United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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5. Location of Legal Description	
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kanawha County Courthouse	
street & number Court and Virginia Streets	
city. town Charleston state West Vir	ginia
6. Representation in Existing Surveys	
South Hills Historic Resource title Survey has this property been determined eligible?	yes X no
date Summer, 1983federal X statecount	
depository for survey records Historic Preservation Unit, W.Va. Dept. of Culture & His	c to
city, town Charleston state West Virgin	S tory

7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Grosscup Road Historic District is a significant neighborhood of twenty two late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences. The houses were among the earliest built in South Hills, Charleston, West Virginia. They are architecturally and historically significant houses that were (and remain today) the residences of Charleston's prominent industrial, commercial and political families. Most of the area in the district was laid out in lots and sold by the Grosscup-Meyers Realty Company, and much of the architecture is the work of H. Rus Warne.

Grosscup, Roller and Roscommon Roads make up the Grosscup Road Historic District. Grosscup Road runs southeast to northwest on the ridge between Bridge and Louden Heights Road. Roller and Roscommon Roads are shorter. Along these roads, with the exception of the northeast side of Grosscup, the houses are on lots of less than one acre and have little setback.

Grosscup Road was appropriately called Grandview during the first years of the twentieth century. The houses on the northeast side of Grosscup Road were placed on the top of the ridge to command the view of the Kanawha River, Charleston's downtown, East End and Capitol area. It is on this side of the street that the more impressive homes stand. They are on lots that extend from Grosscup Road to Louden Heights or Bridge Road. The high ridge above the Kanawha River has a steep dropoff and therefore few obstacles inhibit the spectacular view.

There are a variety of architectural styles represented in the Grosscup Road Historic District. The nineteenth century houses provide a historical and architectural backdrop of Late Victorian frame houses. As development of Grosscup Road accelerated in the first decades of the twentieth century, large bungalows and superb Neo-Colonial houses were constructed. Ten of the twenty two houses were designed by eminent Charleston architect H. Rus Warne. These account for almost every house built between 1905 and 1920. Also featured in the Grosscup Road Historic District are the works of Baltimore architect Robert E. Lee Taylor (the Robert S. Spilman House) and Charleston architect Ludwig Theodore Bengston (the Harvey Hall House).

Of the twenty two houses, nine have pivotal status and ten have supporting status. This is based on the significance of their contributions to Charleston's and the district's architectural and historic background. Two houses are intrusive.

The Grosscup Road area was developed in the early twentieth century as a purely residential area. The residents were families of businessmen, attorneys, and men involved in the management of Charleston's newly developed industries. They worked in downtown Charleston or in its industrial suburbs. To get downtown they would walk or drive to the foot of the hill and cross the South Side Bridge. The trip to the suburbs and coal mines was more complicated, but roads and transportation were rapidly improving in the era of Grosscup's development. Many of the early residents owned automobiles.

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Two

Following is a house by house description of the homes in the Grosscup Road Historic District.

