

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Fairmont Downtown Historic District
other name/site number: _____

2. Location

street: Along Jackson, Adams, Ogden, Washington, Cleveland and Quincy
city/town: Fairmont not for publication: N/A vicinity: N/A
state: WV code: WV county: Marion code: 049 zip code: 26554

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination
___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally X statewide ___ locally.
(___ See continuation sheet.)

William C. Lussan
Signature of Certifying Official

6/22/95
Date

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.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined eligible for the
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined not eligible for the
National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property:
(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☒ public-local
☒ public-State
☒ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

☐ building(s) ☐ object
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
94	36	buildings
		sites
2	1	structures
		objects
96	37	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 3 - Marion County Courthouse; High Level Bridge; Masonic Temple

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6. Function or Use
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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Multiple dwelling, hotel</u>
<u>Commerce/Trade</u>	<u>Office building, department store,</u>
	<u>restaurant, warehouse, specialty</u>
	<u>store</u>
<u>Religion</u>	<u>Church</u>
<u>Government</u>	<u>City hall, courthouse</u>
<u>Research Facility</u>	<u>Laboratory</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Multiple dwelling, hotel</u>
<u>Commerce/Trade</u>	<u>Office building, department store,</u>
	<u>restaurant, warehouse, specialty</u>
	<u>store</u>
<u>Religion</u>	<u>Church, chapel</u>
<u>Government</u>	<u>City hall, courthouse</u>

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

=====

7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and Early 20th Century
Revival: Beaux Arts, Colonial
Revival, Italian Renaissance, Neo
Classical Revival.

Late 19th and Early 20th Century
American Movements: Commercial
Style

Materials

Foundation: Stone, brick, concrete
Walls: Stone, brick, frame, concrete
block

Roof: Slate, metal, asphalt shingle,
tile

Other: Reinforced concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **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 (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or 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.

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Section number 7 Page 1 Fairmont Downtown Historic District

Fairmont, a major West Virginia industrial city (pop. 20,210) is the seat of Marion County and commercial center of the Fairmont Field, a rich bituminous coal mining region of north-central West Virginia. Famous for its picturesque and hilly topography, Fairmont occupies a series of steep, rugged hills near the confluence of the Tygarts Valley and West Fork Rivers. The Monongahela divides the city into East and West sections. Within most areas of the city, including the commercial core, streets possess steep grades and many sidewalks rise to the street above in a terrace effect. A number of commercial buildings in the downtown, especially along Cleveland and Washington streets, feature low two or three-story front elevations and rear sections that may descend a number of stories to the grade below.

Generally, the business district, the subject of this nomination, reflects the undulating terrain that is the chief natural characteristic of the city. The commercial buildings as viewed from East Fairmont (Palatine) appear perched on their foundations in such a manner that their actual height seems slightly exaggerated. Framing the downtown to the east is the Monongahela River with its High Level Bridge approach. Appropriately acclaimed "the City of Magnificent Bridges," Fairmont's commercial core is accessed from the east and south by major bridges. Dominating the center of the city at Jefferson and Adams streets are high-style public and commercial buildings, among these the Watson Building (#68), the tallest office tower in northern West Virginia, and the Marion County Courthouse (#67), a Beaux Arts-style landmark distinguished by monumental Corinthian porticoes and a high dome.

Following a major fire in 1876, Fairmont experienced significant new growth and the appearance of numerous fine commercial buildings, churches, and public buildings along its east-west-aligned arteries, Washington Street, Adams Street, and Jackson Street. A number of nationally and regionally prominent architects were introduced to the city by rich industrial leaders and bankers; their legacy is a significant Fairmont resource. Due to the relatively limited availability of land for development in downtown Fairmont, a densely packed streetscape appeared and many buildings reached heights of from four to ten stories. Adding to this development that coincided with the city's growth and prosperity from c. 1890 to c. 1945, was the dramatic growth of vehicular traffic that made Fairmont a city of legendary traffic jams. As a result, many of the city's wealthy speculated in land development in East and West Fairmont where they encouraged the construction of fine suburban housing removed from the congestion and grime of the downtown. Several early generation downtown Fairmont houses survive, however, hidden behind later commercial facades. If coal money can be said to have been the major impetus in the change of the face of downtown Fairmont, the coal industry's diversified support facilities, and the burning of coal for heat in private homes, introduced tons of air-borne soot and coal dust that settled over the city's buildings. As a result of air pollution, many buildings were stained and discolored.

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The business district presents a number of handsome business blocks along Adams Street. They bear the names of their builders - Watson, Hutchinson, and Jacobs. Despite the later introduction of parking lots in downtown, the commercial core retains much of its late 19th and early 20th century ambience. Adding to the interest of the neighborhood are buildings and businesses whose names reflect Fairmont's traditional ethnic heritage. While many coal miners came from local neighborhoods and nearby farms, large immigrant populations arrived in Fairmont, particularly from southern Europe and Italy, to find work in the Fairmont Field. The legacy of their presence is still widely noted in downtown.

The following buildings constitute the resources of the Fairmont Downtown Historic District. Buildings that contribute to the historic character of the district are designated with a "C." Buildings that fail to contribute to the historic qualities of the neighborhood, due to a late construction date or alteration, are designated "NC," i.e. noncontributing.

1. 225 Fairmont Ave., c.1900, C. This 2-story brick Queen Anne-style house has been adaptively reused for offices.
2. 221 Fairmont Ave., c.1905, C. An unusually tall (3 stories) brick residence, it features first and second story porches and multi-story bays. Probably used originally as an apartment house.
3. 219 Fairmont Ave., c.1910, C. Though encumbered at the front with a recently added wood fire escape, the porch and cornice details of this modified Queen Anne house survive.
4. 217 Fairmont Ave., c.1910, NC. This Queen Anne-style house has been altered with the addition of a large brick commercial addition at the front.
5. 211 Fairmont Ave., c.1905, C. The well-preserved brick, 2-story modified Queen Anne has recently undergone sensitive rehabilitation.
6. 209 Fairmont Ave., c.1905, NC. Similar in design to its neighbor, the red brick house has been altered with a modern glass and brick addition.
7. 207 Fairmont Ave., c.1900, NC. Though preserving much of its Princess Anne form, this house has been overwhelmed with a large brick front addition.
8. 205 Fairmont Ave., c.1920, C. The 3-story red brick building features 3-part windows at the 2nd and 3rd levels.

