United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name South Charles Town Historic District
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number South George, South Mildred, South Samuel, South Church and intersecting streets
city or town Charles Town
state West Virginia code WV county Jefferson code 037 zip code 25414

does not meet the National Register criteria.  (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets nationally or statewide or locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets or does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet
### 5. Classification

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<th>Category of Property</th>
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<td>147 Contributing structures, 38 Noncontributing structures</td>
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**Name of related multiple property listing**  
N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
1

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwellings

#### Current Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwellings

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

- Early Republic
- Late 19th Century
- Late Victorian

#### Materials

- **foundation**: Stone, Brick, Log
- **walls**: Wood, Brick, Stone, Aluminum, Vinyl, Stucco
- **roof**: Asphalt, Metal, Slate
- **other**: Wood, Stone

#### Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets
# 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

- [ ] **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [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**

Property is:

- [ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] **B** removed from its original location.
- [ ] **C** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- [ ] **D** a cemetery.
- [ ] **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] **F** a commemorative property
- [ ] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

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**Areas of Significance**

- [ ] Architecture

**Period of Significance**

- 1840-1950

**Significant Dates**

- [ ] N/A

**Significant Person**

- [ ] N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

- [ ] N/A

**Architect/Builder**

- Holmes, Julius

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

See Continuation sheets

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography**

- [ ] 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
  - Record #
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- [x] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State Agency
- [ ] Federal Agency
- [ ] Local Government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Approximately 48 acres

UTM References

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Verbal Boundary Description
See Continuation Sheets

Boundary Justification
See Continuation Sheets

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Dr. Barbara Rasmussen, Ph.D.
organization Historic Preservation and Research
date  January 2009
telephone  304.292.7652

Property Owner

name  Multiple
city or town
state
zip code
LOCATION and SETTING

Jefferson County is West Virginia’s eastern most county, and occupies the triangular area at the intersection of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers. This town is the county seat of Jefferson County, with a population of some 3,122 persons. It is located in West Virginia’s Second Congressional District. It is the largest town in the county, centrally located along Evitts Run, a tributary of the Shenandoah River. Its elevation is 570 feet. The South Charles Town Historic District is located on a level plain that lies to the southeast of the original town plat of Charles Town, West Virginia. The historic district occupies Washington family land and a large parcel conveyed by Mrs. Rebecca Hunter in the years following the Civil War. This nomination includes four streets: South Church, South Mildred, South Samuel and South George, and their intersecting streets. The intersecting streets, with one exception, are without buildings. The nominated area contains approximately forty-eight acres and includes 185 resources. One hundred forty-seven resources contribute to the historic district. Non-contributing resources include thirty-six buildings, one site, and one empty lot.

The setting features wide straight streets lined with mature trees and sidewalks. Houses of various architectural styles face the streets, usually with some lawn or garden area available in the front and on the sides. This district abuts the Downtown Historic District, where rear lot lines on Congress Street form its northwestern border. Lot sizes in the district vary from very large, to quite compact. There are no parking lots and only one small empty lot. Large houses generally have large, landscaped lots with mature trees and shrubbery. This upscale neighborhood features many different architectural styles, and all of the properties are landscaped and carefully maintained. Visual clues to the cohesion of the district include bold differences in architectural tone on all four sides of the district. The southeastern boundary is somewhat “toothed” owing to a large number of newer houses at the southeastern end of the streets comprising the district. Rear lot lines on east Church Street and west George Street form the easterly and westerly boundaries.

As this neighborhood began to organize and expand after the Civil War, several older, and formerly rural, resources were included in the city limits. Between 1890 and 1932, the neighborhood extended to the 500 block of the streets, and later development followed that. With its proximity to the business district, South Charles Town residents have always lived within walking distance of stores, government offices and businesses. The architecture of Charles Town has done much to contribute to the close sense of community that is a key characteristic of the town.

