission design and includes a tiled hip roof, arched casement windows in groups of three and a recessed entrance.

Although many of the houses are unique in one respect or another, it is the quality of building and the quantity of structures spread over a rather large area that gives the East End Historic District its character. Having come into existence as a community in itself fairly slowly, the concentration of construction from roughly 1895 to 1925 accentuates the feel gained through common elements of size, materials, spacing, design and setting.

Local architects such as H. Russ Warne and the Davidson Brothers were active in the area and helped to assure its character in the pre-World War I period. Walter F. Martens, designer of the Governor's Mansion, was especially influential in the 1920s with his Georgian Revival interpretations as may be seen at 1500 Kanawha Boulevard and 1509, 1528, 1556 and 1559 Virginia Street. In addition, Mr. Martens executed the attractive Woman's Club building at 1600 Virginia Street in the Chateauesque style.

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Influences of the day can be viewed in the evolution of the district from west to east. For instance, Virginia Street between Morris and Bradford includes houses constructed during the period 1890-1910. Most are eclectic, with the earlier units displaying features of Queen Anne intermixed with some Shingle, Stick and Romanesque elements. Progressing to the block between Ruffner Avenue and Elizabeth Street, the houses are mainly from the period 1910-1925. There are a few early examples with Victorian-era features, but here the Georgian Revival dominates where a style stands out, and examples of the Prairie style and Jacobethan Revival are frequent. At the eastern extreme of Kanawha Boulevard, between California and East Avenues, Bungaloid, Mission or Spanish Colonial appear along with the Georgian Revival.

Within its greatest period of growth, then, the East End of Charleston reflected housing in the styles generally prevalent in the United States at the time. Since it developed from west to east, it is only natural that elements of Queen Anne, Shingle, Stick, Eastlake and some features of Italianate, Romanesque and Chateauesque appear in the western part more frequently, while Georgian Revival, Prairie and Jacobethan extend from the center to the east.

MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
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	West Virginia Antiquities Commission	March 18, 1977
STREET & NUMBER	R	TELEPHONE
	P.O. Box 630	(304) 296-1791
CITY OR TOWN	Morgantown	STATE
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12 STATE H	ISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER C	ERTIFICATION
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STATE HISTORIC P	RESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE	Mr May
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East End Historic District, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 10

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Nominated Property 110 acres (approximate)

U T M References:

- 17/447490/4242910
- 17/447480/4242840
- C. 17/446575/4242910
- D. 17/446600/4243020
- E. 17/446280/4243355
- F. 17/446085/4243065
- G. 17/445380/4243430
- H. 17/445180/4243715
- 17/445380/4243820

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- 17/445380/4243430
- 17/445020/4243650
- M. 17/444940/4243710
- N. 17/445090/4243890 0.
- 17/445195/4243850 P. 17/445225/4243885
- 17/445265/4243850
- 17/445305/4243890

Verbal Boundary Description

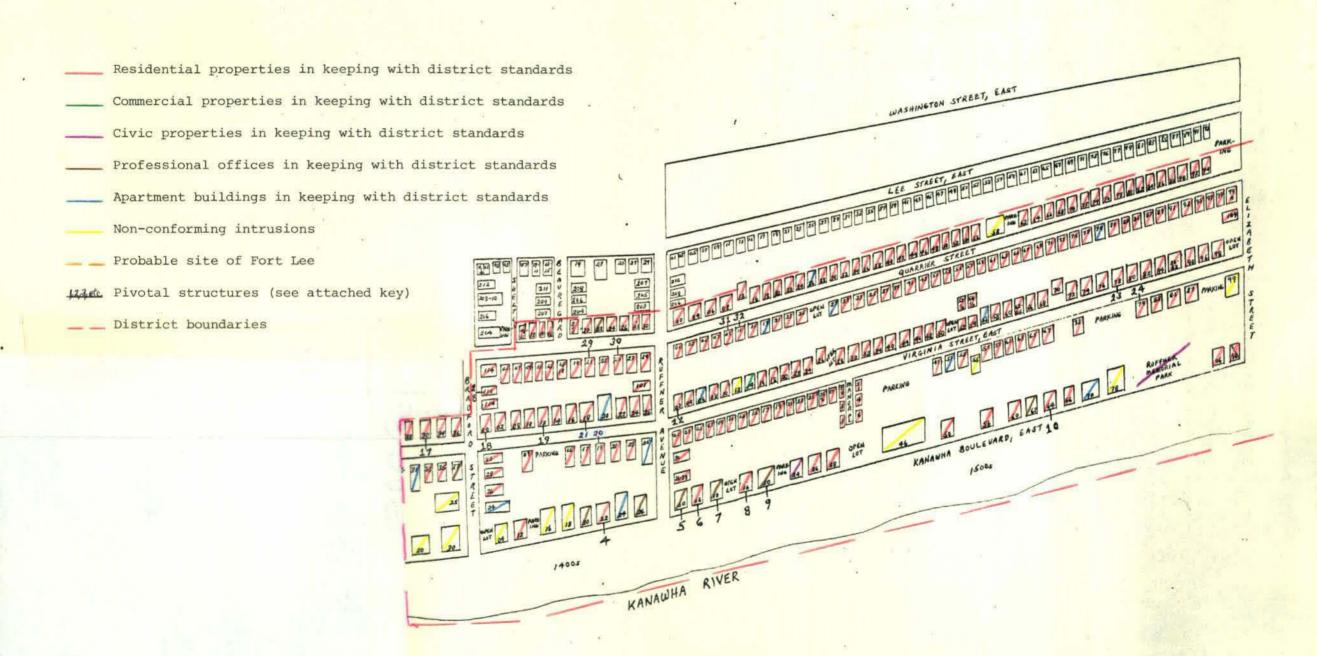
The western section of the district includes approximately four lots to the west of Bradford Street between the Kanawha River and Virginia Street, East, crosses Virginia Street to the north side and continues east (one lot deep) to Bradford Street, north on Bradford Street to the center of Quarrier Street, along the center of Quarrier Street to Shelton Avenue, thence to the north side of Quarrier Street and continuing east (one lot deep) to Franklin Avenue, along the center of Franklin Avenue to the west side of Greenbrier Street, south along Greenbrier Street in a line to the Kanawha River, and west along the banks of the river to the line from a point approximately four lots to the west of Bradford

