

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

List, Henry K., House

AND/OR COMMON

Wheeling - Moundsville Chapter of the American Red Cross

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

827 Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Wheeling

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Ohio

CODE

069

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The American National Red Cross

Red Cross
Headquarters

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Wheeling - Moundsville Chapter, 827 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Wheeling

VICINITY OF

West Virginia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ohio County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1500 Chapline Street

CITY, TOWN

Wheeling

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey, HABS No. W. Va. - 208

DATE

Summer, 1976

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service

CITY, TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wheeling - Moundsville Chapter of the American Red Cross is headquartered in the house built for Henry Kilbourne List at 827 Main Street, Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia. The brick mansion has undergone few major alterations, retaining much of the dignified character typical of Main Street residences of mid-nineteenth century Wheeling.

Erected c. 1858, the List House stands in the formerly exclusive Main Street sector of Wheeling on a picturesque site overlooking the Ohio River a block north of the famous Wheeling Suspension Bridge that carried traffic of the National Road from East to West. Mr. List, a wealthy merchant and banker, commissioned a residence of the Romano-Tuscan mode of the Renaissance Revival style. The Italianate character of the building is only slightly modified with Adam style flourishes that are best represented in the short, enriched eaves and attenuated treatment of door and window casings.

The List House is a two-story square with an offset two-story rear wing. A low-pitched hip roof surmounted with a balustraded square cupola overlooks the gable roofed rear wing. Four pierced interior corner chimneys in the main block accentuate the symmetrical proportions of the building. Two chimneys of identical design stand above the middle bays of the rear wing.

The formal quality of the List House can be attributed, in part, to the tall double hung windows. Each window head is a wooden cornice embellished with wooden brackets; the same motif is carried out in the bracketed stone sills. Several windows on the north and south sides of the house retain their 19th century louvered shutters.

Beneath the eaves skirting the house is a unique series of bracket-like projections similar in spirit to the triglyphs of a Doric entablature. Instead of three parts, each unit is composed of two members tied together at the base by a wooden strip to form a row or band that is the principal ornament of the building's facade.

In 1957 the Red Cross carried out two front elevation structural alterations. The Victorian era veranda was replaced with a smaller central one-bay porch, and a Victorian oriel was removed from the front facade. The removal of the Victorian accretions does, however, reveal the probable original appearance of the building.

The outer double doors of the tiled entrance vestibule are of heavy hardwood construction with tall arched panels filled with carved wooden applique. The inner double doors contain glass panels. The doorknobs, fitted for 19th century use, are exceptionally low by today's standards.

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Rooms of the first floor open onto a center hall dividing the house front to rear. A two-flight open-string stairway dominates the rear of the hall and rises to a central hallway on the second floor. An extraordinary sense of formality pervades interior spaces marked by ceiling heights exceeding 17 feet. Wainscoting throughout the house is a tooled or pressed fabric or paper simulating leather. Ceilings are embellished with ornate plaster moldings once used for light fixture anchors. Forming a two foot frieze beneath the rooms cornices are intricate plaster reliefs of swags, garlands, whisks and foliated patterns. The finest of these relief bands is found in the rear first floor wing where foliated scrolls embrace romantic visages and bunches of fruit.

The tall windows and doors of the first floor interior are framed in a formal shouldered architrave trim. Single-shelf white marble mantles are seen in every room, most with mid-nineteenth century round openings.

The rear of the first floor center hall is dominated by a double doorway flanked with three panel sidelights. The doorway provides clues to the structural evolution of the house, and shelters colored glass panels of the highest artistic significance.

The doorway is surmounted on the west side with a bracketed cornice that, with the general plan of the doorway, is almost certainly the original rear entrance of the house. The sidelights are filled with red, blue, and red glass panels on each side and each centered with clear bunches of grapes. The cranberry and blue colors with grape motif is almost certainly glass made by the famous Sweeney of Wheeling. The double doors have stained glass panels of later addition.