Buildings in this district are denoted as contributing if they retain most of their architectural integrity. No property is penalized for any single change to its historic materials, but combinations of changes that seriously alter the original integrity of the house render it non-contributing. Another reason for a building being non-contributing to the district is its age — there are a few houses that were constructed in the 1970s and 1980s within the district that are not contributing. If windows are not described as replacements, they are original.

1 Sanborn Insurance Maps, Charles Town, West Virginia, 1932.
ACADEMY STREET
1 Contributing Building, 0 Non-contributing buildings

FN0406
Academy Street, between Mildred and Church. This windowless gable-front building was constructed by Thornton Perry to house his art collection. Brick, with asphalt shingle roof, and block foundation, there is one bay.
Circa 1950
One contributing building.

SOUTH CHURCH STREET
24 Contributing Buildings, 10 Non-contributing buildings

FN0011
419 South Church St. One story building, brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Six bays with 1/1 double-hung sash and fixed bay window.
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0012
415 South Church St. Two and a half story Side Hallway house with stucco exterior, block foundation and asphalt shingle roof. Right side winglet. Two front bays (a double window and door) with 6/6 double hung sash and a Classical Revival front portico supported by Ionic columns.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0013
413 S. Church Street. Modern ranch house, brick exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof.
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0014
411 S. Church Street. Modern ranch house, brick exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof.
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0016
317 South Church St. Two and a half story Folk Victorian house with wood exterior, stone foundation and standing seam metal roof. Side bay window, rear extension and two-story porch. Four front bays, 2/2 double-hung original sash. Square chamfered posts support the hipped porch roof. A centered diamond pane window accents the front attic gable. This restored house is an example of antebellum architecture.
Circa 1860
One contributing building

South Charles Town Historic District  Jefferson County, West Virginia
FN0017
315 South Church St. Two and a half story Italianate house with side hall entry features a wood exterior, stone foundation, and standing seam metal roof. Decorative lintels, three front bays with 2/2 double-hung sash. Large rear extension.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0018
301 South Church St. Two and a half story house with wood clapboard siding and Gothic and Victorian elements. Center hall, three bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Side portico, ornate gingerbread trim on the front portico, with pierced flat railing. Demi-lune attic light, rear extension.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0053
501 S. Church St. Two story brick Colonial Revival house, center hall, 6/6 double hung sash, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation.
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0054
507 S. Church Street. One story house with brick siding, center chimney, three bays, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation.
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0055
Circa 1950
One contributing building

FN0056.
525 South Church St. Two story I-house with side extension. Stucco exterior, standing seam metal roof. Foundation is not visible. Three front bays with 6/6 double-hung sash.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0057.
531 South Church St. One story Colonial Revival house with aluminum exterior, block foundation, slate roof. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash (double windows). Pedimented portico supported by two Doric columns.
Circa 1945
One contributing building
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number  7  Page  4

FN0058
533 South Church. One and one-half story ranch house, six front bays, 6/6 double hung sash, decorative shutters gable front porch, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation.  
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0059
535 South Church. One story brick ranch house with three front bays, asphalt shingle roof, and block foundation.  
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0060
607 South Church St. One story Colonial Revival house with brick exterior, brick foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Four asymmetrical bays, fixed pane windows.  
Circa 1945
One contributing building

FN0061
615 South Church St. Two story I-House with wood exterior, block foundation, standing seam metal roof. Three front bays with 8/8 double-hung sash, one story left side extension. Colonial Revival detailing.  
Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0062
619 South Church St. One story Colonial Revival house with brick exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Three front bays, fixed sash.  
Circa 1955
One non-contributing building

FN0068
534 South Church St. One story Minimal Traditional house with wooden siding, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Three bays 1/1 double-hung sash.  
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0069
528 South Church St. One and one-half story Colonial Revival house with aluminum exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Five front bays with 6/6 double-hung sash, two gabled dormers in front.  
Circa 1940
One contributing building

South Charles Town Historic District
Jefferson County, West Virginia

United States Department of the Interior
FN0070
522 South Church St. One and one-half story Colonial Revival, house with Aluminum exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Five front bays, 1/1 double-hung replacement sash. Two gabled dormers in front.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0071
520 South Church St. One story ranch home, aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation.
Circa 1965.
One non-contributing building

