

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: N/A

other name/site number: Kingwood Historic District

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2. Location

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street & number: not for publication: N/A

city/town: Kingwood vicinity: N/A

State: WV code: WV county: Preston code: 077

zip code: 26537

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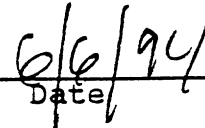
3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  locally.

(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

  
Signature of Certifying Official

  
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 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 State or Federal agency and bureau

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 4. National Park Service Certification  
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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 the Keeper Date

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 5. Classification  
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Ownership of Property:		Category of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply)		(Check only one box)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private		building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
	public-State		site
	public-Federal		structure
			object

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITH PROPERTY  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
103	59	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
103	59	TOTAL

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: McGrew house with two outbuildings.

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6. Function or Use  
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HISTORIC FUNCTIONS

Domestic; single dwelling, multiple dwelling  
Commerce/Trade; financial institution, department store, restaurant  
Education; school  
Government; county courthouse, jail  
Religion; religious facility

CURRENT FUNCTIONS

Domestic; single dwelling, multiple dwelling  
Commerce/Trade; financial institution, department store, restaurant  
Education; school  
Government; county courthouse, jail  
Religion; religious facility

=====  
7. Description  
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ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION:  
Mid 19th Century; Greek Revival  
Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements; Commercial  
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals; Colonial Revival  
Late Victorian; Italianate  
Late Victorian; Romanesque  
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals; Neo Classical Revival  
Modern Movement; Art Deco  
Late Victorian; Second Empire  
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals; Gothic Revival  
Late Victorian; Victorian Gothic  
Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements; Bungalow  
Early Republic; Federal  
Late Victorian; Queen Anne

MATERIALS:

Foundation: brick; stone; block.

Walls: brick; stone; wood.

Roof: asphalt; asbestos; metal; slate.

Other: N/A

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

X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X 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.)

Property is:

N/A A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

N/A B removed from its original location.

N/A C a birthplace or grave.

N/A D a cemetery.

N/A E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

N/A F a commemorative property.

N/A G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
Architecture  
Exploration/Settlement  
Politics/Government  
Commerce

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1830 - 1940.

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1859; 1878; 1903.

SIGNIFICANT PERSONS:  
Charles M. Bishop  
William Mercer Owens Dawson  
William Gustavus Conley  
James C. McGrew  
Jefferson S. Brown  
W.G. Brown

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:  
Francis J. Simmons  
Carl Reger

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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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.
- N/A previously listed in the National Register
- N/A previously determined eligible by the National Register
- N/A designated a National Historic Landmark
- N/A recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- N/A recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- X Other

Name of Repository:  
Main Street Kingwood  
PO Box 357  
Kingwood, WV 26537

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Approximately 8 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing		
	A.	17.	613210.	4369800.	B.	17.	613210.	4369550.
	C.	17.	612760.	4369550.	D.	17.	612720.	4369400.
	E.	17.	612640.	4369400.	F.	17.	612640.	4369800.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION  
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheets.)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION  
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheets.)

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Organization: N/A

Date: March 15, 1994

Street & Number: 612 Main Street Telephone: (304) 765-5716

City or Town: Sutton

State: WV

ZIP: 26601

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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.

**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:**

**Street & Number:**

**Telephone:** (    )

**City or Town:**

**State:**

**ZIP:**

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

The Kingwood Historic District is located on a rise along West Virginia Route 7. Route 7 runs through town and is the Main Street. The original town began in the bottom to the east of downtown, around a spring in the vicinity of Sigler Street, ran up the hill to Price Street, then continued to the west and Morgantown and Tunnelton. The historic district basically follows the same mapping as the original boundaries of the town. It is three blocks long (east-west) and two blocks wide, alley to alley; there is a southern leg that follows the Tunnelton Road (Tunnelton Street). The district consists of approximately 8 acres. The Preston County Courthouse stands in the middle of the downtown on the highest point. Across from the courthouse were situated the two banks in town. Adjacent to these and on the streets wrapping around the courthouse were the businesses of town.

Most of the structures in the district are commercial. Immediately adjacent to the commercial buildings in all directions there are residences. The commercial buildings are mostly two stories tall. There is an equal number of frame and masonry buildings. Many of the architectural styles of the late nineteenth century are represented as well as some of the early twentieth century.

The residential structures are mostly two-story detached with gable or hip roofs. They usually have front, rear, and side yards. Again, there is an almost equal split between frame and masonry structures. The styles of many of the residential buildings more reflect Kingwood's early history in the period between 1830 and 1870. There are also a number of later periods represented. There are a number of side gable, two-story houses with Greek Revival or Italianate detailing. These reflect the middle nineteenth century development and the railroad influence in the town. One detail that repeats itself often in the town is the second floor gangs of three windows. These consist of a center wide window flanked by narrower windows. Usually there is also a first floor door with sidelights beneath this. An interesting observation is that this pattern is even repeated in some of the commercial buildings, such as the west elevation windows on the Kingwood National Bank building.



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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

Of the buildings reviewed, 103 are considered to contribute to the historical or architectural significance of the historic district; 59 are considered to not contribute due to their more modern construction period or the number of alterations.

Some of the more prominent buildings include:

The Preston County Courthouse, No. 14, 1934. This is a good example of the Art Deco or Public Style building that was popular in the 1930's. There are only a few of this type of courthouse in the state. It is constructed of a beautiful pink sandstone. The massing is a basic rectangular block. This is divided into vertical bands by pilasters that extend above the cornice line and are capped with stylized geometric chamfered capitals. There are large windows between the pilasters on each floor. The actual windows are not original but the openings are. On the courthouse lawn is a cannon that was fired at Fort Sumter during the Civil War and an obelisk with sculpture to the Union.

The Kingwood National Bank building, No. 1. This is a fine two-story, Romanesque Style structure with rusticated ashlar stone facades. It was constructed in 1908. The stone was locally quarried. The more prominent features include the second floor balcony/porch above the corner entrance door. This is carved from stone as well. There are square pilasters that have ornately carved Corinthian composite capitals. On the west elevation, second floor, there is a bank of three windows separated by stone column mullions with carved capitals. The main cornice of the building is a simple but massive affair with curved brackets.

The James McGrew house, No. 39, 1841. The McGrew house is significant for a number of reasons and is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an interesting two-story, masonry house with apparently at least two major construction periods. There are brackets in the eaves and a wraparound porch on the first floor. The rear has a porch as well that connects to a two-story outbuilding. There is a garage and a large carriage house on the grounds also.

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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

The C.M. Bishop residence, No. 76. This is a large residence constructed in 1872. The current configuration appears to indicate that there was a major addition at some time since the original construction, probably ca. 1910. The basic mass of the house is a side gable, two-story with a rear extension. There is an overhang on the eaves and this has paired scroll brackets. There are two central chimneys. This would fit the early period and be considered an Italianate Style house. This is similar to a number of other houses in the town. What is presumed to be the additions are the front two-story portico and one-story porch. The porch has rounded turrets at each end. The east one is open, while the west one is an enclosed room. The major element of the house is the massive portico. This has a shallow, hip roof supported by a large entablature with dentils. The entablature is supported by fluted columns with highly elaborate Corinthian capitals. Within this oversize portico that covers the center bay of the house, is an entrance portico with a rounded porch on the second floor. These later additions are in the Neo Classical Revival Style.

The Preston Academy, No. 42, 1842, is an interesting example of the Second Empire Style of building. It has a shallow roof with a mansard section. This mansard has dormers. There are simple scroll brackets beneath the mansard.