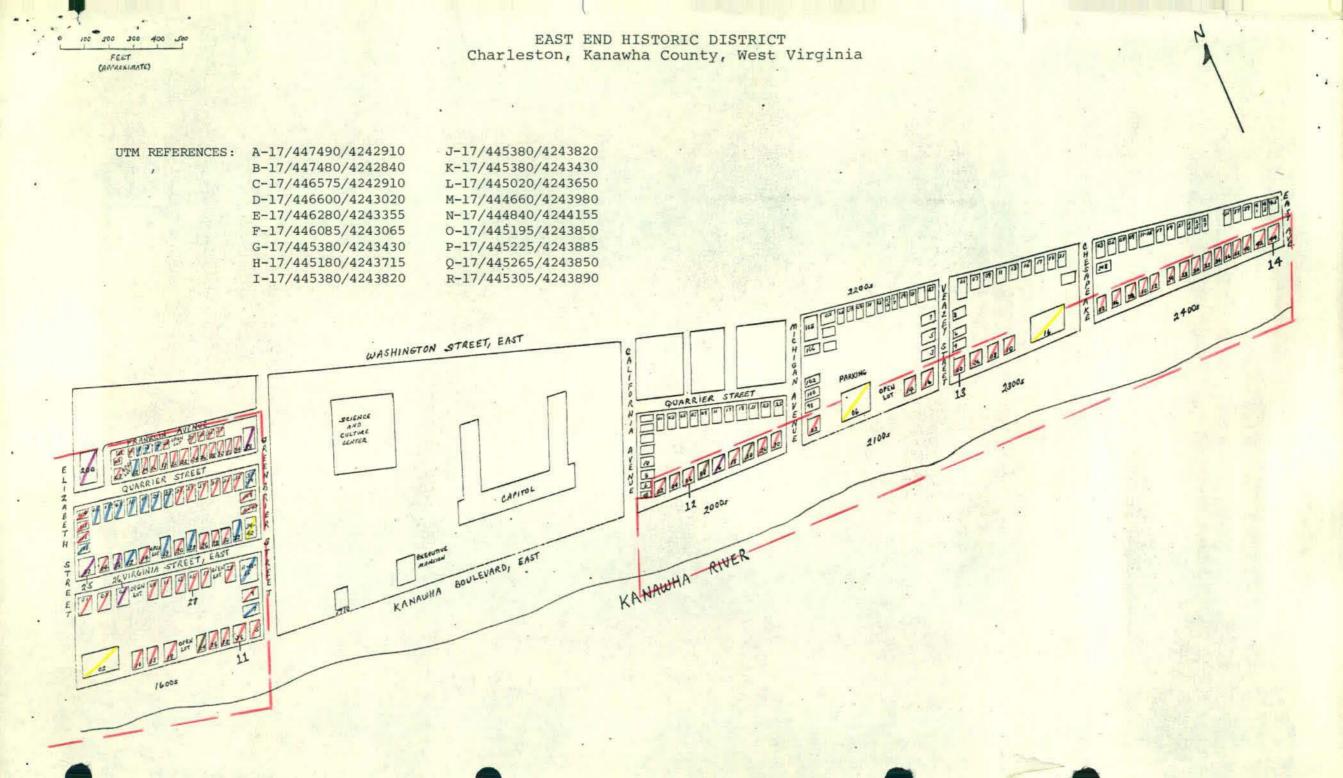
The eastern section of the district begins on the Kanawha River at a point extending in a line from California Avenue, northward along California Avenue to a point one lot deep on Kanawha Boulevard, East, continuing eastward along Kanawha Boulevard to East Avenue, thence along East Avenue in a line to the Kanawha River, and west along the banks of the river to the intersection with a line from











EAST END HISTORIC DISTRICT