FN0072
504 South Church St. Two-story Colonial Revival house with stone and aluminum siding, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Four front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Shed roof dormer with three windows.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0073
502 South Church St. One story house, Stucco exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Assertive stone chimney on the street face; four front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0074
500 South Church St. One and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, standing seam metal roof, block foundation. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, two gabled dormers in front. One story extension to the right.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0075
416 South Church St. One and one-half story Gable Front house, Stucco exterior, asphalt roof, stone foundation. Two front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash, sidelight and transom around side hall entry.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0076
412 South Church St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Spindle rail porch banister, stone retaining wall around lot.
Circa 1910
One contributing building
FN0077
408 South Church St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Stucco exterior, standing seam metal roof, block foundation. Wide wrap around porch. Two front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Seven tapered square porch columns.
Circa 1910
One contributing building

FN0078
404 South Church St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Two front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Hipped roof, wide eave overhangs.
Circa 1910
One contributing building

FN0079
400 South Church St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Porch is of smaller scale than usual, center front gable with window. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash.
Circa 1910
One contributing building

FN0080
314 South Church St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Full shed porch roof with balustrade. Hipped roof, center dormer with hipped roof. Two front bays 1/1 double-hung and 2/2 double-hung sash.
Circa 1910
One contributing building

FN0081
312 South Church St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house with cross-gable front extension. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Two front bays, both doors. 1/1 double-hung sash on second floor.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0082
310 South Church St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Aluminum and wood exterior, standing seam metal roof, snowbirds, and stone foundation. Side porches on each floor. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, side hall entry protected by pedimented portico.
Circa 1910
One contributing building
FN0083
306 South Church St. Two and one-half story Dutch Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Right side hallway. Two bays, one with triple window of 6/6 double-hung sash. Arched entry to side porch on the left. Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0084
300 South Church St. Two story house with Prairie School details. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Five front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Front bows slightly. Two shed dormers. Wide porch and porte-cochere supported by 11 square posts on stone piers. Circa 1930
One contributing building

SOUTH GEORGE STREET
27 Contributing Buildings, 2 Non-contributing Buildings

FN0185-A
205 South George St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, standing seam metal roof, block foundation. Three bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0185
219 South George St. Old Methodist Parsonage. Two and one-half story Queen Anne house. Brick exterior, brick foundation, slate and asphalt shingle roof. Three bays, 9/1, 1/1 double-hung sash. Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0186
311 South George St. Formerly St. James Catholic Church. Brick exterior, brick foundation, slate and asphalt shingle roof. Three bays, arched windows, fixed sash. Circa 1945
One contributing building

FN0187
One contributing building

South Charles Town Historic District
Jefferson County, West Virginia

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
FN0188
401 South George St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, stone foundation, standing seam metal roof with snowbirds. Three bays, single entry, paired windows, 6/6 double-hung sash.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0189
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0190
Circa 1890
One contributing building

FN0191
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0192
503 South George St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, stone foundation, standing seam metal roof. Ell-wing entry. Three bays, 2/1 double-hung sash.
Circa 1880
One contributing building

FN0193
507 South George St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Ell wing. Brick exterior, stone foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Four bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Addition was constructed in 1920. Old wooden building in the rear that may have been slave quarters. Owner believes the wood in the building was harvested in 1860.
Circa 1860
Two contributing buildings
FN0194
Circa 1860
One contributing building

FN0195
Circa 1880
One contributing building

FN0196
523 South George St. Two and a half story Queen Anne house built by William Moler in 1899. Stucco exterior was added in 1914 over the original wooden lapped siding. Stone foundation and metal roof. Four front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash.
Built in 1899
One contributing building

FN0197
529 South George Street. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Exterior of brick and slate, stone foundation, asphalt and metal roof. Two front bays, 1/1 double hung replacement sash.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0198
531 South George St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Ell wing. Brick and slate exterior, stone foundation, asphalt and metal roof. 1/1 double-hung replacement sash.
Built in 1894
One contributing building