One of the more interesting of the buildings is the IOOF Lodge, No. 87, ca. 1860. This is a simple two-story residential building, side gable. It is actually a typical five bay Greek Revival building with an additional two bays on the west end. It is sided with a non-significant material, asphalt "bricks", but the basic massing of the original building is evident.

The Bank of Kingwood, No. 30, 1900. This is an interesting Neo Classical Revival building with a bit of Sullivanesque massing and detailing. There is a large center pedimented portico supported by columns with a wide entablature. Within this portico there is a massive arched opening. The facade is smooth faced brick.

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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

The Bishop Block, No. 7, 1877, is a good example of the Italianate Commercial Style that is prevalent in the district. It is a two-story, frame commercial block. The most prominent feature is the ornate cornice with scroll brackets. This is similar to many other buildings in the district including the Chamber of Commerce building, No. 33; Bishop Building, No. 6; and Hall's Floorcoverings building, No. 9. They all have the cornice with the scroll saw cut scroll decoration in the frieze area.

The Presbyterian Church, No. 89, 1878, is a good example of Gothic Revival architecture with the tall steeple, steep pitched roof, pointed arch windows, and side buttresses.

The Methodist Church, No. 17, 1879, is a good example of the Victorian Gothic Style. The roof is less steep than the Gothic Revival and has two dissimilar towers. The towers have crenelated parapets. There is a large trefoil center pointed arch window in the gable end. There are also interesting triangular shaped windows in the attic spaces of the gable ends and in one of the towers. The rake of the main gable has corbeled brick brackets.

Two more recent, though nonetheless significant, buildings in town are the Wilson building, No. 4, 1930, and Loar's Service Station, No. 15, 1927, on Price and High Streets. These both are significant examples of the architecture for that period and the development of the town during that period. The Hardware building is a two-story, brick commercial building. It has intact leaded glass transom windows in an Art Nouveau style. The building is reminiscent of the Bungalow Style or Arts and Crafts Style with its red barrel tile roofed mansard/awning along the entire front facade at the second floor. This is typical of railroad town architecture. The gas station is similar in character with its tile roof and the roof extension that covered the pumps. These are an extant remnant of that period in Kingwood's history.

Kingwood's early settlement period is represented by the extant sites in the vicinity of Main and Morgan Streets. This is the location of the spring where the early settlers of the town located. The spring, No. 114, behind what was High Morgan's first

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Kingwood Historic District  
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house, is still extant in this location. The Varner house, No. 63, 1850, is a good example of early 19th century Greek Revival/Federal Style. The Williams house, No. 57, 1830, is another good example of this period.

Along Tunnelton Street, to the south, is located a concentration of late 19th century, large, Victorian Style residences. These are very good examples of the styles of this period. They include: the Wilhelm/Watson house, No. 99, 1890, is a good example of the Queen Anne Style with Eastlake porch details and German siding; the Conley house, No. 100, 1903, is an example of the Gothic Revival Style with its steep gables; and the Wilson house, No. 101, ca. 1895, is one of the best Queen Anne Style residences in the region. It has an interesting irregular massing with a mixture of gable and shed roofs. There is a large onion dome tower on one corner and the gable end and the tower siding is diamond pattern wood shingles.

Another characteristic feature in the town's landscape is the preponderance of stone walls for retaining walls and fence walls. There is a good amount of excellent stone work in the town's buildings, such as the facades, foundations, and chimneys. There are also a number of walls as reminders of the quarry and the masons of the past.

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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

The following is a list of sites in the historic district. There are 162 sites in the district. 103 are considered to be contributing and 59 are considered non-contributing. Numbers refer to the accompanying sketch map.

1. Main St. - Kingwood National Bank building. 1908. Two-story, stone with corner entrance. Heavy rusticated ashlar stone quarried locally. Second floor window has columned mullion with Corinthian carved capitols. Cornice with stone brackets, carved composite pilaster caps, and stone balustrade over entrance. Arched windows on second floor with stone surrounds. Romanesque Style. Contributing.
2. Price St. - Herring building. 1913. Three-story, stone. Stone lintels and sills. 1/1 windows. Stone brackets in cornice. Romanesque/Commercial Style. Contributing.
3. Price St. - The Shoppes. 1925. Two-story, stone with stone lintels and sills. Two storefronts. Commercial Style. Contributing.
4. Price St. - Wilson building. Ca. 1930. Two-story, red brick. Three storefronts. Decorative leaded glass in transom area. Red clay tile mansard supported by heavy brackets. Metal casement windows. Bungalow/Arts and Crafts Style. Contributing.
5. Price St. - Martin building. 1908. Three-story, blonde brick. Stone lintels and sills. Corner entrance with storefront. Metal bracketed cornice. Neo Classical Revival Style. Contributing.
6. Price St. - Bishop building. 1888. Two-story, wood frame. One storefront. 2/2 windows. Second story covered with siding. Commercial Style. Contributing.

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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

7. Price St. - Bishop Block. 1877. Two-story, wood frame. Two storefronts. Decorative cornice with cut out scroll work and scroll brackets. 2/2 windows. Italianate Style. Contributing.
8. Price St. - "Kingwood Floral." 1948. One-story, red brick. Modern. Non-contributing.
9. Price St. - "Hall's FloorCovering." Two-story, two bay, wood frame. Stone veneer on front elevation, german siding on side elevation. Central storefront. Decorative cornice with cut out scroll work and brackets. Italianate Style. Contributing.
10. Price St. - "Office Bar." "Argus." Three-story, three bay, wood frame. Central entrance. Cornice over storefront. German siding. Italianate Style. Contributing.
11. Price St. - Two-story, two bay, wood frame. Central storefront with transom windows. Decorative cornice with cut out scroll work and brackets. German siding. 2/2 windows with dentils. Italianate Style. Contributing.
12. Price St. - "Mary S. Paul." ca. 1940. One-story, brick. Two storefronts. Non-contributing.
13. Price St. - Brown building. 1889. Two-story, wood frame. Decorative cornice with scroll work and brackets. Corner entrance. Stone veneer on first floor, asbestos shingle siding on second. Italianate Style. Contributing.
14. Main St. - County Courthouse. 1934. Art Deco Style. Contributing. 14A - Soldier's Monument - contributing.
15. High St. - Westbrook Esso Station Museum. Loar's Service Station. 1927. One-story. Red, clay tile, hip roof with projecting porte cochere/canopy over gas pumps. Contributing. 15A - one-story, concrete block garage with two bays - non-contributing.

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Kingwood Historic District  
Preston County, West Virginia

16. 105 High St. - One-story, molded block building faced with enameled, metal tile. Art Moderne Style. Contributing. 16A - one-story, concrete block garage - non-contributing.
17. High St. - Wesley United Methodist Church. 1879. Red brick. End gable with two towers. Towers are different heights and have crenelated parapets. Pointed arch windows have stone surrounds. Rake on gable is corbeled brick brackets. Interesting trefoil windows in gable end and over entrance door. Victorian Gothic Style. Contributing.
18. 109 High St. - Methodist Church parsonage. 1906. Two-story, red brick. 1/1 windows. Hip roof with gable dormers. Palladian window in front door. Front wraparound porch with standing seam metal roof and Doric columns. Four Square Style. Contributing. 18A - concrete block garage - non-contributing.
19. 113 High St. - ca. 1860. Two-story, side gable residence. Painted brick. Five bays. Partial return cornice. One-story, entrance portico. Entrance door has multi-paned flat transom. Greek Revival Style. Contributing. 19A - concrete block residence - non-contributing.
20. 115 High St. - ca. 1925. Two-story, end gable residence. Stucco. One-story, front porch with stucco posts and balustrade. Bungalow Style. Contributing.
21. 117 High St. - Two-story, red brick residence. Hip roof. Very modified. Non-contributing. 21A - garage - non-contributing.
22. 119 High St. - Crogan house. Two-story, side gable residence with front intersecting gable. Two chimneys. 6/1 windows. Wrap-around, front porch with shingle siding and square posts. Shingle Style. Contributing. 22A - concrete block garage - non-contributing. P.J. Crogan was a builder and prosecuting attorney.
23. 114 High St. - Two-story, "T" residence. Shallow hip roof. End projection has chamfered sides. Italian Villa Style. Contrib-

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uting. 23A - concrete block garage - non-contributing.