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9. 201 Fairmont Ave., c.1920, C. Despite modified windows, this tall masonry building presents a typical storefront design.
10. 117 Fairmont Ave., c.1918, C. Now used for offices, the 3-story brick building features a broad overhanging cornice.
11. 107 Fairmont Ave., c.1925, C. The 2-story brick Penn Furniture store is dominated by a broad expanse of display window glass and a transom of period prism glass.
12. 109 Fairmont Ave., c.1898, C. With "McCoy Building" emblazoned in the frieze, the 2-story brick building possesses a triple-arched bay.
13. 103-105 Fairmont Ave., c.1895-1900, C. The Yost Building is this block's best preserved Victorian structure. Flat-headed, segmental, and arched window heads add variety to the detail of the 4-story brick building.
14. 200 Fairmont Ave., U.S. Court House and Post Office, 1940, C. Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect, U.S. Treasury. A giant brick and limestone Depression-era public building, the Courthouse echoes a Deco-like severity in its detail and massing. A carved stone Eagle surmounts the entrance bay.
15. 120 Fairmont Ave., 1980s, NC. The low profile glass and brick One Valley Bank is a 1980s brick construction.
16. 100 Fairmont Ave., 1907, Baldwin and Pennington, architect, C. Originally the Fairmont YMCA, this 4-story brick and stone building on a raised basement, is a Beaux Arts-style, though slightly altered, anchor building, on Fairmont Ave. Now used as a Moose Lodge.
17. 94 Fairmont Ave., c.1928, C. A 3-story Art Deco influenced facade and a corner setting distinguish this brick commercial building.
18. 92 Fairmont Ave., c.1920, NC. The 3-story brick with an ell warehouse addition, has been extensively altered with front elevation paneling.
19. 507-511 First St., c.1925, C. Distinctive stone belt courses and first floor rustication are this building's chief features.
20. 99 Fairmont Ave., Women's Christian Temperance Union Building, c.1900, C. The well-preserved Romanesque-style Mid-City Drug Building is the street's only example of the style. The arched center bay and excellent molded brickwork, framed by corner buttresses, lend the structure additional distinction.

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21. 87-89 Fairmont Ave., Crawford Building, Walter Eliason, contractor, c.1925, C. The 3-story front of this brick building is deceptive. The rear portion of the structure descends at least 6-7 stories to the grade below.
22. 504 First St., 1927, C. The historic name of this building is the Monongahela Valley Traction Freight House. A 3-story structure, its elaborate deep cornice and loading entrances are significant details.
23. Southside Bridge, 1918 (1992), NC. The original structure, a 3-arch reinforced concrete span, probably the design of engineer Frank Duff McEnteer, survived until 1992, when all but the original 4-poured, reinforced concrete piers was replaced with new construction material.
24. 98-95-94 Adams St., 1950s, NC. Of late construction, the 2-story (at front) brick building houses a florist shop.
25. 307-311 Cleveland Ave., J.L. Crouse, contractor, 1916, C. This important 5-story brick office and commercial building was constructed in 1916 and called the "F.B.I. Professional Building."
26. 317 Cleveland Ave., 1960s, NC. A 2-story brick office building accommodating the Bennett and Burnes accountants.
27. Cleveland and Adams, 1990s, NC. A new 3-story contemporary brick and glass banking house, it occupies a corner lot on an L-shaped plan.
28. Cleveland and Adams, 1970s, NC. With broad overhanging contemporary eave line, the Bond Insurance Agency is housed here.
29. 225 Cleveland Ave., c.1913, C. The 6-story A.J. Hayes Building features regular coursed rock-faced masonry at the first level and pressed blond brick above; this was an addition to the Hayes Building on Monroe St. (#45)
30. Jacobs and Hutchinson complex, Cleveland Ave., c.1940s, corrugated metal shed building, NC. A storage and inventory shed, the building lacks basic integrity.
31. 233-235 Cleveland Ave., Jacobs and Hutchinson main warehouse building, 1928, C. When rail spurs were operational to the rear of Cleveland Ave. buildings, goods could be easily transferred to warehouse buildings which might be 6 to 8 stories high at the rear. The Jacobs-Hutchinson Hardware Co. and Wholesale Distributors was incorporated c.1902.

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32. Jacobs and Hutchinson Office, 231 Cleveland Ave., c.1925, C. Once a fruit warehouse, the 2-story at front and 5-story at rear blond brick building is the third part of the above company operations.
33. Union Mission Dorm, Cleveland Ave., c.1920, C. The 2-story partially embanked, stucco-covered building is used for housing.
34. Union Mission Street Ministry, Cleveland Ave., c.1925, C. Embanked at the rear, the 3-story red brick building is detailed at the roofline by 3 square dormers.
35. Million Dollar Bridge, 1921, C. A most important example of American bridge engineering, the bridge features three giant arched reinforced concrete spans. The length of the structure is 1266 ft. (with approaches 2230 ft.). A major feature of downtown.
36. Elks Lodge, 104 Cleveland Ave., E.B. Franzheim, Wheeling, architect, c.1900, C. An early and important downtown building, this 5-story deteriorating brick structure features outstanding Roman brickwork and intricate brick relieving arches over windows. Some transom stained glass survives. Elks Lodge No. 148 currently occupies the edifice that was the modern addition to historic Skinner's Tavern (now gone) on corner.
37. 314 Washington St., c.1940, C. Now used as a pet care center, the 1-story brick building with stepped parapet is dominated by a large single-bay service entrance.
38. Yann's Hotdogs, at Million Dollar Bridge, Washington St., late alterations, NC. Famous for its spicy hotdogs, Yanns is housed in a vertical board-and-batten building resting on late structural steel stilts.
39. WPA Retaining Walls, corner of Jefferson and Washington, 1938, C. A significant raised joint stone retaining wall, the structure wraps around the corner lot owned by the American Legion.
40. 207 Jefferson St., Gov. A.B. Fleming Home, c.1860's. Remodeled into American Legion #17, NC. The building consists of a 1-story and 2-story brick section. At the corner of the lot, overlooking the bridge, is a life-sized replica of the Statue of Liberty, dedicated on Nov. 11, 1950, by the Boy Scouts.
41. Christian Book Store, corner of Jefferson and Washington, 1980s, NC. A new building with vertical board siding.