FN0199
611 South George St. Holly Tree Inn. Two and one half story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, stone foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Painted wooden trim. Large rear extension. The house sits back from the street on a spacious and shady lot.
Circa 1880
One contributing building
FN0259
530 South George St. (Burns House). Three-story Chateauesque house. Whitewashed red brick exterior, foundation obscured, asphalt shingle roof. Four front bays with 1/1 double-hung sash. In 1942 the owner remodeled this traditional Victorian mansion to give it its present Norman appearance. The house includes an elevator and gold leaf wallpaper on the interior foyer walls.
Circa 1897, and 1942
One contributing building

FN0260
512 South George St. (Chew House). Three story Queen Anne house. Wood exterior, stone foundation and standing seam metal roof. Five front bays with double-hung single pane sash. Its three story octagonal tower is distinctive for its open air third floor. The house, or parts of it, could date from 1836. It is built on land that was owned by Charles Washington and sold by his son Samuel to Jacob H. Manning in 1801.
Circa 1880
One contributing building

FN0261
502 South George St. Two and a half story eclectic house. Stucco exterior, stone foundation, and asphalt shingle roof. Gable front entry, with classical revival portico. Three front bays with double windows and 1/1 double-hung sash.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0262
Circa 1890
One contributing building

FN0263
400 block of South George St. Two and a half story Italianate house with Ell wing. Undergoing restoration and renovation. Asbestos shingle exterior, stone foundation and standing seam metal roof. Six front bays with some 6/6 double-hung sash. Other windows boarded up. Ornate porch trim and roof brackets.
Circa 1890
One contributing building
FN0264
400 South George St. Two and a half story large Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, stone foundation and asphalt shingle roof. Recently restored. Six front bays with 1/1 double-hung sash. Triple bay window. Window sills and lintels heavily ornamented. Shady lot with mature trees and intricate landscaping.
Circa 1905
One contributing building

FN0265
316 South George St. Two and a half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, block foundation, standing seam metal roof. Five front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash, second story bowed window, center front gable.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0266
312 South George St. Two and a half story Colonial Revival house. Dutch lapped wood exterior, stone and block foundation, and standing seam metal roof. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Center front attic gable with arched wooden accents. Shed roof over the front porch.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0267
308 South George St. Two and a half story Gable Front Townhouse. Aluminum and wood exterior, stone foundation, and standing seam metal roof with snowbirds. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Fish scale shingle trim, ornamental trim at the gable peak.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0268
300 South George St. Two and a half story Cross-gable American Four Square house. Brick exterior, stone foundation and standing seam metal roof. Three front bays, porch enclosed rear extension. Building altered for apartments. Palladian style window on the third floor. Building is heavily compromised.
Circa 1910
One non-contributing building

FN0269
216 South George St. Washington Inn Bed and Breakfast. Two and a half story Queen Anne house. Brick exterior, stone foundation, asphalt shingles and slate roof. Many adornments and decorative details. Four front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Rear extension. Decorative gazebo in the front yard.
Circa 1880.
One contributing building
One non-contributing structure

South Charles Town Historic District
Jefferson County, West Virginia

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
FN0270
208 South George St. Three story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, stone foundation, standing seam metal roof. Expansive and elegant wrap around front porch with much spindle work and trim. Does not appear to be original to the house. Three front bays with 1/1 double-hung sash. Triple brick courses form the window arches in front.
Circa 1890
One contributing building