24. 112 High St. - Two-story, "T" residence. Side gable, entrance, one-story porch with enclosed balustrade. 2/2 windows. Vernacular Style. Ca. 1900. Contributing.

25. 110 High St. - Two-story, red brick residence. Hip roof with front hip dormer. Hip roof, front porch with square, brick posts. 1/1 windows. Four Square Style. Ca. 1925. Contributing.

26. 108 High St. - Two-story, end gable residence. Triple windows in gable ends. Shingled gable ends. Enclosed front porch. Stucco. One chimney. Four Square Style. Ca. 1925. Contributing. 26A - one car garage - contributing.

27. 106 High St. - Two-story, side gable residence. 1/1 windows. Hip roof, front porch with Doric columns. Entrance door has flat transom and sidelights. Greek Revival Style. Ca. 1860. Contributing. 27A - brick garage - non-contributing.

28. 104 High St. - Two-story, "T" residence. Clapboard. Two chimneys. One-story, front porch with turned posts. Front gable projection has three sided, one-story bay with brackets and 3/1 and novelty windows. Italianate Style. Ca. 1890. Contributing. 28A - concrete block garage - non-contributing.

29. Main St. - New bank building. Non-contributing.

30. Main St. - Bank of Kingwood. 1900. This is an interesting Neo Classical Revival building with a bit of Sullivanesque massing and detailing. There is a large center pedimented portico supported by columns with a wide entablature. Within this portico there is a massive arched opening. The facade is a smooth faced brick. Contributing.

31. Main St. - Journal building. 1880. Two-story, wood frame completely sided. New storefront with brick veneer. Commercial Style. Contributing.



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Kingwood Historic District  
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32. Main St. - The Inn. 1859. Two-story, five bay, side gable, red brick. 1/1 windows with stone lintels and sills. Triple window on second floor. Entrance door has transom and sidelights. One-story, hip roof porch with Doric columns. Federal Style. Contributing.
33. Main St. - Chamber of Commerce/Knights of Pythias. Two-story, wood frame. Aluminum siding. Decorative cornice with brackets. 2/2 windows. First floor storefront. Italianate Style. 1886. Contributing.
34. 3 W. Main St. - Two-story, commercial building. Central storefront. Stone veneer on first floor, siding on second. Non-contributing.
35. Main St. - "True Test Paints." One-story, red brick, commercial building. Modern. Non-contributing.
36. Main St. - "Naylor's Hardware." ca. 1940. Two-story, wood frame. Modern, metal storefront. Stone veneer on front elevation, aluminum siding elsewhere. Contributing.
37. Main St. - WVU Extension Office. One-story, block building. Modern. Non-contributing.
38. Main St. - Jail. 1925. Large, two-story, hip roof, stone building. Front shed roof dormer. Front, one-story porch with thick Doric columns. Scroll brackets. 8/8 windows. Rusticated ashlar stonework. Four Square with Colonial Revival Style details. Contributing. Carl Reger, architect. 38A - new concrete block jail addition in rear - non-contributing.
39. Main St. - James McGrew residence. 1841. Two-story, red brick. 2/2 windows. Italianate Style. Contributing. 39A - brick outbuilding - contributing. 39B - outbuilding - contributing. Individually listed on the National Register.
40. Center Alley - Old Hospital building. 1905. Two-story, masonry building with shallow hip roof. There is a projecting bay on

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Kingwood Historic District  
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the west side of the front elevation. The second floor window of the bay has an arched cartouche. Colonial Revival Style. Contributing. 40A - concrete block garage - non-contributing.

41. High St. - Old High School. 1922. Neo Colonial Revival Style. Contributing. Francis J. Simmons, architect. 41A - Shop building - non-contributing.

42. High St. - Preston Academy. 1841. Two-story, brick with a mansard roof and arched dormers in the mansard. The mansard has shingles and beneath it is a deep cornice with scroll brackets. Second Empire Style. Contributing.

43. Tunnelton St. - Apartment buildings. Ca. 1960. Two-story, brick apartment building with separate entrances for each bay with pediments. Colonial Revival Style. Non-contributing.

44. High St. - Two-story, "T" residence with stucco siding. Heavy paired scroll brackets in deep cornice. Window hoods. Front, one-story porch. Arched windows in gable end attics. Italianate Style. 1875. Contributing. 44A - gambrel roof garage - contributing.

45. Tunnelton St. - ca. 1910. Four Square with projecting gable ends that have closed pediments. Full, one-story, wraparound porch with Doric columns and hip, metal roof. Shingles in gable ends. Slate roof. Asbestos shingle siding. Contributing.

46. Tunnelton St. - Dorsey house. Ca. 1920. German sided residence. Stone foundation. Novelty window in front. Intersecting gable roofs. Front entrance portico. 1/1 windows. Vernacular Style. Contributing. 46A - garage - contributing.

47. Tunnelton St. - One-story, block garage. Non-contributing.

48. Tunnelton St. - Two-story, end gable commercial building with false parapet. Enclosed porch on second floor. Recessed storefront. Ca. 1910. Contributing. 48A - garage - non-contributing.

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49. Center Alley - ca. 1940. One-story, commercial building. Block construction with brick front and glass block. Commercial Style. Contributing.
50. Center Alley - 1952. One-story, concrete block, commercial building with brick facade. Non-contributing.
51. Tunnelton St. - Small, one-story, garage/shed with vinyl siding. Non-contributing.
52. Tunnelton St. - Two-story, Four Square Style residence. Hip roof. Sided with vinyl. Non-contributing.
53. Main St. - Two-story, hip roof residence. Deep cornice with scroll brackets. Palladian window in projecting bay and gable end. Bay has three sides. Front, one-story, front porch wraps to the east with a chamfered corner with pediment over entrance. Porch supported with square, brick posts. Blonde brick. Standing seam metal roof on porch. Four Square Style. Contributing. 53A - board and batten shed - contributing. 53B - two car garage - contributing.
54. Main St. - Ca. 1910. Small, one and one-half-story, end gable residence. Victorian Gothic Revival. Contributing.
55. Main St. - Small, side gable, two-story residence. Non-contributing.
- 55A. - Trailer. Non-contributing.
56. Price St. - Old City Hall. Two-story, side gable. Enclosed windows. Police station on first floor. Non-contributing.
57. Main St. - Williams house. 1830. Two-story, side gable residence with asbestos siding. 4/1 windows. Entrance portico. Greek Revival Style. Contributing. 57A - garage - non-contributing.
58. Main St. - New, concrete block, commercial structure with front brick veneer. Non-contributing.

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59. 106 E. Main St. - 1906. "Hometown Hot Dogs." Two-story, end gable with metal roof. Brick, warehouse, commercial building. Partial return cornice. First floor storefront non-original. Rear intersecting gable. 59A - house/garage - contributing. 59B - white stucco outbuilding - non-contributing. Commercial Style. Contributing.