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42. Union Mission Chapel (Christ Episcopal Church), Washington St., 1880, C. This Gothic Revival church was built at a cost of \$5,000 in 1880. It is especially important for its exceptionally handsome geometrically patterned slate roof.
43. 201 Monroe St., c.1902, C. Conways Feed and Seed Store, at the bend of Monroe and Washington, is a 3-story at front and 8 stories at rear warehouse. Its fine brickwork and heavy timber bearing columns are important features.
44. City Fire and Police Building, 209-211 Monroe St., c.1912 addition 1916, C. This 3-story brick building possesses extensive glazed areas and fine contrasting belt courses. Two large service bays with segmental arches dominate the ground floor.
45. 217 Monroe St., 1911, Hayes Building (later), C. A well-preserved early apartment building called the Anna Apartments or Anna Building, it is of Renaissance Revival design with a heavily bracketed cornice at the 3rd floor.
46. 221 Monroe St., c.1910, C. The 4-story, 3-bay brick building used for law offices, has been altered at ground floor but presents fine details above. Originally three stories, the fourth story was added c.1920.
47. 223 Monroe at Adams St., 1917, C. J.C. Burchinal, architect. C.D. Keyser of Bellaire, Ohio was the contractor. The Neo Classical Revival Deveny Building is a brick, 6-story office and commercial complex. The original 4-story plan was added upon with a 2-story section for the Elks. The first floor was Woolworth's Five and Dime.
48. 222 Monroe at Adams St., c.1880, C. The Fleming Building occupies a busy corner. Likely one of the street's older blocks, its facades were parged and scored to simulate ashlar. Originally two stories, top floor was said to be "Town Hall" theatre, city's first auditorium, with a 16 foot ceiling. It was subsequently made into second and third floors. It was the Odd Fellows Hall from 1881-1920.
49. Agape Methodist Church, Methodist Protestant Temple (originally), 1896-97, J. Charles Fulton, Uniontown, PA, architect, C. The city's finest surviving Romanesque Revival church, this exceptional building preserves all of its period detail. Its campanile-like bell tower is the dominant feature. A 1925 addition is at the rear.
50. 20 Monroe St., 1916, C. The Bell Telephone Building at Monroe and Ogden Sts., is a 3-story tan brick office complex that has been in service since 1916; also used as a telephone exchange operated by the Chesapeake and Potomac Co.

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51. C & P Annex, Monroe St., c.1925, W.H. Spedden, contractor, NC. This 2-story exchange addition is a contemporary structure with broad, nearly windowless wall surfaces.
52. Maruka Law Offices, Washington St., c.1925, C. This 1-story brick building is distinguished by a decorative tan brick frieze and curving parapet.
53. 200 Jefferson St., 1916-17, C. Milburn, Heister and Co., architects, Fuller Construction Company, contractor. The Fairmont Hotel, now Eastview Unity Apartments, is a 7-story brick anchor structure on Jefferson St. It originally consisted of 115 rooms; its interior spaces were finished in mahogany. Built at a cost of \$400,000. Renovations have introduced some alterations.
54. 216 Jefferson St., 1950s, NC. Greatly altered 1-story commercial building.
55. 219-221 Jefferson St., c.1927, C. The 2-story, 4-bay brick building features a well-preserved canted recessed entrance between large display windows.
56. 225-227-229 Jefferson St., Haymond Building, c.1894, C. A 4-story brick building, it once served as medical and law offices. There is a double entrance. The 4th floor was added c.1904.
57. 234 Adams St., Comerford Building, c.1880, C. A handsome 2-story brick building at the corner of Jefferson and Adams, it features a heavy dentiled cornice and a central broken pediment.
58. 226-230 Adams St., B.A. Fleming Building, c.1880, C. The 7-bay, 2-story brick is divided between 2 storefronts. Large brackets support the deep cornice.
59. 222-224 Adams St., Hatter Ben's Big Brick, Carries Restaurant - Arena Sports Club, Adams St., NC. The greatly altered 2-story building features new paneling and synthetic siding, modernized 1927.
60. Dollar General Store, 200-block Adams St., 1909-10, C. Constructed in 1909 as the McCrory Building, the 3-story brick is 6 bays along the entrance facade. Site of old Fountain Saloon.

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61. 214 Adams St., T.F. Hall Building, c.1880, C. This 4-bay, 2-story music store is detailed with belt courses and diamond pattern frieze inserts. New front installed 1910.
62. Adams Office Supply, 210-212 Adams St., 1898, C. The building is one of the finest turn-of-the-century architectural expressions in the downtown. Designed originally as the First National Bank, it combines both Romanesque and Neo Classical Revival elements. Of special interest is the ground level entrance, a triple-arched granite base carried by massive, polished squat columns with carved cushion capitals.
63. 208 Adam St., c.1884, C. This 2-story brick building has a deep bracketed cornice and a 2nd story line of large windows. Originally the cashier's residence for adjoining bank, the new front was added 1917 for Jones Department store.
64. One story infill building, c.1940, C. The recently renovated 1-story building has been a Main Street project.
65. 211 Adams St., 1903-05, C. The 7-story Security Building is a narrow early highrise that presents outstanding ironspot Roman brick on a 3-part design scheme: base, column, and capital. Contractor Burchinal prepared plans. Brady Construction Company, contractors.
66. Sheriff's Residence/Museum and Jail, 1909-12, E.J. Woods of Clarksburg, architect. C.P. Howell of Clarksburg, contractor, C. Architecturally compatible to the neighboring courthouse, the stone-clad house is a square hipped roof plan.
67. Marion County Courthouse, 1897-1901, Yost and Packard, Columbus, Ohio, architect, C. The Beaux Arts-style courthouse dominates the corner at Jefferson and Adams St. beneath a high dome. Three 2-story porticoes dominate three sides of the building.
68. Watson Building, 1909-1911, C. Horace Trumbauer, architect. The city's most significant highrise, this Neo Renaissance limestone clad 8-story bank has been the focus of Watson Family coal and banking interests through the years.
69. 323 Adams St., c.1925, NC. Levines is a 3-story, 3-bay brown brick structure featuring French doors in center of second floor; currently undergoing rehabilitation as a restaurant.
70. Slock's Club, c.1910, C. This 1-bay infill building is used as a private social club.