SOUTH MILDRED STREET
38 Contributing Buildings, 12 Non-contributing buildings
FN0085
309 South Mildred St. (Wilson House). Architect Julius Holmes oversaw construction of this three story Italianate/Victorian house in 1876-7 for William L. Wilson, a West Virginia congressional representative, two-time university president, and Postmaster General of the United States. The house is a marriage of two buildings. The exterior is wood, roof is standing seam metal, and the foundation is stone. There are four bays with 2/2 double-hung sash. Already designated a Charles Town landmark, the dwelling combines elements of the late Victorian era with some hints of Second Empire proportions, although there is no signature mansard roof. Wilson House predates the formal Colonial Revival tone of many of its neighbors on South Mildred Street. The residence features a steeply pitched roof, wide porches, fretwork and gingerbread in unmatched uses. Sidelights and a transom accent the entry. The four-story tower rises above the roofline to end in a spire above windows on each side. Assertive Italianate brackets support the upper story of the tower.
Circa 1877
One contributing building

FN0086
311 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story house with Colonial Revival elements. Wood exterior, standing seam metal roof, and a stone foundation. Snowbirds adorn the roof. Side hall entry, three front bays with 2/2/2 and 2/2 double hung sash. A center front attic gable dominates the facade. Dentil trim accents the porch roofline. Original functioning shutters. This house is older than its neighbors.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0087
317 South Mildred St. This two-story Italianate house has a classic I-House plan with center hallway and three ranked bays. The roof pitch is low, with gable end chimneys and ornate roof brackets. Fancy trim on the porch further accents the style. Wood exterior, standing seam metal roof, and stone foundation. Three front bays 6/6 and 9/9 double-hung sash. Entry with sidelights and transom. Large rear extension is modern construction. One new outbuilding.
Circa 1879
One contributing building
One non-contributing building
FN0088
403 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Dentil molding on the gable front eaves and at the roof line. Two front bays, curved window arches, wrapped porch spanning two sides. Nine Doric order columns and two pilasters support the porch roof. The entry features fanlight and transom. 1/1 double-hung sash. Notable iron grill attic vent. Rear extension.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0089
Circa 1930
One contributing building

FN0090
413 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Two front bays. Side hall entry with sidelights and transom. Arched lintels of brick and wood. Center front attic dormer with hipped roof. Sash is 1/1 double-hung. Doric columns support the porch roof, which features dentil molding trim.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0091
419 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Brick and aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Center front gable, arched window lintels, wide window trim and shutters. Center hall entry has side lights and transom. 1/1 double-hung sash. Sunroom enclosure to the right. Fine example of the form, revealing restrained lines, strict formality and a serious, but elegant facade.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0092
Corner of Mildred and Hunter streets. Two and one half story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, slate roof, stone foundation. Two gable roofed dormers in front. Keystone detail in arched brick lintels over the first and second story windows. Sash is 1/1 and 6/6 double-hung. Four front bays, center hall entry, with a fanlight transom over double entry. Three heavily corbelled brick chimneys, copper trim, and wraparound porch with eight Doric columns.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

South Charles Town Historic District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, West Virginia
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
FN0094
501 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Queen Anne house with many updates. Aluminum exterior, metal tile roof, stone foundation. Two front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash, Doric columns support porch roof. Many modern details obscure the historic character of the building.
Circa 1910
One non-contributing building

FN0095
505 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Asbestos shingle exterior, slate roof, and brick foundation. This house has the trapezoidal front dormer, with hipped roof that appears throughout Charles Town’s older residential areas. Hipped roof, 6/6 double-hung sash, working shutters, bold windowsills and lintels. Porch wraps to the side, supported by Doric columns and pilasters. Center entry with sidelights and transom. Diamond pane window in center of second story. One story extension and garage are added.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0096
Circa 1940
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

FN0097
Circa 1950
One contributing building.