60. Main St. - Ca. 1910. "Village Mall." Large, end gable warehouse/mill/commercial building. Three bays by eight. Pressed metal and asbestos shingle siding. 6/6 windows. Metal roof. Commercial Style. Contributing. 60A - storage barn - contributing. 60B - warehouse - non-contributing.

61. Center Alley - ca. 1920. Small, side gable, one-story residence on raised basement. Garage in basement. Enclosed porch. Vernacular Style. Contributing.

62. Main St. - New bank drive-in facility. Non-contributing.

63. 115 Main St. - Varner house. Ca. 1850. Two-story, side gable, brick residence. Three bays wide. Second floor central triple window. Door has sidelights. Stone foundation. Greek Revival Style. Contributing.

64. Main St. - Two-story, side gable residence with vinyl siding. Stone foundation. Asphalt roof. 1/1 windows. One-story, front porch with Doric posts and enclosed balustrade. Contributing.

65. Main St. - New car dealership. Non-contributing. 65A - metal garage building - non-contributing.

66. Main St. - Brick, commercial building. Bank. Non-contributing.

67. Main St. - Modern, one-story residence with raised basement. Non-contributing.

68. Main St. - Ca. 1920. Two-story, hip roof residence. Enclosed front porch which wraps around to side. Clapboard siding. Hip

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roof dormer. Four Square Style. Contributing.

69. Main St. - Ca. 1910. Bungalow Style. Small, side gable residence. Molded block foundation. 2/2 windows. Asphalt roof. Contributing.

70. Main St. - Charley Craig house. Ca. 1915. Two-story, blonde brick residence with stone lintels. Projecting gable end bay with shingles. Front, one-story porch has fluted slender columns on brick piers. Porch steps have concrete bollards. Queen Anne Style. Contributing.

71. Center Alley - Large, two-story, office building. Non-contributing.

72. Center Alley - Ca. 1935. One and one-half-story, stucco residence with intersecting gable roof. Art Deco Style. Contributing.

73. Center Alley - Ca. 1930. One and one-half-story, side gable residence with enclosed porch. Stone foundation. Bungalow Style. Contributing.

74. Center Alley - Ca. 1900. Small, one-story, end gable garage type building. Pressed metal roof. Clapboard siding. Vernacular Style. Contributing.

75. High St. - Julius Monroe house. Ca. 1910. Two-story, "L" residence. 6/6 windows. Side gable entrance. Partial returns on end gable of projection. First floor bay on projection with hip roof, three sided. Multi-paned windows. Spoke round headed window in gable end. Entrance has interesting arched pediment hood, fluted engaged pilasters and multi-paned transom. Colonial Revival Style. Contributing. Monroe surveyed the West Virginia/Maryland border.

76. 121 E. High St. - The C.M. Bishop residence. This is a large residence constructed in 1872. The current configuration appears to indicate that there was a major addition at some time since the original construction, probably ca. 1910. The basic mass of

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the house is a side gable, two-story with a rear extension. There is an overhang on the eaves and this has paired scroll brackets. There are two central chimneys. This would fit the early period and be considered an Italianate Style house. This is similar to a number of other houses in the town. What is presumed to be the additions are the front, two-story portico and one-story porch. The porch has rounded turrets at each end. The east one is open, while the west one is an enclosed room. The major element of the house is the massive portico. This has a shallow, hip roof supported by a large entablature with dentils. The entablature is supported by fluted columns with highly elaborate Corinthian capitals. Within this oversize portico that covers the center bay of the house, is an entrance portico with a rounded porch on the second floor. These later additions are in the Neo Classical Revival Style. Contributing. 76A - concrete block building - non-contributing. 76B - concrete block outbuilding - non-contributing. 76C - wood outbuilding - contributing.

77. High St. - One-story, side gable residence. Vernacular Style. Non-contributing.

78. 114 High St. - One-story, end gable residence. Turned porch posts. Ca. 1920. Vernacular Style. Contributing.

79. High St. - Two-story, end gable residence. Front, wraparound, one-story porch with turned posts. Ca. 1920. Vernacular Style. Contributing. 79A - one-story garage - non-contributing.

80. 110 High St. - One and one-half-story, cross gable, brick residence. Ca. 1950. Art Deco Style. Non-contributing.

81. High St. - Two-story house with a hip roof with projecting gable bay on end. Prime siding, newer porches. Ca. 1925. Contributing.

82. 106 High St. - Two-story residence. "L" shape with steep gable dormers. Stucco siding. Front, one-story porch in crook of ell has shingle siding. Gothic Revival Style. Ca. 1920. Contributing.

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83. 117 High St. - Two-story, "L" shape house with one-story porch. Vinyl siding. Stone foundation. Vernacular Style. Ca. 1920. Contributing.
84. High St. - New, two-story apartment. Non-contributing.
85. 113 High St. - One and one-half-story Bungalow. Side gable with broad roof that continues over the porch. Shed dormer on most of front. Brackets and purlins on overhang. Clapboard siding. 6/1 windows. Ca. 1930. Bungalow Style. Contributing. L.M. Albright - builder.
86. 109-111 High St. - Two-story, end gable with one-story, hip roof porch with square Doric columns. Enclosed balustrade on porch. Overhang of roof has purlins and brackets. Molded block foundation. Bungalow Style. Ca. 1925. Contributing. L.M. Albright - builder.
87. 107 High St. - IOOF building. Two-story, side gable with shallow roof. Original five bays with a center entrance and the common triple windows on the second floor with the west two bay addition. The front, one-story porch is on the east portion of the house. It has square porch posts on brick piers. The house is sided with asphalt "brick". Roof is standing seam metal, painted with asphalt. Front door has sidelights and transom. Ca. 1860. Greek Revival Style. Contributing.
88. 105 High St. - Heirshman house. Two-story house with hip roof. Vinyl siding. Front, enclosed porch. Central chimney. Four bays wide. Very shallow roof. Greek Revival Style. Ca. 1870. Contributing.
89. High St. - United Presbyterian Church. Gothic Revival Style. Steep, end gable pitched roof. One steeple on the west side of the front. The steeple is tall and steeply pitched with hooded dormers. The roofing of the steeple is flat seam metal. Windows are pointed arch trefoil. There are brick buttresses on the side elevation. The bell tower has three pointed arch windows on each side. 1878. Contractor was D.A. Spriggs from Grafton, WV.

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Contributing.

90. Price St - Two-story, Commercial Style building. Flat roof. Brick. Eight bays wide. One garage entrance and one storefront on first floor. Metal casement windows. Ca. 1940. Contributing.

91. Price St - Carport. Non-contributing. Garage to #93.

92. Brown Ave. - Frank Carroll house. Two-story, blonde brick, Bungalow Style residence. Asphalt roof. Brackets and purlins. Brick piers on porch overhang. 1/1 windows. Ca. 1925. Contributing.

93. Brown Ave. - One-story, modern, brick residence. Ca. 1950. Non-contributing.

94. 104 Brown Ave. - H.S. Whetsell house. Two-story, Four Square Style residence with steep gable dormer with scroll work. Gothic detailing. Small scroll brackets in cornice. Paired, paneled, battered porch posts on enclosed balustrade. Balustrade enclosed with vinyl siding. 1/1 windows. Stone foundation. Entrance door with fan lights and sidelights. Ca. 1915. Contributing. 94A - steep, shed roof garage - contributing. Whetsell was editor of the Journal.

95. 106 Brown Ave. - Phil Contic house. One-story, Bungalow Style residence. Clapboard siding with corner boards with caps. Wood shingles in gable end. Corner porch with large, battered, square posts. Side porch has transom. Ca. 1925. Contributing.