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71. 325 Adams St., c.1910, C. Housing Alfies Coffee and Record Shop, the 3-story brick building is capped with a cobeled brick cornice above segmental headed double-hung windows.
 72. 327 Adams St., c.1885, NC. Originally a shoe store for 40 years (thought to be Fairmont's first) the Brownfield Building was then used as a grocery. The Army/Navy Store has undergone many alterations, among these application of a synthetic skin above the 1st story.
 73. 328 Adams, c.1884, NC. The 2-story commercial building has been covered in a metal paneling that hides the original facade, including original 3-bay second floor.
 74. 324-A Adams St., c.1884, NC. Similarly altered to its neighbor, this 2-story building has been covered in vinyl siding. Original second story bay window and cornice is gone.
 75. 324 Adams St., c.1895, C. Though altered at ground level, the 2-story brick facade preserves its 19th-century-style window cornice heads. Originally a hardware store, it was renovated in 1922 as the entrance to the Virginia Theatre; the auditorium added then to the rear is now gone.
 76. 322 Adams St., c.1890, C. Now used as a pharmacy, the 2-story brick is pierced by tall arched windows beneath a heavy bracketed cornice.
 77. 314-320 Adams St., c.1940, C. Built as the G.C. Murphy Co. store, the Deco-like style and linear character of this low 2-story building indicates a later 20th century period of development on the street.
 78. 308-308 1/2 Adams St., c.1880, C. The commercial buildings at this point are late 19th century Italianate-style blocks featuring outstanding 2nd level arched windows, heavy window mouldings, and bracketed cornices.
 79. 306 Adams St., c.1880, C. Vinny's Place is a 2-story brick, 4-bay cafe with ornate cornice.
 80. 300-302 Adams St., c.1880, C. A handsome anchor building at the corner (opposite the courthouse), the 2-story Italiane block features a spectacular arrangement of 9 arched double-hung windows beneath a bracketed cornice.

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81. 419 Adams St., 1925, C. The Elks Club #294, Fairmont Lodge, is a 3-story Neo Classical Revival brown brick building with an arcade of four segmental openings at ground level. An elk head is positioned above the entrance.
82. 401 Quincy St., 1970-80s, NC. Booth Towers is a late 10-story residence facility for senior citizens.
83. 426-432 Adams St., c.1880's and 1890's, C. Sharing a common cornice line, these 2-story stucco-over-brick commercial buildings form an important row and visual line on the street.
84. 420 Adams St., c.1921, C. Lepra Printing Co. is a 3-story, 5-bay brick loft building.
85. 418 Adams St., c.1940, C. Gingers Bridal and Formal Wear is a 2-story brick containing 2 glass-fronted businesses.
86. 416 Adams St., C.1940, C. The Fairmont Theater is a Deco-style blond brick building that remains the only theater in downtown. Its facade is a large expanse of brick punctuated by two panels of vertical ribs.
87. 400 Adams St., c.1960-70, NC. The Appalachian Tire Store is a 1-story glass and brick building standing close to the Madison St. corner.
88. 10-11 Jackson St., Armory Building, 1908-1913, Wyatt and Nolting of Baltimore, architects, C. A 2-story commercial building featuring a corbeled cornice and a rear/side 6-bay service drive-in.
89. 6 Jackson St., c.1908, C. B.F. Goodrich. Curved brick and stucco building, originally Fairmont Dairy Company and Imperial Ice Company. It features 3 levels.
90. 15 Jackson St., c.1915, C. The building features 4 levels on a raised basement with service bays for City Tire at rear. The front elevation is a Colonial Revival continuous portico.
91. Trinity M.E. Church, 1911, C. Neo Gothic Revival church with pointed arch windows and tower castelations. Cornerstone laid by AF & AM No. 34, July 30, 5911 (1911).
92. 107 Jackson St., 1948, NC. Greco Building is a late, 2-story structure housing a locksmith.
93. 116-110 Jackson St., Dotts, 1925, C. 4 stories on raised basement with tan and brown basketweave brick; lower service bays.

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94. 120 Jackson St., c.1920, C. This 3-story loft building is designed with ground-level service bays.
95. 401 Monroe at Jackson, c.1920, C. The 4-story Italianate apartment or hotel building is stuccoed. Its ornamental balconies remain.
96. 211 Jackson St., NC. Much altered 1-story commercial building.
97. 213 Jackson St., c.1920, C. Two-story brick with a broad cornice and prominent belt courses. Houses North Central CAA.
98. Rays Auto Center Exxon, 1980s, NC. A modern gas service station with paved pumping plaza.
99. First Presbyterian Church, 1916, Jackson and Jefferson Sts., W.H. Nicklas, Cleveland, Ohio, architect, C. The largest Gothic-style church in central Fairmont, the huge stone church features major tracery windows, a high corner tower, and an Akron-plan auditorium.
100. 317 Jackson St., 1920s; addition, 1921-27, C. The L. Snyder, 3-story brick building is built of tan brick in a modified Art Deco style. Used in earlier years as an auto dealership.
101. St. Peter's R.C. Church, 1902, C. Charles G. Badgley, architect. A major downtown building, the Mission Style church is centered with a curvilinear parapet and a high corner tower designed with Baroque flourishes.
102. 407 Jackson St., 1923, C. The St. Peter's rectory is a rectangular, 2-story, hipped roof church complex property.
103. 411 Jackson St. (between Jackson and Madison St.) 1912, C. The 4-story, late Victorian, Catholic grade school, probably designed by Charles G. Badgley, presents several later additions and a tower facing Madison St. High school addition by Carl Reber, Morgantown, architect, 1927-1928.
104. St. Peter's church offices, corner at Jackson and Quincy, c.1915, NC. The stucco walls and other alterations occurred during renovations of this earlier residence.
105. Corner at Madison and Quincy, c.1925, C. Two-story apartment and commercial building; it is built of tan brick.