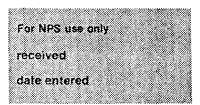
- l. Kelly/Wehrle House, 15 Grosscup Road, Pivotal, c. 1919. This is one of H. Rus Warne's later and more distinguished houses on Grosscup Road. It is in the Colonial Revival style and was inspired by a Hudson River house admired by W.C. Kelly, the original resident. It commands a spectacular view of the Kanawha River and Charleston's East End. According to many old-time Charleston residents, the picture window in the sunroom that displays this view was the first in Charleston. Reference is made to Roman Classicism by the two column Roman Doric two story portico on the entrance facade. The portico accentuates the symmetry of the house. The exterior walls are of wide cypress weatherboarding. The current owners are in the process of restoring the original landscape architecture. The house was built for William C. Kelly, Charleston's leading industrialist in the early twentieth century. He came to Charleston in 1904 to establish the plant for his internationally known Kelly Axe and Tool Company. Condition: excellent.
- 2. Warne-DePaulo-Ross House, 8 Grosscup Road, Pivotal, c.1910. Architect H. Rus Warne designed "Bon Aire" for himself and his family by building onto the frame house of Hon. James H. Ferguson, an attorney with an illustrious political career in West Virginia. The Warne House was nicknamed "The Sugarbowl" by the neighborhood because of its two colossal rounded porticoes on the east and west sides of the house. "Bon Aire" is a stucco house that is now painted light green. The DePaulo family divided the interior into a duplex. H. Rus Warne was one of West Virginia's earliest and most prominent architects. Condition: Excellent.
- 3. Hall-Thayer House, 6 Grosscup Road, Pivotal, 1932. Ludwig Theodore Bengston, a German born architect well established in Charleston, designed this exceptionally well built and stylistically interesting house. It is an English Tudor style house marked by steep gables, asymmetry and fine craftsmanship. The exterior fabric is coursed rubble stone and half timbered stucco. The roof is made of oak shingles. Surrounding the leaded windows are pillasters carved out of the unpainted wood surround. This house was built in bad times for West Virginia. Harvey Hall paid his construction workers minimally but housed and fed them in a temporary bunkhouse built on his lot. Condition: Excellent.

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Three

- 4. Ranch House, 12 Grosscup Road, Intrusion, 1980. Although it is of fine construction and design, this recently built ranch house does not contribute to the architectural or historical atmosphere of Grosscup Road. The house is a board and batten single story structure with a low pitched roof. It has a spectacular view of the Kanawha River and downtown Charleston. Condition: Excellent.
- 5. Weakland/Lawson House, 10 Grosscup Road, Supporting, c. 1920. Weakland was a general contractor in Charleston and it is likely that he designed and built the house. It is a stucco, two and a half story building with carved wood trim and leaded glass windows. Two large pavillions flank the entrance. Over the door is a carved wood panel. The house has a green tile gable roof. Condition: Excellent.
- 6. Scott/Faber House, Grosscup and Bridge Road, Supporting, 1902. Formerly the carriage house of the Scott/Southworth House, this building is now a small cottage. The alterations made around 1915, were designed by H. Rus Warne. Like the Scott/Southworth House, the exterior walls are of beveled siding. It has a front porch supported by two concrete beams and Roman Doric columns. Above the porch is a shingled shed dormer. It has two brick outside end chimneys and a gabled roof. Condition: Excellent.
- 7. Scott/Southworth House, Grosscup and Bridge Road, Pivotal, 1902. This large Late Victorian cottage is one of the earliest in the district. The porch wraps around two sides of the house and has wooden carved ionic colums and narrow turned ballusters. The exterior is of beveled weatherboarding with the exception of the shingle bay above the porch. Condition: Excellent.
- 8. Alvin, Sam McCorkle House, Grosscup and Bridge Road, Pivotal, 1895. The McCorkle House is a late Victorian frame house which commands one of the finest vistas of Charleston. It has a medium pitch hipped platform roof and walls of narrow weatherboards. The house has a five bay front porch that wraps around one and a half sides of the house. The porch roof is supported by squared, coupled columns on pedestals. Several interesting features are inside the house: The fireplaces on the first floor have large, ornate, Italian marble mantles that were acquired in the 1920's. Over the hall of the second story is an elaborately carved wooden arch. Alvin D. McCorkle was a Charleston City Judge. His grandson and family reside in the house today. Condition: Excellent.