96. 110 Brown Ave. - Two-story, Second Empire Style building. Relocated from Main Street, ca. 1910. Barrel roof dormers. Bell cast in mansard. One-story, porch has non-original square posts. Pedimented entrance porch with stucco. Aluminum siding. 1/1 windows. Ca. 1870. Contributing. 96A - two-story, concrete block garage/apartment - non-contributing. 96B - two-story, stucco garage/apartment, Bungalow Style - contributing.



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97. 116 Brown Ave. - One-story, stone, modern, Colonial Revival Style residence. Ca. 1950. Non-contributing. 97A - two-story, garage/apt. - non-contributing.
98. 118 Brown Ave. - Bob Childs house. Two-story, "T" residence. Aluminum siding. Enclosed porch. Concrete block foundation. Asphalt roof. Ca. 1925. Non-contributing.
99. 207 Brown Ave. - Judge Cecil Wilhelm/Watson house. Two-story, Queen Anne Style residence. German siding. Asphalt roof. Eastlake detailing in porch and corner turreted porch. Brackets with finials in bay on front. Bullseye corner blocks. Stone foundation. Ca. 1890. Contributing. 99A - one-story, concrete block garage - non-contributing.
100. 301 Tunnelton St. - Governor Conley house. Two-story, Gothic Revival Style residence. Hip roof with steep, intersecting gables. Gables have metal shingles. Asphalt roof. German siding. 2/2 windows. Front porch is one bay wide with four, chamfered posts and cut-out brackets. Three bays by three. Tripartite window on second floor in front. 1903. Contributing. 100A - rear, one bay garage - contributing. Gus Schaffer - builder. Mr. Schaffer had his feed mill across the street from this house.
101. 303 Tunnelton St. - Wilson house. Queen Anne Style residence with onion dome. Stone foundation. Asphalt roof. Ca. 1895. Contributing. 101A - two-story garage -non-contributing.
102. Tunnelton St. - William G. Brown house. Two-story, brick residence. 1878. Italianate Style. Contributing. 102A - one-story shed - contributing. 102B - one-story apartment house - non-contributing. 102C - one-story garage - non-contributing. 102D - hexagonal, steep roof, well house - contributing. 102E - servants quarters - contributing. Stone retaining wall.

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103. 309 Tunnelton St. - Stone, Colonial Revival Style residence. 1941. Contributing. Attached garage with weatherboard siding. Nice stone gates.
104. Sigler St. - Feed & Seed Store. Non-contributing.
105. Sigler St. - Modern, gas station. Non-contributing.
106. 118 High St. - Michaelson house. Permastone and aluminum residence. Ca. 1870. Contributing. 106A - outbuilding - contributing.
107. Sigler St. - Shingle Style residence. One and one-half-story. Asphalt roof. Very modified. Ca. 1930. Non-contributing.
108. Tunnelton St. - One-story, brick, commercial building. Ca. 1950. Non-contributing.
109. Tunnelton St. - Two-story, Queen Anne Style residence. Vinyl siding. Stone foundation. 1/1 windows. Standing seam metal roof. Contributing. 109A - One-story, frame garage - contributing.
110. 200 E. High St. - Two-story, side gable residence. Standing seam metal roof. Asbestos shingle siding. 1/1 windows with shutters. Greek Revival Style. Ca. 1860. Contributing. 110A - Two-story, board and batten slave quarters - contributing. 110B - One-story, clapboard sided outbuilding - contributing. Italian stonemasons lived here at one time.
111. 201 E. High St. - Dr. Rudisell house. Two and one-half-story, Queen Anne Style residence with corner turret. Clapboard siding. One-story, front porch with Doric posts. Second story porch on front. Arched windows in attic. Ca. 1895. Contributing. 111A - garage - non-contributing. 111B - frame shed - contributing.
112. 202 E. High St. - "Preston Energy"/Hanst house. Two-story, side gable. 4/4 windows with shutters. Asphalt roof. Stone foundation. One-story, front porch with octagonal posts and brackets.

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Large, two-story, rear addition. Aluminum siding. Entrance door has stained glass sidelights and transom. Ca. 1880. Contributing.

113. 205 E. High St. - One and one-half-story, Bungalow Style residence. Side gable with large, end gable dormer. Brick on the first floor, shingles on the second. Dormer has four 1/1 windows. Asphalt roof. Enclosed porch under roof overhang with brick piers and columns and balustrade. Ca. 1925. Contributing. 113A - one-story shed - contributing.

114. Main St. - Spring Site - Behind Varner House, #63. Contributing.

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Kingwood Historic District  
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The Kingwood Historic District is significant under Criterion A for its association with the settlement and development of Kingwood and the development of Preston County.

Under Criterion B it is significant for its association with prominent State Senator and businessman, James C. McGrew; for its association with Senator William G. Brown; for its association with Governor William M.O. Dawson; Governor William G. Conley; and Charles M. Bishop.

Under Criterion C the Kingwood Historic District is significant as a good example of many of the architectural styles of the late 19th and early 20th century and for its association with Morgantown, WV architect, Carl Reger.

Under Criterion A the district is significant for its association with the settlement and development of the town of Kingwood. Kingwood was first settled by Conrad Sheets, Jacob Funk, and Mr. Steel in 1807. The town was named Kingwood after a grove of trees on the site of the present day courthouse. The town was settled adjacent to a spring in the vicinity of present day Sigler Street. Hugh Morgan built the first house in the town at the site of the spring. In 1807 Conrad Sheets built a brick house adjacent to Morgan's. The town grew in the early years to service the transportation along the Winchester to Clarksburg Turnpike which passed through the hamlet. In 1810 John S. Roberts opened a store constructed by John Miller. William Price located here in 1807 and established a tavern in 1810. In this building the initial meetings for the establishment of Preston County were planned. It is no longer extant. At one time Price's tavern was owned by Dr. Julius Kemble, former member of the Virginia Senate. He died in 1909. A tannery was opened in 1810 by Jacob Funk and was subsequently bought by William Sigler in 1813. The town was incorporated in 1811 and the first trustees of the new town were John S. Roberts, William Price, Hugh Morgan, Jacob Funk, and James Brown. There was a stone quarry nearby in Zeveryly; a brick yard on the north side of Main Street; a glass plant at the Morgantown and Kingwood Railroad Station; and a tannery on Main Street.

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At the time that Preston County was formed the town consisted only of log houses and one frame commercial building. John Robert's storeroom was used as the courthouse in the beginning. Kingwood was described in 1820 as having the "normal" collection of county buildings as well as twenty five houses, three mercantile stores, one tanyard, and "various recreation" facilities. The population at this time was 150 persons. William G. Zinn built the first courthouse in 1824.

Kingwood was chartered by the Virginia Legislature in 1853. Early extant houses include The Inn on Main Street, No. 32, 1859, built by James A. Brown and the Carroll house on Morgantown Street, 1863. James A. Brown was Prosecuting Attorney in Kingwood 1861-1863 and unsuccessful candidate for Judge in 1880. The Charles E. Byrne House on High Street was constructed ca. 1820 and the Liston House on High Street in 1857.

The town did not progress much in the early part of the 19th century until the railroad arrived in 1888. Four engines operated out of the Kingwood yards, hauling freight, mostly coal and lumber. The West Virginia Northern Railroad was the first in town. It was narrow gauge, providing timber transportation to Tunnelton, where it was transferred to regular gauge cars. In 1902, JH Weaver bought coal interests at nearby Irons and converted the railroad to standard gauge in 1905. The Morgantown and Kingwood RR was constructed in 1898 with the first passenger service in 1900. Soldiers departing the county and region for the war used this facility in World War I and World War II. President Roosevelt, and presumably Eleanor, traveled on this railroad when coming to Arthurdale, the first New Deal resettlement community, located in Preston County.