The rear wing of the List House was probably erected in the late 1870s or early 1880s. The workmanship is very fine and follows closely the texture and materials used in the main unit. Of special interest in this regard is the ashlar block sandstone foundation that is identical in color and finish to the main unit foundation but pierced by a different size foundation vent. Moreover, while fireplaces throughout the house are white marble types, the fireplace of the first floor rear wing is black marble.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☒ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

When Henry K. List died on May 28, 1900, he left to his descendants a house rich in architectural detail and filled with local history. For most the local memories are forgotten, for like the man and the generations who knew him, all have passed away. Nevertheless, the great Renaissance Revival style mansion and the details that enrich it remains at 827 Main Street, Wheeling, as a statement of the tastes and fashions of a former time.

Mr. List commissioned a house in the Romano-Tuscan mode of the Renaissance Revival, similar in style to the Italianate villas of the time, but more refined in detail. Erected c. 1858 on a well sited residential lot, the mansion commands an excellent view of the Ohio River. Mr. List may well have observed the passage of river traffic to and from Wheeling from the windows of the cupola high above the roof.

An interest in river traffic would not have been unusual for a man associated with many business and bankings interests. Henry K. List invested in insurance, real estate, grocery wholesaling and iron and wool production.

Henry Kilbourne List was born October 20, 1821, at Wheeling, Virginia, the son of John and Ann Waite List, natives of England. John List was the first clerk and later cashier of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia at Wheeling. Daniel C., Mary, W. Eugene and R. H. List were other children of this marriage.

Henry K. List is said to have succeeded in business through his own efforts and without assistance from his parents. In the decade before the Civil War List became the senior partner in the wholesale grocery firm of List and Howell which dealt extensively in the Upper Ohio Valley. During the years immediately preceding the war, Mr. List was president of the Aetna Insurance Company of Wheeling.

After 1865, the grocery firm of List and Howell became the Henry K. List Co., and later the List, Morrison and Co. By 1885 Mr. List and his son Ambrose S. List had entered the banking business and secured the controlling interests in the City Bank of Wheeling. Henry .. served as its president until his death in 1900. The bank occupied a building at 1300 Market Street that was built through the enterprose of Mr. List. The six story structure was erected in 1891 and was the finest office building in the city.

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Henry K. List was well known as a philanthropist who contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to charities in West Virginia and other states. When he died he was accorded a special tribute in the May 29th, 1900, Wheeling Intelligencer by West Virginia Governor George W. Atkinson. The statement reads in part: "No man in Wheeling will be more generally missed and his death will therefore be universally deplored. He had no enemies and all who knew him were his friends. Along with many thousands of our people I feel that my best friend has gone. Peace to his ashes, rest to his soul."

The family home passed to Mrs. Sarah J. List who died in 1909. The house was then owned by a son Ambrose, a prominent Wheeling businessman, and by a daughter, Hettie. Neither married and continued to reside in the house until their deaths. Hettie List left the house to the Women's Club of Wheeling in 1941. In 1946 the building was purchased by the American Red Cross.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Atkinson, Geo. W. and Gibbens, Alvaro J. Prominent Men of West Virginia. W. L. Callin, Wheeling, W.Va. 1890, pp. 428-429.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Wheeling, W. Va. - Ohio

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24 000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 5,2,3 4,6,0 4,4 3,5 6,8,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is located on a city lot bound by Main Street to the east, the Ohio River to the west, the ramp of the Fort Henry Bridge (Interstate 70) to the south and a row of brick townhouses to the north.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Rodney S. Collins, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

DATE

West Virginia Department of Culture and History

February 8, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Capitol Complex

(304) 348-0244

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Charleston

West Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Clarence Morrow

TITLE West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE April 14, 1978

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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Wingerter, Charles A. History of Greater Wheeling and Vicinity.
Vol. I, Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1912, pp. 300, 304-307.

LIST, HENRY K. HOUSE,
WHEELING, OHIO COUNTY,
W. VA. UTM RECHLINES

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