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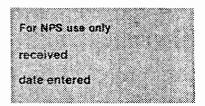
- 9. Jayne/Pausch House, 811 Bridge Road, Supporting, c. 1910. The Jayne/Pausch House was built with an English Tudor flavor and illustrates the stylistic variety of H. Rus Warne's architecture. It is a two and a half story stucco house with diamond shaped asphalt shingle roof. The entrance door is under a gabled hood and has side lights and a transom. The original resident was David A. Jayne, who opened West Virginia's first office for public accounting. Condition: Good.
- 10. Stolle/Surber House, 804 Bridge Road, Pivotal, c. 1893. This Late Victorian cottage features a rounded bay, front entrance porch, sawn wood decoration under the gables, and pendants in the dormer windows. Two unfortunate alterations have been made during its ninety year existence: Aluminum siding now covers the exterior and the fan-like porch brackets and posts have been replaced. The fish scale shingles of the bay remain. The first resident was Gustave Stolle, a German immigrant who owned Stolle and Son Jewelry Store. Condition: Fair.
- 11. <u>Dodson/Paterno House</u>, l Grosscup Road, <u>Supporting</u>, c. 1914. Architect: H. Rus Warne. Like many Dutch Colonial Revival houses, the Paterno residence incorporates Georgian detail. The predominant feature is the gambrel roof with deep overhang that forms the front porch. Coupled, squared columns support the overhang. The main entrance has side lights and an elliptical fan light. A wide shed dormer over the porch holds three windows. Condition: Godd.
- 12. Stucco House, 2 Grosscup Road, Supporting, c. 1916. This Dutch Colonial Revival house is less distinctive than the Dodson/Paterno house next door. The exterior wall fabric is unusually shaped stucco and weatherboarding. The house has a small entrance porch with a gambrel roof. Condition: Good.
- 13. Woodrow/Kilcollin House, 3 Grosscup Road, Supporting, c. 1916. The Woodrow/Kilcollin, Munse/Lewis and McClanahan/Goldman Houses form an interesting subset within the Grosscup Road Historic District. Paul B. Grosscup commissioned H. Rus Warne to design three homes that could be built for under \$4500 on adjacent lots. Despite the financial limit, these three homes are of significant quality. The Woodrow/Kilcollin House is a large two and half story bungalow. The 3/1 sash windows have false shutters, and in the gabled dormer are four narrow rectangular windows. Condition: Good.

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- 14. Munse/Lewis House, 4 Grosscup Road, Supporting, c. 1916. Except for the sheathing treatments, the Munse/Lewis House and Woodrow/Kilcollin House are exactly the same. The Munse/Lewis House has an English Tudor half timber veneer on the second story and brick on the first story. Like the Woodrow/Kilcollin House, it has 3/l sash windows and small rectangular dormer windows. Condition: Good.
- 15. McClanaham/Goldman House, 5 Grosscup Road, Supporting, c. 1916. The McClanaham/Goldman completes the three house set. Its exterior wall is constructed of wood shingles and its battered porch posts are brick. This house has a typically American Four Square shed dormer on the entrance facade. Raft beams are exposed and open, as they are in the Woodrow/Kilcollin House and Munse/Lewis House. The original resident was Preston M. McClanaham, a coal operator who came to West Virginia in 1916 to buy, sell and open coal mines. Condition: Excellent.
- 16. Grosscup, F.P./Bailey House, 7 Grosscup Road, Pivotal, c. 1918. The Fred Paul Grosscup House is a Colonial Revival, two and a half story wood shingle house with a red tile gable roof. The foundation is ashlar, and the garage is from the same material. The entrance has an elliptical fan light with tracery and side lights and is under a porticoed hood. Three gabled dormers hold arched windows. The red from the tile roof and shutters is picked up by the red brick driveway and walk. Fred Paul Grosscup (1854-1925) was one of Charleston's leading industrialists and land developers. Condition: Excellent.
- 17. Robertson-Smith House, 1 Roller Road, Supporting, c. 1915. The Robertson-Smith House is a large bungaloid American Four Square with stucco exterior walls and asphalt roof. The windows are 9/1 sash type and have false shutters. A broad shingle shed dormer with open rafter beams holds three casement windows. A portico with decorative iron work is over the main entrance. The first owner of this house was William S. Robertson, a Charleston physician. Condition: Good.
- 18. Roller/Blunden House, 3 Roller Road, Supporting, c. 1915. This two and a half story bungaloid American Four Square features a hipped dormer with open rafter ends. The once expansive front porch has been partially enclosed by aluminum siding walls and a bay window. The original part of the house has a weatherboard exterior. Robert Douglas Roller, Sr., was the rector of St. Johns Episcopal Church from 1888 to 1918. His son, Robert Douglas Roller, Jr., lived with his father. He was a doctor of internal medicine. Condition: Good.