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106. Salvation Army Chapel, 425 Quincy, 1962, NC. The steeply pitched roof (A-frame like) dominates this building which features a tile mosaic central panel.
107. 427-428 Quincy St., c.1915, C. The frame section of the Salvation Army Thrift Shop, this house is built against the hillside.
108. Frey Funeral Home, 320 Madison, c.1905, C. A former private residence, this large square house presents several major Colonial and Classical features, among these a full-columned porch.
109. Frey Ambulance and Garage facility, Madison St., NC. A 3-bay ambulance garage, this facility is of late construction.
110. Frey Garage, Madison St., c.1950, NC. The 1-story concrete block garage stands slightly to the east of the funeral home.
111. U.S. Post Office, Jackson and Madison, 1987, NC. The Post Modern building presents a massive corner entrance pavilion and brick and metal cladding.
112. 326 Jefferson St., c.1940, NC. Lopos Lunch is a long, narrow building with brick and metal cladding.
113. 324 Jefferson, shoe repair business, c.1885, C. 2 1/2 story frame early residence that has been in use as a business address for years. Recessed second story porch and 3-sided bays are major features.
114. 320 Jefferson. 1906-07, C. Baldwin and Pennington, architect. The Masonic Building is a Beaux Arts-style tall building featuring fine cornice-level ornamentation. The 6-story building has always been a key business address in downtown.
115. City Building, Jefferson St., 1982, NC. Silling and Assoc., architect. Also Known as the J. Harper Meredith Building, the concrete paneled structure presents horizontal bands of windows.
116. Marion County Jail, c.1890s, C. Edward J. Wood, architect. The stone building is designed in the earlier fashionable Gothic style. Crenelated parapets lend the structure a fortress-like quality.

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District

117. 201 Monroe St., c.1902, C. A.C. Lyons, architect. The two handsome brick blocks comprising the Jacobs-Hutchinson Building (1902) and Jacobs Building (1906), are among the city's finest. They dominate the street with their formally designed Roman brick facades and elaborate terra cotta cornices.
118. Library, 1914, C. James Knox Taylor, architect. The red brick Colonial Revival library with classical details stands on a sloping lot at 319 Monroe. Among the distinguishing features are high arched windows and a hipped roof. Originally the Federal Building, it was converted to city library use in 1942.
119. 109-119 Adams St., W.Va. State Office Complex, 1985, NC. Post Modern-style office building which occupies a large lot facing Adams St.
120. 120 Adams St., Hennen Building, 1900, C. The brick commercial 3-story, 6-bay building occupies a block that is undergoing Main St. development.
121. 110 Adams St., Skinner Building, c.1893, C. Recently restored as offices for the Chamber of Commerce, this turn-of-the-century brick building features a fine heavy cornice.
122. 215 Scott Place, off Jefferson St., 1916, C. The 2-story on raised basement brick Consolidation Coal Co. Office and Coal Analysis Laboratory, sandwiched among residences on Scott Place, was significant to the testing of levels of coal ash, sulphur, volatiles, and fixed carbon. The building is now a homeless shelter.
123. 411 Jefferson St., on Scott Place alley, c.1900, C. The 1-story frame Italianate cottage is a well-preserved example of workers' cottage architecture in downtown.
124. 414 Jefferson, on Scott Place alley, c.1920, NC. This is a modified Four Square with artificial siding and permastone.
125. 409 Jefferson St., c.1884, C. Possibly one of the oldest houses in the downtown area, this 5-bay Federal-style frame house is covered in synthetic siding.
126. 312 Adams St., NC. This 2-story building covered with synthethic material is radically altered. It stands immediately above G.C. Murphy's and is called Ray's.

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District

- 127. 310 Adams St., C. A 3-story turn-of-the-century white-painted building, this building features a prominent overhanging cornice.
- 128. 124 Adams St., c.1900, C. 3-story red brick featuring heavy cornice and fine brickwork. Altered storefront.
- 129. 122 Adams St., 1915, C. A diminutive infill building, it occupies a narrow space between the adjacent 3-story brick buildings.
- 130. 416 Madison St., c.1905, C. The 2-story brick building is of buff brick and features semi-circular, 3-sided bays.
- 131. 170 Jefferson St., mid-50s, NC. 2-story, brick, flat-roofed building.
- 132. 170 Jefferson St., c.1890, C. 1-story, frame, gable-roofed building covered with vinyl siding.
- 133. 221 Monroe St., c.1905, C. 3-story brick commercial building featuring 3 bays and 3rd story arched windows.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District

The Fairmont Downtown Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with a pattern of events, activities, and trends relating to the emergence and development of the town as a service and banking center for the bituminous coal mining industry of north-central West Virginia. Reflecting the mining developments and corporate growth that produced coal barons such as James Otis Watson, "father of the West Virginia coal industry," and his descendents, is the building activity and architecture in the downtown stimulated by the cycles of prosperity. The downtown possesses for this reason additional significance under Criterion C as the embodiment of distinctive period building types and particular commercial architectural styles of late 19th and early 20th century America. Nearly all of Fairmont's important architects are represented in this building tradition, as well as nationally prominent members of the profession, such as Horace Trumbauer (1868-1938), a leading Philadelphia architect.

Fairmont's early development was inauspicious. Only several subsistence farms were in existence by the last decades of the 18th century. Beginning in 1818, the farm of pioneer Boaz Fleming was subdivided into town lots. Another factor of local importance was the opening of a state road in 1819 between Clarksburg and Morgantown. The Virginia General Assembly incorporated the town in 1820; it was then known as "Middletown" because of its location halfway between Clarksburg and Morgantown. In 1838, on the east side of the Monongalia River, was established the village of Palatine within which several copper and machine works were located. Two events of the period elevated the town to a position of regional importance. The first, occurring in 1842, concerned the formation of Marion County from parts of Monongalia and Harrison and the designation of Fairmont as the county seat. The second important event occurred in 1843 when the Virginia General Assembly renamed the town "Fairmont," a designation derived from the contraction of Fair Mountain. By this time the town had grown to 70 dwellings, 5 stories, and several hotels and taverns. Fairmont's subsequent growth was enhanced by contributions of several 19th century favorite sons, among these James Otis Watson (1815-1902), "Father of the West Virginia Coal Industry," and Francis H. Pierpont (1814-1899), the "Father of West Virginia." Both Watson and Pierpont developed lands in and around Fairmont that would stimulate the emergence of the region's legendary coal industry.