FN0098
Circa 1920
One contributing building
FN0099
537 South Mildred St. One and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone
foundation. Sash is 6/6 double-hung. Diamond shaped accent window. Two small dormers in front, with hipped roofs.
Sidelights and transom over side entry. Decorative shutters.
Circa 1940
One contributing building

FN0100
539 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house with alterations. Stucco exterior, asphalt
shingle hipped roof, stone foundation. Wide cornice boards, decorative shutters, 1/1 double-hung sash. Sidelights flank
side hall entry. Porch posts are stuccoed and arched. Small outbuilding in the rear.
Circa 1910
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

FN0101
545 South Mildred St. Two and one half story American Foursquare house. Aluminum siding, metal hipped roof with
snowbirds, and stone foundation. Two front bays, wraparound porch, one center front dormer with hipped roof.
Sidelights flank single entry. Sash is 1/1 double-hung. Part of porch is enclosed for a sunroom. Garage with stucco
exterior.
Circa 1915
Two contributing buildings

FN0102-A
222 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Brick exterior, metal roof, and stone
foundation. Side-hall gable front entry with transom. Three front bays, 2/2 double-hung sash. Curved window arches.
Wide eave returns and restrained porch elements reflect Colonial Revival touches.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0102
300 South Mildred St. Two story Gable-front and wing house. Brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof, and stone
foundation. Brick may be veneer over an older frame building. Two front bays, 2/2 double-hung. Small porch shelters
entry.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

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FN0103
310 South Mildred St. Two story Gable-front and wing house. Brick exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Low pitched roof, with wide Federal-style overhangs and returns. Sash is 2/2 double-hung, original. Large wrap-around porch to the left, supported by six Doric columns. Brick lintels, wooden sills, working shutters. Central chimney. Painted brick suggests locally fired soft brick.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0104
316 South Mildred St. Porterfield House. Two story residence with federal and Italianate details. Brick exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Two internal chimneys with fancy corbelled tops. Assertive curved window arches and flat sills. Working shutters, 2/2 double-hung sash, center hall entry with ornate sidelights and transom maintain an elegant symmetry to this building. The house was built of locally fired soft brick, and painted to protect it from the elements. The low-pitched roof, paired internal chimneys and five ranked bays with ornate arches lend the house a distinctive Italianate flavor, while retaining a classic Federal profile. Large rear extension. A side porch extends from the right. There is a small left extension. The entry system is accented by a low arched lintel with frescoes on either side. The house is located within the original 1786 plat of Charles Town.
Builder: Porterfield, John Alexander
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0105
402 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Italianate house. Much altered building still retains aspects of its Italianate window trim, but much else is gone. Windows are resized. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, and stone foundation. Flat porch roof supported by six Doric columns. Large center front gable, with no window. Center hallway. Three bays, 1/1 double-hung replacement sash. Older garage in the rear.
Circa 1900
Two non-contributing buildings

FN0106
412 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Queen Anne house. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Small skylight in roof. Three front bays. Sash is 1/1 double-hung, replacement. Center front gable, twin chimneys on either side, full width front porch with four Doric columns and spindle railing. Decorative shutters. Two new outbuildings.
Circa 1900
One contributing building
Two non-contributing buildings
FN0107  
414 South Mildred Street. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Strict symmetry, softened by curved lintels, wide eave overhangs and an on-grade porch reflect the local interpretations of the style. Brick exterior, metal hipped roof, stone foundation, 1/1 double-hung sash. Shutters. Four Doric columns and two pilasters support the porch roof. Rear extension, enclosed sleeping porch. Retaining wall accents front lawn.  
Circa 1900  
One contributing building

FN0108  
418 South Mildred St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Wood siding, asphalt shingle roof, and stone foundation. Low hipped roof, cornice boards. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, center hall entry protected by pedimented portico supported by slender Doric columns. Sidelights and transom. One story rear extension.  
Circa 1920  
One contributing building

FN0109  
420 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Assertive revival details on two front dormers and entry. Center hall. Four front bays with assertive flat arches and sills. Side porch, 6/1 double-hung sash, wide window trim. Large rear extension and garage.  
Circa 1926  
Two contributing buildings

FN0110  
Circa 1900  
One contributing building

FN0111  
Builder: Washington, Samuel Walter  
Circa 1910  
One contributing building

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National Park Service

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FN0113
518 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Brick exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Four bays on second floor, two on first. 1/1 double-hung sash, and fixed pane. Sidelights surround side hall entry. Porch wraps to the left, supported by Ionic columns. Hipped roof, hipped roof center front dormer. Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0114
522 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Wooden shakes and lapped siding exterior, asphalt shingle hipped roof, stone foundation. Two front bays with 1/1 double-hung sash. Decorative shutters. Three Doric columns and two pilasters support the full front porch. Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0115
One non-contributing building