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Six

- 19. Robertson/Davis House, 2 Roller Road, Supporting, c. 1925. Architect: H. Rus Warne. Dr. Robertson moved across the street to this house around 1925. It is a Colonial Revival house in a central block with rear wing. The entrance is porticoed and the door has side lights and rectangular transom. The house has 12/1 sash windows and gabled dormers. Asbestos siding now covers the house. Condition: Good.
- 20. Grosscup, P.B./Tierny House, 6 Roller Road, Pivotal, c. 1925. Architect: H. Rus Warne. Colonial and bungaloid features combine in this house to create one of Grosscup Roads more impressive homes. The pedimented single story entrance portico with coupled Roman Doric columns establishes a symmetry to the house. The front roof elevation features shingled shed dormers with simulated open rafter ends. An extended two story bay holds two large windows. It is a stucco house with simulated brick quoining. Paul B. Grosscup, the son of Fred Paul Grosscup, owned the Grosscup-Meyers Realty Company which developed what is now the Grosscup Road Historic District. Condition: Excellent.
- 21. Gordon C. Morton Home, 100 Roscommon Road, Intrusive, 1937. Though the relative late date of the house makes it intrusive, it is a rather well constructed and designed Dutch Colonial Revival house. An addition at the entrance is of inferior quality to the original part. Condition: Excellent.
- 22. Spilman Thomasson-Morgan House, 108 Roscommon Road, Pivotal, 1922. Architect: Robert E. Lee Taylor. This Dutch Colonial Revival is marked by two tall stone chimneys, flanking shed dormers and a broad shed dormer over a pent roof. The second story dormer is wood shingle and the remaining wall finish is stucco. Robert E. Lee Taylor was a well known Baltimore architect. The house was built for Robert Scott Spilman, a prominent Charleston attorney. Condition: Excellent.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art X commerce communications	community planning landscape architecture religion conservation law science economics literature sculpture education military social/ engineering music humanitarian exploration settlement philosophy theater industry Xpolitics government transportation invention X other (specify)	
Specific dates	1890-1932	Builder Architect H. Rus Warne, primary architect	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Grosscup Road Historic District in Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, is significant because it is a concentrated area of well preserved houses from Charleston's early suburbinization. The development of the area coincided with Charleston's "boom" years of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The early owners of these houses were families who achieved great wealth during this period. They were Charleston's powerful industrialists, businessmen and political leaders. The residences they built for themselves were fashionable, well constructed houses that today present a wide spectrum of architectural styles.

Charleston and the Kanawha River Valley experienced rapid growth and economic development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1873 the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad came to Charleston. The access to transportation and the abundant natural resources stimulated new industry and commerce. Charleston permanently regained its position as capital city of West Virginia in 1885.

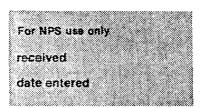
The coal and natural gas industries stimulated related enterprises. William C. Kelly moved his Kelly Axe and Tool Manufacturing Company to Charleston in 1904. Kelly built a large Colonial Revival House on Grosscup Road in 1919. Fred Paul Grosscup, another early resident of the Grosscup Road Historic District, established several natural gas utility companies.

The pivotal event in Charleston's industrial development was World War I. The Kanawha Valley's vast chemical industry that today has plants from Union Carbide, I.E. Dupont and Monsanto, was created to meet the war time demand of 1917. Industrial suburbs such as Nitro, Belle and Dunbar were developed to accommodate the plants and their workers.