The key to Fairmont's growing 19th century prosperity and influence rests with the arrival in 1852 of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The railroad brought immigrants, who helped construct the line. Many of these workers were later employed locally. The B & O also enabled entrepreneurs to ship coal to distant markets. Coal mines were initially operating on Palatine Hill and just off Washington Street. The coal shipped from the local mines is said to have been the first coal transported by railroad west of the Allegheny Mountains.

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District

Following construction of the 560-foot suspension bridge, transportation into Fairmont was greatly improved, resulting in increased construction in the business district. Though destroyed in the great fire of 1876, the booming conditions fostered the reconstruction of the burned district "with fine brick business blocks and residences. In fact, Fairmont can now safely challenge any town of its size in the State to exhibit as many and as handsome buildings as are seen upon her main street."

As the result of water and rail transportation, availability of plentiful labor, and the proximity to large regional markets, including those of the Eastern Seaboard, Fairmont entered into the most significant phase of her development between 1890 and 1930. The growth of coal mining had natural gas production created for "the Coal City" an image of bustle and prosperity. Much of the capital investment responsible for this was generated by local barons, such as James Otis Watson, A.B. Fleming (governor of W.Va., 1890-93; and son-in-law of Watson), and the Watson sons, James Edwin (builder of High Gate), Sylvanier Lamb, and Clarence W. (member of the U.S. Senate 1911-13). Others of local coal fame were Clyde E. and M.L. Hutchinson, John A. Clark, and the Jamison family. Clarence Watson organized in 1901 the Fairmont Coal Company. James E. Watson organized the Montana Coal and Coke Company. The Watsons remained prominent in coal following the acquisition of Fairmont Coal in 1903 by the Consolidation Coal Company.

Fairmont's growth from 1890 to 1930 was dramatic. There followed a corresponding expansion in the city's regional importance as a transportation and banking center to the north-central West Virginia "Fairmont Field," inclusive of Barbour, Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor counties. Significantly, coal loadings rose from approximately a quarter million tons in 1890, to 21 million tons by 1920. Profits thus fueled the growth of diversified industries, such as electric utilities, metals, and chemicals. Fairmont thereby assumed a position of regional importance as a manufacturing support center. Despite the problems of industrial decline during the Great Depression, the city rebounded during World War II with the production of military and defense-related materials. The Fairmont Downtown Historic District thus reflects in its streetscapes and varied urban developments the district's period of significance, 1880-1945.

Fairmont retains a significant portion of its late 19th and early 20th century architecture. Despite the presence of parking lots and several new buildings, the downtown evidences numerous well-preserved examples of fashionable commercial architecture from earlier periods. Many local architects active in the city from the 1880s on have been identified as the designers of major buildings along Adams Street, a major commercial artery, and along other principal streets, such as Jefferson and Monroe. Reflecting the propensity of the American city, regardless of size, to develop a densely packed core with impressive high buildings,

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Section number 8 Page 3 Marion Co., WV
Fairmont Downtown Historic District

Fairmont retains this traditional pattern of development. Indeed, at the crossing of Adams and Jefferson Streets stand an impressive array of major buildings all designed by firms of national stature. These include the Marion County Courthouse (1897-1900) (#67), Yost and Packard, Columbus, Ohio; the Watson Building (1909-11) (#68), Horace Trumbauer, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Pennington, Baltimore, Md.

Fairmont industrial money kept architects busy in the city. Nearly all of the styles popular in America during the historic district's period of significance may be seen; and the names of architects who spent much of their professional careers enhancing the city's commercial core have been identified. Among important representative names of the profession are Charles Badgley, J.C. Burchinal, Andrew C. Lyons, and three generations of Giffins.

The collective image presented by Fairmont's commercial architecture is centered upon its main street. Distinctive facades more often than not served as bold advertisements for goods and services provided by merchants. Buildings thus designed shared party walls and other architectural details, such as heavy bracketed cornices and large ground-level display windows. Popular styles of the period were eagerly sought after by businessmen who wished to impress upon the passing public the importance of their social station in the community. Exemplifying status beyond all other local buildings is the Watson Building, banking house of the Watson coal fortunes. Located at the northeast corner of Adams and Jefferson, the gigantic, 8-story, limestone-clad tower was designed in the Neo Renaissance Revival style by Philadelphia architect, Horace Trumbauer. The building's location is no accident; its site is elevated and commands attention from every direction. James E. Watson, the banker and coal operator, also commissioned Trumbauer during the same period (1910) to design his palatial house, a Stockbrokers Tudor extravaganza that occupies an entire city block to the west on Fairmont Avenue. Trumbauer was one of the chief architects of the very rich during the Gilded Age. Among his clients were Edward J. Berwind, George Jay Gould, E.T. Stotesbury, P.A.B. Widener, James Buchanan Duke, Cornelius Vanderbilt, III, and Mrs. Henry Dodge.

Scattered among the commercial buildings of downtown are a number of architecturally significant churches. The oldest of these is the Christ Protestant Episcopal Church (1880) (#42), a Gothic Revival landmark, now used as the Union Mission Chapel. The Washington Street edifice features the finest surviving patterned slate roof in north-central West Virginia. A short distance to the north, on Monroe Street, is the Agape Methodist Church (1896) (#49), a brick and stone architectural landmark of considerable interest. Its Romanesque Revival styling is virtually unaltered; and the building's massive arched openings, intact stained glass, and campanile-like tower lend the church a unique status among the city's oldest churches. At the northeast corner of the downtown historic district, on upper Jackson Street, is St. Peter's

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District

Roman Catholic Church (1902) (#101), a tall brick structure that is the region's only example of Mission-style architecture. Designed by local architect Charles G. Badgley, the building is dominated by a massive curvilinear parapet and domed tower in the Baroque style. Down the street, at Jefferson and Jackson, is the rusticated stone First Presbyterian Church (1916) (#99), a high-style neo-Gothic Revival building that features huge tracery windows and a noteworthy Akron-plan auditorium.

