

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Good, L.S., House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 95 14th Street☐ not for publicationcity, town Wheeling☐ vicinitystate West Virginia code W.V. 54 county Ohiocode 069zip code 26003

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____

Date 10/11/88

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture - museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century

Revivals - Neo-Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls brick

roof slate

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The L.S. Good House has stood since 1904 at 95 14th Street in a residential section of East Wheeling, adjacent to the commercial core of Wheeling. The three-story red brick townhouse stands on a slightly elevated site that rises in a gentle grade from west to east along 14th Street. The narrow lot and density of building in the neighborhood required the architect to design a tall edifice in order to contain the volume of space required by a socially prominent and wealthy client accustomed to entertaining. Mr. Good's house was also commodious enough to accommodate members of his immediate family, relatives, and servants.

The exterior is a handsome, though restrained composition in the Neo-Classical Revival style that belies an interior which is totally grand, sumptuous, and the epitome of late Victorian and Edwardian opulence.

Principal ornamental features of the exterior are confined to the entrance facade, the only primary elevation. (The west elevation, now open to view, was previously hidden by another house which was razed to provide space for a parking lot.) The Ionic order is carried through at the front in a magnificent full-width porch carried by pairs and clusters of fluted wooden columns on sandstone plinths. A wide frieze, enriched cornice, and balustrade of attenuated urn-style balusters accents the porch above a solid floor supported by ashlar blocks with bush hammered surfaces. Above the porch's entrance bay, which is slightly projecting, is a three-sided bay window which forms the outstanding feature of the second story. Its center window cornice is surmounted with a pressed/hollow metal cartouche flanked by consoles.

An engaged Ionic brick colonnade resting upon a stone stringcourse provides the divisions between the five doublehung windows of the third story. A broad, dentiled cornice and paneled brick parapet cap the 14th Street facade. The side elevations are of common bond brick, though of little interest in terms of design except for the west wall which is centered with a three-sided, three-story bay containing stained glass windows. The windows at each level are highly significant; their effect is, however, a topic confined to details of interior design.

Essential to discussion of any subject relating to the building arts is the installation and placement of Wheeling-made and manufactured building materials and finish items such as brick, metal, tile, and glass. The L.S. Good House is an unusually well-preserved high-style residence incorporating local craftsmanship and material produced in a very wealthy city with a diversity of industries producing

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Section number 7 Page 2

The L.S. Good House

building materials. Wheeling, West Virginia, was indeed one of the richest cities for its size in the United States during the 19th and early 20th century. Its base of heavy industry and critical location at the convergence of the National Road, Ohio River, and B & O Railroad, combined with skilled immigrant populations, arriving from Germany in particular, gave Wheeling a distinct and especially rich architectural legacy.

Quality of interior spaces is immediately evident as one enters the house's oak-paneled vestibule with its geometrically patterned tile floor and upper walls covered in lincrusta. The massive mullioned doorway is central to the design of the entrance foyer within which natural light floods from its sidelights, transom light, and central door panel filled with a gorgeous display of beveled glass set in zinc comes. Foyer finish is equally spectacular; the oak paneled walls, deep cornices, and handcrafted built-in foyer seat set the tone for the adjacent stairhall, lavishly appointed in oak, stained glass, and Wheeling tile.

Off the entrance foyer to the left is the principal parlor. Its light colored curly maple dado and matching wood mantel provide a contrast to the darker cross-cut oak paneling and trim of the outer foyer and stairhall. In contrast also are the curving edges, corners, and generally elliptical treatments common to the French manner that can be seen in the mantel, console-framed overmantel, and ceiling plasterwork.

Dividing the stairhall from the foyer are two free-standing Ionic oak columns (on pedestals) supporting an oak architrave. Light in this space is subdued, though rich due to the presence of stained glass windows which reflect hues of gold, red, burgundy, green, etc. Above the green Wheeling-tiled fireplace is a huge mirrored overmantel that is positioned to reflect and tie together the chamber's many colors and architectural details, among these, the grand staircase with its free-standing newel crowned with a bronze female figure holding a three-branch light, the fixtures of which are orchids with abalone shell surrounds. The four-foot figure bears the pedestal mark "ORCHIDEE", Par Dubois.

To the north, off the stairhall, is the richly appointed, spacious dining room. The shoulder-high oak paneling marries a spectacular built-in, two-level china cupboard-buffet along the east wall. Its lower, hand-carved cupboard doors are richly paneled and divided by acanthus leaf-decorated consoles. The upper part of the structure is embellished with classical carved ornaments and curved, beveled glass. At the opposite (west) end of the room a burgundy tiled fireplace is set beneath an overmantel in the form of an oak carved shell niche suitable for the display of statuary or artwork. Oak themes are carried through in the beamed ceiling.

Stained glass and beveled glass windows play an important role in the interior design of the house. There are twenty-two in all, each providing color variations in harmony with woods or tile, and many providing transitional or introductory color from room to room, or hall to room. Burgundies, for example, are prevalent; a marvelous flow of color, for instance, melds with burgundy Wheeling tile in some fireplaces.

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The spatial core and climax of the interior is the three-story openwell stair. This structure is a reservoir of space that bespeaks elegant finish and atmospheric effect created by constantly changing colored light. The landings between the first and second, and second and third floors are each lighted by stained glass windows in groups of three. Craftsmen-style oak window seats are built into the walls beneath the windows at each landing.

Upper floors are large and well finished. A spacious second floor bathroom is especially handsome because of its white Wheeling tile and stained glass window depicting water lillies or lotus flowers in the Art Nouveau style.