Reflecting the importance of the town as the county seat, newspapers were established. The Journal office was constructed in 1880 by William M.O. Dawson who had acquired the paper in 1873. He went on to become Governor of West Virginia. Horatio Whetsell purchased the Journal in 1899 and the Whetsell family owned it for 68 years. Horatio Whetsell was born in 1868 and educated at Fairmont Normal School. He taught in Preston County for ten years

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and also was the Superintendent of Schools. He died in 1941. The Post Office was located in the building during some of that period and Whetsell's son, John Richard, was postmaster in 1902-1914. He also served in the House of Delegates in 1905 and again in 1948, 1950-1958. A second newspaper was the Preston County Herald, begun in 1870. In 1877 it changed to the West Virginia Argus and was located in the Bishop Building, No. 7, until 1945. Price Street was the predominant business street in town, with a few commercial buildings on Main Street. Many were constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. John Brown constructed a store on Price Street and Center Alley in 1889 (No. 13). The Kingwood National Bank building (No. 1) was begun in 1903 and completed in 1908. This was located at the corner of Main Street and Price Street and was constructed using stone from the local quarry. It is still extant. William Blaney constructed a hotel in 1896 and telephone service came to town in 1898. The McGrew house (No. 39) was the first to be serviced. In 1898 a powerplant was begun and electricity delivered in 1899, powering streetlights. A hospital was constructed in 1905 (No. 40), adjacent to the courthouse, which is still extant. Emory Strickler was the doctor and operated a drug store in the Brown building (No. 13) on the corner of Price Street and the alley. There was a walkway connecting the second floors of the two buildings. Both are still extant. Long distance telephone service operated from the first floor of the Brown building in 1906. In 1908, the Martin building (No. 5) was built on the corner of Price and Court streets.

The growth in Kingwood's population reflected the growth of this period. In 1820, its population was 150, by 1900 it had modestly grown to 700. In 1910, there was a small increase to 800. The major jumps came following this period, with the development of the county's resource extraction industry. In 1920 the town's population had grown to 1,417 and stayed at that level until the 1960's. Kingwood was the largest town in the county in 1920. Subsequent years, with the growth of coal and timber industries in outlying areas, saw Terra Alta as the number one community with Rowlesburg second.

In 1900, the Bank Of Kingwood (No. 30) on Main Street and in 1913

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the George A. Herring building (No. 2), were constructed. The bank was purchased and the business moved by the Albright National Bank in 1934. The building is still extant in downtown. The theater building was constructed in 1914 and destroyed by fire in 1923. Cement sidewalks were installed in 1911 bringing Kingwood into modern times of the twentieth century.

Kingwood continued to develop into the 1920's. The High School (No. 41) was constructed in 1922. Francis J. Simmons was the architect. Other buildings from that time period include: Loars Service Station, 1922, No. 15; the LM Albright house, 1922, No. 86; the Central Garage, 1923; and the Bowmaster building, 1925. This last replaced a previous one that was destroyed by fire in 1924, reflecting the continued growth of the town.

The jail, No. 38, was also constructed at this time, in 1925. Carl Reger from Morgantown, WV was the architect. Growth continued into the latter half of the decade as well. The fire department was organized in 1926 and bus service to Morgantown began in 1927. One noted visitor to the town was Colonel Theodore Roosevelt who spoke at the High School auditorium on October 19, 1928.

Both of the banks in town closed in 1931. Growth slowed in the 1930's as is typical of all of the contry. One interesting development is the construction of the new Court House, No. 14, which began in 1932 and was completed in 1934. Some additional businesses opened in the 1930's but for all intents and purposes, there was essentially a moratorium on growth. The Albright National Bank took over and opened in the former Bank of Kingwood, No. 30, on Main Street. The National Bank building became a liquor store in 1935.

During the Depression construction activity in Kingwood included the Works Progress Administration activity of constructing concrete sidewalks in towns. This is common in West Virginia and Kingwood's extant examples are significant for their association with that era. Beverly Street was the first, started in 1935. Price Street and Brown Avenue were constructed in 1937. In 1940

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the WPA completed High Street. Also associated with transportation in the county was the Kingwood to Tunnelton Road which was begun in 1936.

Ross Conley purchased the land on the corner of Main and Tunnelton Streets and constructed a service station, which is still extant, No. 15. It is a good example of the Art Deco Style of architecture common to some of the service stations of the period.

Following this period, Kingwood's growth was slowed. The benefit of this is that much of the historic fabric is preserved in today's town.

Under Criterion A Kingwood is significant for its association with the development of Preston County as the county seat and as the center of government commerce and finance for the county. Because of the development of the region, Preston County was formed in 1818 and Kingwood, the oldest town, became the county seat. Terra Alta, the county's second largest and, at times, largest town, was a natural competitor for the county seat through the years, but Kingwood managed to maintain it. Preston County was formed from Monongalia County. At the time of formation the population of the county was 3,480 and grew to 5,144 in 1830.

As in the case of Kingwood, the railroad was an important factor in the development of the county. The McGrew Tunnel was located on the railway 10 miles from Kingwood in 1849. James C. McGrew developed a small town here with a tannery, supported by the timber industry. He then turned his attention to coal and opened mines in the area. He was eventually forced out by lower rates for shipping charged to western mines by railroad interests. The major industry then continued to be timber into the 1850's. The first circular saw mill in the county was located two miles south of Tunnelton in 1854; another in Newburg in 1865 and a third in Austen in 1867. Coal was mined at Newburg in 1855 and at Austen in 1866. There was also a moderate amount of iron production in the county during the 1850's. Furnaces were located at Virginia



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Furnace on Muddy Creek, 1853; Independence (Irondale) 1859; and  
Gladesville 1869.

Following these developments the transportation industry pushed into the county. The West Union and Morgantown Turnpike opened in 1854. Brandonville was connected to the railroad in 1857-58 by a turnpike. At this time there was an unsuccessful attempt to move the court seat from Kingwood in 1857. Kingwood used the new brick courthouse, built by John McGrew in 1856, as an inducement to keep the government. They were successful in maintaining the seat. This courthouse was destroyed by fire in 1869. The next courthouse was built in 1870, which was demolished for the current one in 1932. The soldiers monument, No. 14A, at the courthouse was designed by Captain James E. Murdock and sponsored by the Kelley Post #111 in 1893. It had originally been the concept of the Grand Army of the Republic. Work was begun in 1895 and following appropriation from the Chamber of Commerce in 1903 completed that year.

Coal mining figures reflect the growth of industry in the county. In 1888, 147,290 tons were mined. This remained stable until 1900 when 403,610 tons were mined. In 1910 this had jumped to 1,033,902 tons and 1,247,189 tons in 1920.

The population of Preston County reflected the growth of these industries. In 1840 it was 6,866; in 1850, 11,708; 13,312 in 1860; 14,555 in 1870; 19,091 in 1880; 20,335 in 1890; 22,727 in 1900; 26,341 in 1910; and 27,993 in 1920. These all reflect a steady growth. Unlike many of the other areas of the state Preston County has remained stable. In 1960 the population was 27,233. This accounts for the continued preservation of Kingwood's historic resources.

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Under Criterion B the Kingwood Historic District is significant for its association with prominent State Senator and businessman, James C. McGrew; for its association with Senator William G. Brown; for its association with Governor William M.O. Dawson; Governor William G. Conley; and Charles M. Bishop.