Though small by traditional American standards, Fairmont possesses a wealth of late 19th and early 20th century commercial architecture. At the northeast corner of Adams and Monroe Streets stands an excellent example of the city's significant business blocks. Designed by local architect Andrew C. Lyons, the Jacobs-Hutchison Building (1902) (#117), combines superb uses of fancy brickwork, terra cotta, and large glazed areas to dominate the better part of an entire city block. The potential of this building for additional wear and use is considerable. The building also represents, along with its many neighbors in the downtown, a significant legacy of earlier periods of the city's history when Fairmont emerged as a major center of West Virginia's northern coal and gas fields.

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Industry

Commerce

Period of Significance

1880 - 1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Charles G. Badgley, A.C. Lyons, Yost and Packard, Baldwin and Pennington,
Horace Trumbauer

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- ☐ 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 # _____

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Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Marion Co., WV

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Bibliography

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Hardesty's West Virginia Counties. vol. 2, Richwood, W.Va.: Jim Comstock, 1973.

Marion County Centennial Yearbook. Fairmont, W.Va., 1963.

West Virginia: A Guide to the Mountain State. New York: Oxford University Press, (1941) 1961.

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====

Property Owner

=====

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Multiple

Street & Number: _____ Telephone: ()

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

=====

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: 72 approximately

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1A	___	<u>573860</u>	<u>4371040</u>	2B	___	<u>574000</u>	<u>4370740</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3C	___	<u>573830</u>	<u>4370540</u>	4D	___	<u>573560</u>	<u>4370540</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5E	___	<u>573300</u>	<u>4370180</u>	6F	___	<u>573200</u>	<u>4370250</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7G	___	<u>573480</u>	<u>4370600</u>	8H	___	<u>573340</u>	<u>4370780</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
9I	___	<u>574000</u>	<u>4370360</u>				
	Zone	Easting	Northing				

Verbal Boundary Description - (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification - (Explain on continuation sheet)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Rodney Collins, National Register Coordinator; addition to
Part 7 by Professor Debra McMillan

Organization: State Historic Preservation Office Date: March, 1995

Street & Number: Capitol Complex Telephone: (304) 558-0220

City or Town: Charleston State: WV ZIP: 25305

=====

Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Fairmont Downtown Historic District
Marion Co., WV

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

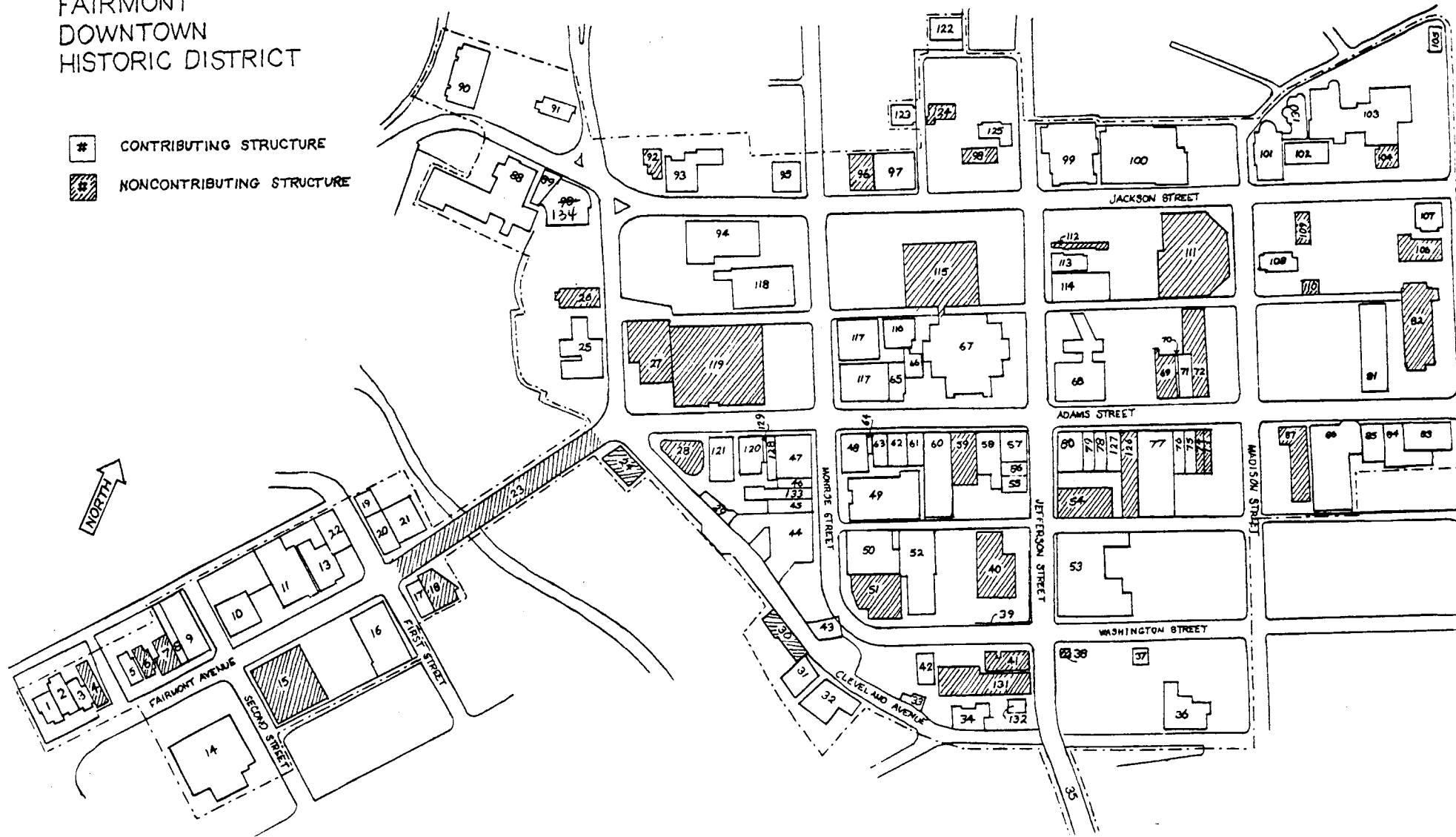
Beginning at the corner of Madison and Quincy, the boundary runs along the west side of Quincy to Washington St; thence westward along Washington to Madison; thence south along Madison to Cleveland; thence along both sides of Cleveland to Adams; thence across the Southside bridge to include properties along both sides of Fairmont Ave. between 1st and 3rd Sts.; thence along Cleveland to Jackson St.; thence eastward along the north side of Jackson St. to Madison; thence along the south side of Madison to Quincy. The district also includes the High Level Bridge, structure, and abutments at Jefferson.