FN0116
526 South Mildred St. Brick ranch home, sensitive infill. Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0117
542 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, slate roof, stone foundation. Hipped roof with center front dormer, also with hipped roof. Four front bays with 6/6 double-hung sash. Two interior chimneys with fancy corbelling. Wide eave overhangs. Porte-cochere and left winglet. Wrapped porch supported by seven pairs of Doric columns. Shutters, sidelights and fanlight transom on side hallway entrance. Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0118
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

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FN0119
600 South Mildred St. Two and one-half story American Foursquare house. Stucco exterior, slate roof, stone foundation. Hipped roof with center front hip roofed dormer. Four front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash, side hallway with crystal sidelights and fanlight transom. Four Doric porch columns and two pilasters. Spindle porch railing, rear extension.
Circa 1910
One contributing building

FN0120
Circa 1950
One contributing building

FN0300
Circa 1930
Two contributing buildings

FN0301
615 South Mildred St. One and one half story Colonial Revival, constructed as a rural retreat. Wood exterior, block foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Five front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Fanlight over entry. Three gable-roof front dormers, and attached carport. White wooden fence surrounds the property.
Builder: Astor, Nancy Witcher Langhorne, Viscountess. First female member of the British Parliament
Built in 1932
One contributing building

FN0302
Circa 1965
One non-contributing building

FN0303
Circa 1940
Two contributing buildings

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SOUTH SAMUEL STREET
55 Contributing Buildings, 12 Non-contributing Buildings, 1 Non-contributing site, 1 Empty Lot

FN0128
705 South Samuel St. Two and one half story gambrel roofed house with ell wing. Stucco exterior, metal roof, block foundation. 2/2 double-hung sash. Many modern updates and additions impair its historic integrity.  
Circa 1920
One non-contributing building

FN0129
301 South Samuel St. Two story Side Hallway house. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Pedimented portico on porch, squared porch railings and square porch columns. Three front bays, 6/1 double-hung sash.  
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0130
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0131
Builder: Simmons, Dr. James Vernon  
Built in 1868
One contributing building

FN 0132
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0133
Circa 1900
One contributing building

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FN0134
Circa 1900
One contributing building.

FN0135
417 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Tudor style house. Brick, half-timber and stucco exterior, slate roof, brick foundation. Two side porches supported by brick pillars. Four front bays with multi-paned, casement and double-hung sash.
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0136
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0137
515 South Samuel St. The Gibson-Todd House. A nineteenth century eclectic Victorian house of brick, with slate roof and stone foundation. Eight front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. The house contains eighteen rooms and a three-story round tower in the Norman style. It features irregular massing and heavily paneled and corbelled brick chimneys. Ornate copper down spouts and collector boxes add to the solid feel of the building. There is a marker on the gallows site, constructed of stones from the jail in which Brown was held, and a small barn adorned with a cupola. The property was individually listed on the National Register in 1983. Owned briefly by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the house is now in private hands.
Builder: Gibson, John Thomas
Built in 1891
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing site

FN0138
525 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Exterior of brick and wooden shingles, asphalt shingle roof, and brick foundation. Five front bays with 1/1 double-hung sash. Upper sashes have diamond panes on the second floor. Palladian window, fish scale shingle trim.
Circa 1900
One contributing building
FN0139
527 South Samuel St. Two story Classical Revival house. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, concealed foundation. Two side extensions. Center hall plan, three front bays with 6/6 double-hung replacement sash. Flat arches, flat portico supported by Doric columns.
Circa 1860
One contributing building.