Trim wood on the third floor is pine, reflecting common building preferences of the day which allowed for use of less expensive woods on the less formal upper house levels. An especially outstanding feature, nevertheless, is found on the third floor. It is a large fireplace in the southwest bedroom featuring a ten-foot high surround of Wheeling burgundy tile. Flanking the fireplace is a built-in glass bookcase and vanity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Ethnic Heritage - European, Jewish

Commerce

Social History - Philanthropy

Period of Significance

c. 1904-1927

Significant Dates

c. 1904

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

L.S. Good

Architect/Builder

Millard F. Giesey, architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The L.S. Good House is significant because it is an exceptionally well-preserved Wheeling, West Virginia, early twentieth-century urban landmark of residential high-style architecture. The edifice derives additional significance for its association with L.S. Good, one of Wheeling's most successful, prominent, and popular merchants in the late 19th and early 20th century. His family in later years continued to play an important role in Wheeling civic and business affairs.

In its Neo-Classical Revival style the L.S. Good House recalls some of the finer townhouses of eastern cities such as Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Boston. The house's sumptuous character is largely on the interior, for like its period large city counterparts crowded urban conditions required much design attention to confined building sites. The Good House is tall for this reason. The building is evidence furthermore of the architect's skillful assemblage of architectural elements that unify the structure inside and out. In all probability Mr. Good played a role in the design of his house, a not surprising fact considering the merchant's dealings in the sale of dry goods and house furnishings.

The L.S. Good House is an unusually well-preserved townhouse incorporating local craftsmanship and materials produced in a wealthy city famous for its industrial base that produced many products used in construction, such as lumber, brick, metal, tile, and glass. Attributed to a prolific Wheeling architect, Millard F. Giesey, the house was appointed with fine woodwork. The carpentry, for example, is credited to a Mr. Woods, and the stairhall mantel, an especially outstanding feature, to a man named Fortney from the Claysville/Little Washington area. Another example of interesting craftsmanship is the exquisite painting of a mischievous German gentleman holding a large beer stein. Painted on the wall beneath the main staircase of the house, the artwork is credited to a Mr. Kaufman, a native German artist. It is said Mr. Good much enjoyed the small room containing the painting because he could retire there in complete privacy to smoke or read. The little chamber, at the west end of the stairhall, contains important stained glass windows with several accents in Prussian blue.

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Millard F. Giesey practiced architecture in Wheeling in the late 19th and early 20th century. His works were wide-ranging: residences, public buildings, commercial buildings. A one-time partner with the great Wheeling architect Edward B. Franzheim, Giesey produced plans for buildings as far south as Fayette County, W.Va.

Lee Samuel Good (1855-1927) was born in Gailingen, Switzerland, a son of German speaking Jewish parents. He left his family and immigrated to America at the age of eighteen. Virtually penniless, Good, whose given name was Lippmann Gut, arrived at Galveston, Texas, in 1873. Not successful in business there, it is held that Good walked to Wheeling, West Virginia, where "courage, hard work, and achievement" allowed him to set up a business in foreign and domestic dry goods, carpets, oil cloths, and various household items. Good's store began on Main Street, just above 12th, having been located in the Cotton Building, and, after the turn-of-the-century, at 1132 Main Street. Good never forgot his beloved parents' advice and admonition, given to him in a letter in 1883:

"My Dear Son:

Accept the Book of your Fathers, strive to be pious and good that things may go well with you. Pray with diligence and think of God, for he will help you in time of need.

Omit evil companions, stay away from temptation.

Think of your parents and walk in the way of the Lord.
The eyes of God are upon you.

The honorable name and reputation which you have attained, will be accorded with every tongue. Continue in that way and let it blossom into a beautiful future, that you may find your way constructive and in service for the good of all mankind.

The love you have shown to your parents, shall be returned to you with God's richest blessings.

May God watch over you, protect you from all danger and sorrow and bless your departure, and when you meet your new shore of life, live and continue in the way of your teaching.

Your loving parents"

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The L.S. Good House

L.S. Good and Company grew into one of the Ohio Valley's most successful businesses. Good, who regularly entertained employees of his store at 95 14th Street, became a leading philanthropist in Wheeling. The gifts were often given anonymously. Wheeling Park received much attention from L.S. Good; the twin lakes there were built as a result of his generosity. At the hour of Good's funeral, nearly every store in Wheeling closed its doors in his honor.

One of Good's sons, Samuel L. Good (1894-1983), who resided at 95 14th Street from about 1904 to 1920, continued his father's interest in Wheeling Park, serving on the Park Commission from 1933 to 1972. Another son, Sidney S. Good, Sr. (d. 1952), helped direct the operations of L.S. Good & Co.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Brennen, Margaret. Interview with Samuel L. Good, April 21, 1980

_____. Notes on the Good House, December 18, 1987.

Good, Sam. Hanauer Genealogy and Family History, n.d., n.p. (c. 1986)

Wheeling City Directories, 1893; 1903; 1904

Wheeling Intelligencer. Obituary. February 21, 1927.

Wheeling News-Register. February 2, 1983.

Wheeling Register. February 21, 1927.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings

Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering

Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State historic preservation office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Specify repository:

95 14th Street, Wheeling, W.V.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A 1 7 5 2 4 1 2 0 4 4 3 4 9 4 0
Zone Easting Northing

C

B
Zone Easting Northing

D

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The house occupies nearly the entire city lot, lot #95, which measures 35 feet by 120 feet. The lot is part of Bellair Square, East Wheeling.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property constitutes the entire city lot historically associated with the L.S. Good House.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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city or town Charleston

date August 17, 1988

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