Boundary Justification

The Fairmont Downtown Historic District incorporates the acreage that traditionally has served as the commercial and business core of the city. Generally, the boundary to the north reflects the demarcation point between the business section and hill residential section. Quincy St., to the east, is a major artery dividing the downtown from a residential section. The boundary along Cleveland follows a deep natural ravine. The three blocks along Fairmont Ave. are commercial extensions that have historical access to Adams St.

FAIRMONT DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

- # CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE
- ▨ NONCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE



FAIRMONT WEST QUADRANGLE
WEST VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW 1/4 FAIRMONT 15' QUADRANGLE

MORGANTOWN 16 MI.

RIVESVILLE 2.6 MI.

80°07'30"

39°30'

1993 11 SE
(RIVESVILLE)

FAIRMONT DOWN-
TOWN HISTORIC
DISTRICT —

MARION COUNTY,
W.VA.

- A. 17/573860/4371040
- B. 17/574000/4370740
- C. 17/573830/4370540
- D. 17/573560/4370540
- E. 17/573300/4370180
- F. 17/573200/4370250
- G. 17/573480/4370600
- H. 17/573340/4370780
- I. 17/574000/4370360

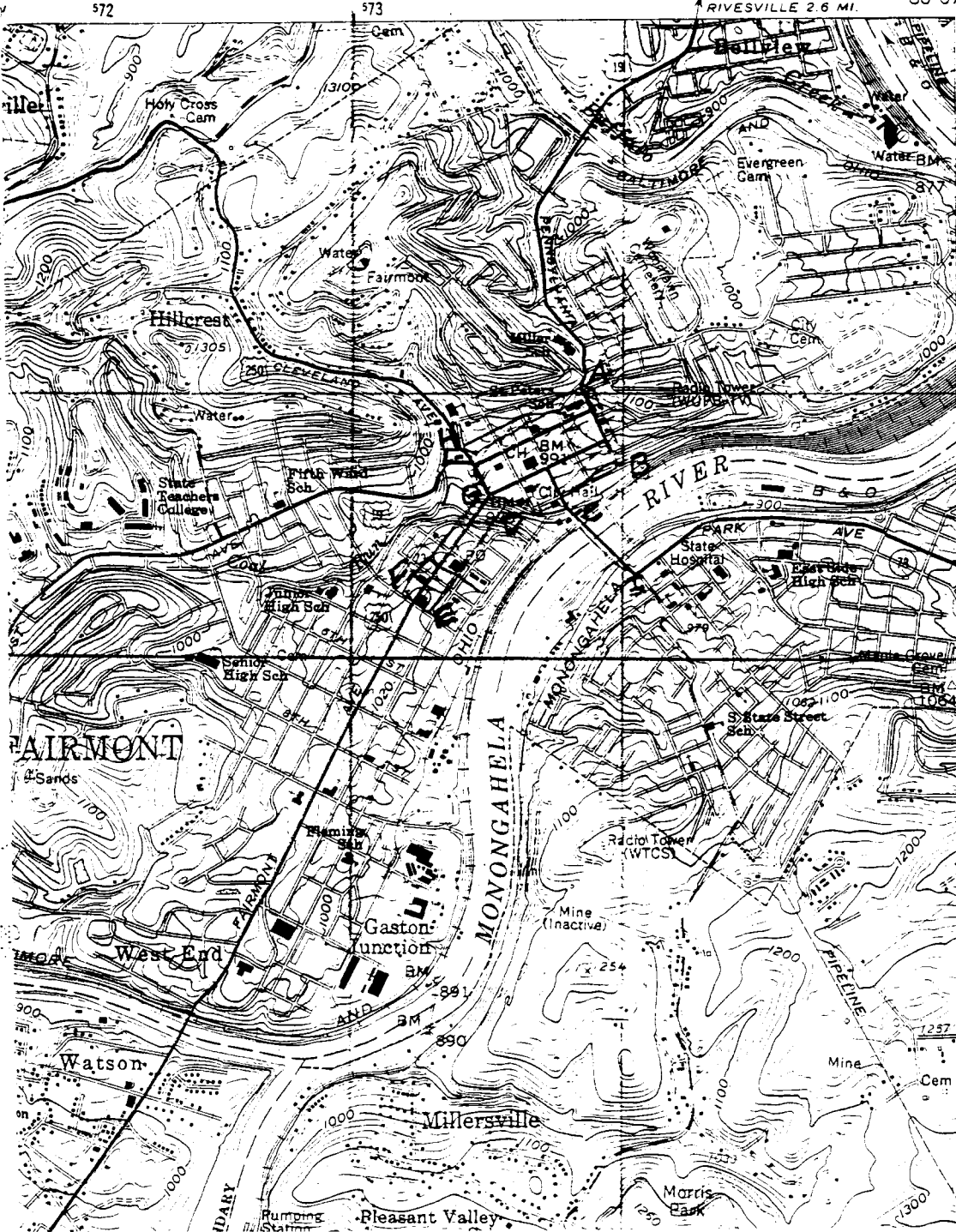
FEET

360 000

MEADOWDALE 3.2 MI.

MORGANTOWN 19 MI.

[72 ACRES
APPROX.]





FAIRMONT

LITTLE WOMEN
LION KING
JUNGLE BOOK
RICKIE
RICH

Hagen's

W. B. BROWN