James C. McGrew was born in 1813 in Brandonville, Monroe County, WV. He was a clerk in a general store in Kingwood at the age of nineteen and developed into a prominent merchant owning his own establishment as well as influencing the growth and development of the county and state. He attended the Virginia convention in 1861 at Richmond and opposed secession. He wrote an interesting account of the proceedings. He also served as mayor of Kingwood and was a member of the first West Virginia Legislature, 1863-1865. In 1865 he organized and was president of the Bank of Kingwood. He also was director of the Hospital for the Insane at Weston between 1863 and 1872. He served in the United States Congress in 1869-1872 and as Mayor again in 1879-1880. Mr. McGrew's residence, No. 39, constructed in 1849, located on Main Street within the historic district, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

William G. Brown was a prominent individual in the formative years of the state. He attended the Constitutional Convention forming the state and on December 31, 1862 met with President Lincoln in Washington, along with Waitman T. Wiley and J. B. Blair of Wood County, WV. They were attempting to convince the President to sign the papers creating the new state. Lincoln discussed various issues with the guests and requested their reasons for his signing the papers. They apparently were persuasive in their arguments, as Lincoln signed the document on January 1, 1863. Brown married Izetta Jewell Kenney. Their home was located on Tunnelton Street, No. 102, constructed in 1878. Brown Avenue was named for him. He died in 1916. In 1924 his widow seconded the nomination of John W. Davis as President of United States while a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. She was the first woman to have the honor.

His son, John J. Brown was a member of the Constitutional Conven-

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tion of 1861 forming the Restored Government of Virginia, loyalist Virginia, and attended the first Constitutional Convention of West Virginia.

William Mercer Owens Dawson was born in 1853 in Garrett County, Maryland. He moved to Terra Alta and Kingwood in 1873 where he became a partner with James B. Chaffin in The Preston County Journal. Chaffin left and Dawson bought the newspaper from James McGrew in 1875. Under his administration the 1880 building was constructed, still extant (No. 31). He was elected chairman of the Preston County Republican Party in 1874, State Senate in 1880, Secretary of State 1897-1905 and Governor in 1905-1909. He was also chairman of the state Republican Committee in 1893. The Republican victory of 1896, the first in 20 years, is credited to his leadership. He resigned as chairman in 1904. While in the Senate, he became an expert on the issue of taxation, and this played a major role in his gubernatorial election campaign. The major accomplishment of his term in office is considered to be the revision of the State Tax laws concerning commerce. He defeated J.J. Cornwell by a slim margin of 9,083 votes. In 1912 he supported Roosevelt in the Presidential election. He was appointed to the state board of control and in 1915 a member of the Public Service Commission. He died in 1916.

William Gustavus Conley was born in 1866 on a farm in Preston County near Kingwood. He graduated from West Virginia University in 1893 and began his law practice in Parsons. Here, he was Prosecuting Attorney for eight years and served on town council and as Mayor. He returned to Kingwood in 1903 and resided at the corner of Tunnelton Street and Brown Avenue (No. 100). He served on the town council and as Mayor. In 1908 he was appointed by Governor Dawson to the unexpired term of the State Attorney General and was subsequently elected, serving until 1913. He ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1912 and continued working at the state capital. He was then elected as Governor, serving in 1929-1933. He was the first of our Governors to be born in the state of West Virginia. During his term, construction of the state capitol was underway and the main unit containing the legislative chambers was completed and dedicated on June 20, 1932.

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Major William G. Conley was his father. He was born in Preston County and was a contractor and Deputy Sheriff. He also was principal at the Preston Academy, No. 42, formed in 1841.

Charles Mortimer Bishop born in 1827, was a legislator. He taught school at Charles Town. He also was a saddler and relocated to Rowlesburg for railroad employment. He moved to Kingwood in 1872 and was a State Senator that same year. He also served on the County Commission. As a State Senator he was involved in the first Free School legislation under the state's new constitution in 1873, being on the Senate Committee on Education. His house (No. 76), constructed in 1872 and enlarged ca. 1910, is a good example of Neo-Classical Revival architecture.

Other persons important in local and state history associated with the Kingwood Historic District include:

Jefferson Slidell Brown was born in Fairfax Manor in 1861, erected by his great grandfather, Colonel John Fairfax, in 1818, near Kingwood. He taught school in Preston County and served on the board of directors at Weston Institute for the Insane. He purchased The Argus in 1889. He was the Chairman of the Democratic Party for sixteen years, Kingwood's postmaster, a Delegate to the National Convention in Chicago in 1896 for the nomination of William Jennings Bryan for President. He was a candidate twice for the State Senate and a Member of the Board of Regents for the Sate School for the Deaf for eight years. He is associated with the Brown building, No. 13, on Price Street. He died in 1935.

Julius K. Monroe surveyed the boundary line between Maryland and West Virginia. He lived on Chestnut Street and also owned a house on High Street, No. 75.

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The Kingwood Historic District is significant under Criterion C for its association with many of the architectural styles that were prominent in the nation and region during the time period of its development. From the early settlement period of the town and county to the later post 1930 development, many of the buildings in town are good examples of architectural fashions of the day.

The early settlement period of the town and county is represented by the extant residential buildings in the town. There are a number of side gable, two-story houses with Greek Revival or Italianate detailing. The Greek Revival Style houses reflect the early settlement period, while the Italianate Style residences reflect the middle 19th century development and the railroad influence in the town.

These include the James McGrew house, No. 39. 1841; The WG Brown house, No. 102, Tunnelton St., 1878, Italianate Style; No. 32, Main St., Preston County Inn, 1859, Federal Style; No. 110, 200 E. High St., ca. 1860, Greek Revival Style; 113 High St., ca. 1860, No. 19; No. 27, 106 High Street, Greek Revival Style; and 115 Main St., Greek Revival Style, Varner House, No. 63.

The Preston Academy, No. 42, is an interesting example of the Second Empire Style of building with its shallow hip roof and mansard section. It is an early example of this Victorian Style in the county.

One of the more interesting of the buildings is the IOOF Lodge, No. 87, a simple two-story, Greek Revival Style, residential building.

The Preston County Courthouse, No. 14, is a good example of the Art Deco or Public Style building that was popular in the 1930's. There are only a few of this type of courthouse in the state.

The Kingwood National Bank building, No. 1. This is a fine two-story, Romanesque Style structure with rusticated ashlar stone facades. It was constructed in 1908.

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The C.M. Bishop residence, No. 76. This is a large mansion constructed in 1872. The later additions are in the Neo Classical Revival Style.

The Bank of Kingwood, No. 30, 1900, is an interesting Neo Classical Revival building with a bit of Sullivanesque massing and detailing.

The Bishop Block, No. 7, is a good example of the Italianate Commercial Style that is prevalent in the district. This is similar to many other buildings in the district including the Chamber of Commerce building, No. 33; Bishop building, No. 6; and Hall's Floorcoverings building, No. 9. They all have cornices with scroll saw cut scroll decoration in the frieze area.

The Presbyterian Church, No. 89, is a good example of Gothic Revival Style architecture with tall steeple, steep pitched roof, pointed arch headed windows, and side buttresses.

The Methodist Church, No. 17, is a good example of the Victorian Gothic Style.

Two more recent, though nonetheless significant, buildings in town are the Wilson building, No. 4, and Loar's service station, No. 15; on Price and High Streets. These both date from the 1930's but are significant examples of the architecture for that period and the development of the town during that period. The Hardware building is a two-story, brick commercial building. It has intact leaded glass transom windows in an Art Nouveau Style. The building is reminiscent of the Bungalow Style or Arts and Crafts Style with its red barrel tile roofed mansard/awning along the entire front facade at the second floor. This is typical of railroad town architecture. The service station is similar in character with its tile roof and the roof extension that covered the pumps. This is an extant remnant of that period in Kingwood's history.