It was during this period that Grosscup Road's development sky-rocketed. The old residential area of Charleston soon became inadequate to house the growing population. In 1880 Charleston had only 4192 residents. By 1900 it had grown to 11,099 and by 1920 Charleston was a city of 39,998 residents. The business district began to expand into the old residential section. This further aggravated the situation.

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In the 1890's, real estate speculators shrewdly bought the land of the hills across the Kanawha River. Robert S. Carr organized the South Charleston Improvement Company in 1891. This company owned almost the entire South Hills. Later, the Grosscup-Meyers Real Estate Company, owned by Paul B. Grosscup acquired all of what is now the Grosscup Road Historic District.

After the South Side Bridge was completed in 1891, South Hills, particularly the ridge overlooking the city, became attractive to Charleston residents. In 1907, South Hills was incorporated into the city.

The early residents of Grosscup, Roller, and Roscommon Roads were figures significant to Charleston's business and political activities. Hon. James H. Ferguson (1817-1898) was a Charleston lawyer with a lifetime spent in West Virginia's politics. He was a member of the West Virginia State Legislature in 1864 and played a large role in shaping the laws of the newly formed state. He lived in a frame house that was incorporated into the home of H. Rus Warne, at 8 Grosscup Road. Another important political figure was Joseph N. Kenna, who lived on Grosscup Road during the 1920's. Kenna was elected to the West Virginia Supreme Court in 1932.

Prominent business figures included William Allen Pugh, who bought W.C. Kelly's house. Pugh was the managing partner of Pugh Furniture Company and vice president of the Union Gas Companies. William C. Kelly, Paul B. Grosscup and Fred Paul Grosscup are described above.

H. Rus Warne, an early Grosscup Road resident and designer of ten houses in the Grosscup Road Historic District, was Charleston's earliest and most important architect. The Boone County Courthouse was designed by Warne and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Many public buildings in Charleston were designed by Warne. Most notable of these are the City Hall, Masonic Temple and Charleston High School.

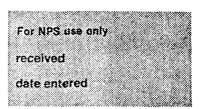
The Grosscup Road Historic District is significant as the residential development which resulted from the commercial and industrial boom Charleston experienced in the early twentieth century. The early residents were Charleston's powerful business and political leaders. The houses have been altered minimally over the years. The atmosphere of an early twentieth century neighborhood remains unspoiled.

9. Major Bib	liographica	l Referer	ices	
Interview with Ca Charleston City I		ly 30,1983.		
Charleston Daily	Mail, Kanawha Val	lley Progress	s Edition.	June 4,1939. e Stark, July 18,1983.
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organization		da	ate Sept. 20	,1983
street & number 4011 Ka	anawha Ave	te	lephone (304)	925-1456
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12. State Hi	storic Prese	ervation	Officer C	ertification
The evaluated significance o	of this property within the s	state is:		
national	state	Xlocal		
As the designated State Hist 665), I hereby nominate this according to the criteria and	property for inclusion in the procedures set forth by the	ne National Register ne National Park Ser	and certify that it h	nas been evaluated
State Historic Preservation (Officer signature KH	my Elstens	DSHPO. In	
itle State Historic P	reservation Officer	· V	date	December 12, 1983
For NPS use only				
I hereby certify that thi	s property is included in th	ne National Register		
Keeper of the National F	legister	·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·- ·	date	
Attest: Chief of Registration			date	

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Verbal Boundary Descriptioncontinued

west to east of lots along Grosscup Road No. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 32; and east to west along Roscommon Road and Grosscup Road Lots No. 30, 31, 80, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 48 and 47. Map of the Kanawha County Assessor, Charleston, W.Va., Map No. 2, 1th Ward-16, photo no. 1113, 4/15/1965.

GROSSCUP ROAD RISTORIC DISTRICT Charleston, West Virginia Pivotal structure Supporting structure Intrusion Boundary Scale 1 Inch Scott Road Grosscup Road

PROPOSED GROSSCUP ROAD HISTORIC DISTRICT Charleston, West Virginia Pivotal structure Supporting structure Intrusion Boundary Scott Road Grossup Road