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Also associated with this period of development is 105 High St., No. 16. It is an Art Moderne Style application on an older building.

There are also a number of simple Four Square Style residences in the district that are significant from the 1905 to 1920 period of development. These include No. 26, 108 High St., No. 45, Tunnelton St., ca. 1910, and No. 53, Main St.

The Neo Classical revival is represented by the High School, No. 41, 1922 and by CM Bishop's residence, No. 76, 1872 and ca. 1910.

Other styles in the district include:

The Bungalow Style: No. 69, Main St., ca. 1910; No. 86, 109-111 High St.

The Queen Anne Style: No. 70, Main St., ca. 1915; No. 101, 303 Tunnelton St., Queen Anne Style residence with onion dome; No. 111, 201 E. High St.; and No. 99, 207 Brown Ave., ca. 1890.

The Colonial Revival Style: No. 75, High St., ca. 1910.

Gothic Revival Style: No. 100, 301 Tunnelton St.

Colonial Revival Style: No. 103, 309 Tunnelton St., 1941.

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Under Criterion C Kingwood Historic District is also significant for its association with Morgantown, West Virginia architect, Carl Reger. Reger designed the county jail, No. 38, constructed in 1925. It is a good example of Colonial Revival architecture properly reflecting the county's stature. Reger was born on a farm near Buckhannon, WV in 1878. He attended the West Virginia Conference Seminary, now West Virginia Wesleyan College, and apprenticed in architectural offices during his schooling. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania, but did not complete his studies. In 1906 he moved to Los Angeles, California and acquired a license to practice architecture in that state. He worked for nine years there, then returned to West Virginia. He established a practice in Morgantown and quickly became one of that city's leading architects. He was Secretary of the West Virginia State Society of Architects. His commissions include numerous churches, hotels, apartments, schools and private residences, such as the Sales and Service Building of the Central Automobile Corporation in Clarksburg and a hotel in Shinnston.

In summary the Kingwood Historic District is significant under Criterion A for its association with the settlement and development of Kingwood, as the oldest town in the county and as the county seat and center of commerce and government. It is also significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of the county as the seat of government and location of the commercial centers of the county.

The Kingwood Historic District is significant under Criterion B for its association with prominent State Senator and businessman, James C. McGrew; for its association with Senator William G. Brown; for its association with Governor William M.O. Dawson; Governor William G. Conley; and Charles M. Bishop.

Under Criterion C the Historic District is significant for its collection of architectural styles from the early 19th century to early 20th century. It is also significant for its association with Carl Reger, Morgantown architect.



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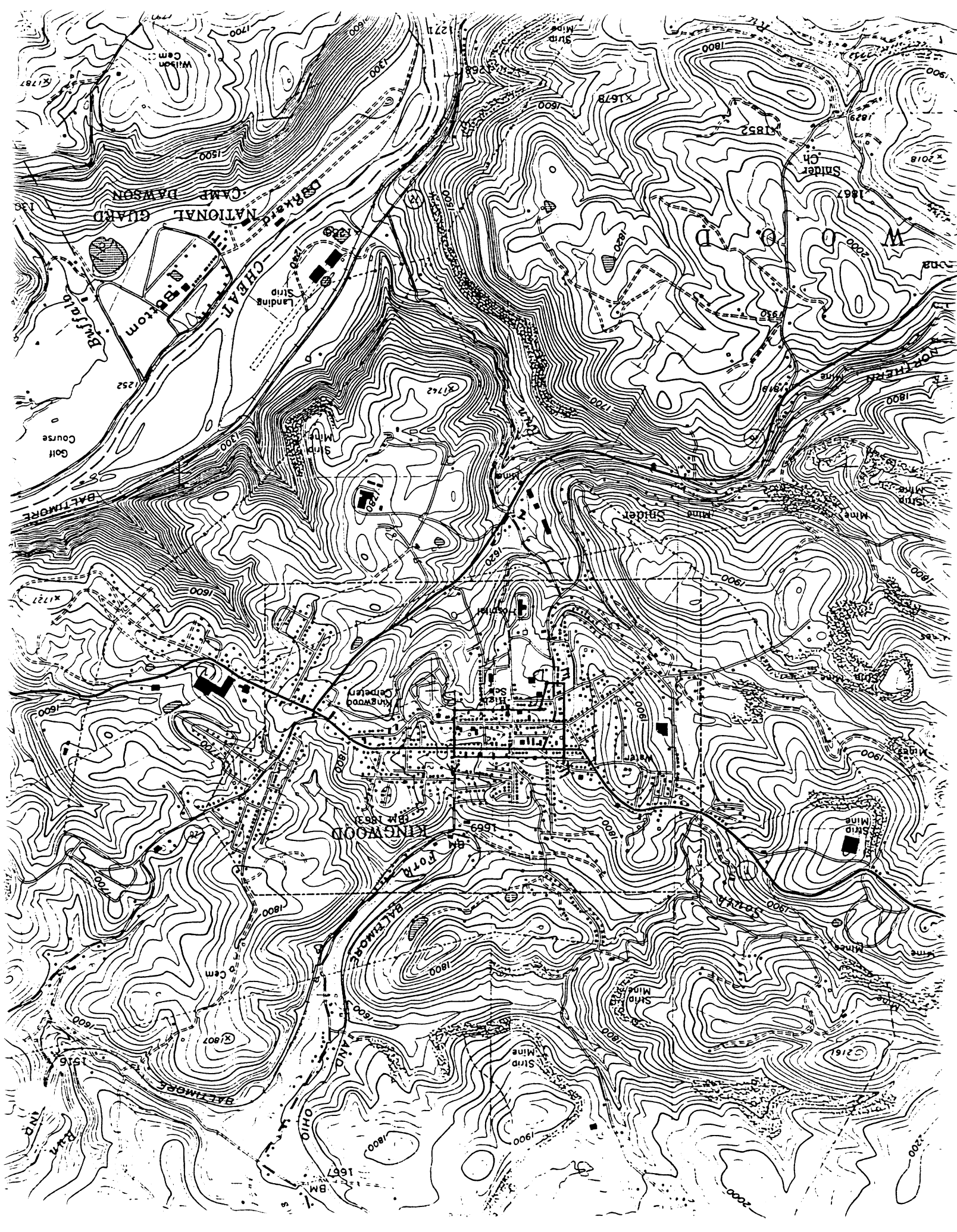
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundary of Kingwood Historic District is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map titled "Kingwood Historic District - Kingwood, West Virginia" dated January, 1994.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries correspond approximately to the original mapping of the town illustrated in a 1870 plan of Kingwood. Tunnelton Street forms the major western boundary. The character of the neighborhood changes to the west of this street, becoming mostly residential construction outside the period of significance. To the south of the southern boundary, there is a large open space and new commercial and industrial development. On the east, Sigler Street forms the major boundary and east of this the development is newer, strip, commercial activity. The boundaries of the eastern portion of High Street enclose the residential portion of High Street that is associated with the period and significance of the district. Development to the east of this is newer and falls outside the period of significance. To the north of the northern boundary, rear property lines of Main Street properties, the terrain forms a natural boundary. There is a drop-off down a hill to the north with no development.







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BELAN  
CARPET CO.

BELAN  
CARPET CO.

HOUSE  
SWINGS  
SOFAS  
CHAIRS  
DINETTES

Wellington











WESTERN AUTO

FOOD

SUPPLY

WESTERN AUTO



GENERAL PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