FN0140
Circa 1950
One contributing building

FN0141
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0142
603 South Samuel St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Brick and wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, and block foundation. Five ranked bays, center hall, 6/6 double-hung sash, unmatched exterior shutters, large pedimented porch supported by four Doric columns and two pilasters. One older garage, threatened.
Circa 1930
Two contributing buildings

FN0143
607 South Samuel St. Two story Colonial Revival brick home. Center hall. New construction, sensitive infill.
Circa 2000
One non-contributing building

FN0144
Circa 1920
One contributing building

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FN0145
Circa 1890
Two contributing buildings

FN0146
625 South Samuel St. One and one-half story Italianate cottage. Stucco over Dutch lap wood exterior, metal roof, and stone foundation. Two front attic dormers with gables are new additions. Owner John Roth believes the building may in fact be as old as 1840. Arched and paneled front entry Four front bays, 2/2 double-hung sash. Turned porch posts, gingerbread trim. Rear extension, new rear deck, and new front dormers.
Circa 1860
One contributing building

FN0147
Builder: Brown, Forrest Washington
Built in 1883
One contributing building

FN0148
635 South Samuel St. Brown House. Two story Folk Victorian house. Stucco exterior, metal roof, stone foundation. Three front bays with 4/4 double-hung sash, flanked by working shutters. The house is constructed on a simple, but large symmetrical I-house plan. There is a large rear extension and small winglet to the right. The shed porch roof is supported by four Doric columns. Civil War relics and Native American artifacts have been incorporated in the wall that surrounds the large shaded lot. Formal gardens include boxwoods from Mt. Vernon.
Built in 1873
One contributing building

FN0149
Circa 1910
One non-contributing building
FN 0150
218 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Folk Victorian house features fancy porch details and eave brackets. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Gable front-and wing. Three front bays, 2/2 double-hung replacement sash, shutters, Chamfered porch posts.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0151
Southwest corner of Samuel and Avis Streets. 302 (?) South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Five front bays, 9/9 double-hung replacement sash, attic Palladian window, center hall. Only the foundation of this building retains original character.
Circa 1870
One non-contributing building

FN0152
306 South Samuel St. Two story Italianate house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Three front bays, 2/2 double-hung replacement sash, Italianate trim at the eaves, flat porch roof supported by four Doric columns and two pilasters. Right winglet and left one-story extension. Queen Anne details in transom over front entry.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN 0153
312 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Queen Anne house. Much fancy trim. Wooden siding, slate roof, stone foundation. Wide, open eaves with decorative brackets, widow’s walk, large center front gable with hipped roof, echoing the buildings larger silhouette. Three-quarter porch with two pedimented entries, supported by ten Ionic columns. Stained glass oval window on front facade cut and beveled crystal double entry system. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash.
Circa 1900
One contributing building

FN0155
402 South Samuel St. Two story I-House with Italianate details. This older building features stucco exterior, standing seam metal roof, and a stone foundation. Three front bays, center hall, 2/2/2 and 2/2 double-hung sash. Four Doric columns and two pilasters support the wide shed roof over the porch. More simply executed than Brown House, but no less devoted to the symmetry of the style. New garage.
Circa 1870
One contributing building
One non-contributing building
FN0156
406 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Massed plan. Stucco is probably a later addition. Flat lintels and sills, transom over entry, gabled attic dormer window in front, shutters. Four Doric columns support flat porch roof. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN0157
412 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story Gable front Townhouse. Aluminum siding exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Arched trim over windows, side hallway, sidelights and transom. Three front bays, 1/1 double-hung sash. Small portico shelters entry. Circa 1890
One contributing building

FN0158
Empty Lot
One non contributing resource

FN0159
428 South Samuel St. Two story Classical Revival house. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Three front bays, side hallway, 6/6 double-hung sash, decorative shutters. Greek Revival portico over entry, supported by square pillars. Builder: John Watson McCurdy
Built in 1870
One contributing building

FN0160
Circa 1870
One contributing building

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512 South Samuel St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, working shutters, wide roof overhang. Center hall entry sheltered by pedimented portico supported by square pillars. Eight-pane sidelights and a curved paneled transom accent the entry. Right side porch supported by Doric columns. Rear extension.

**Circa 1920**

One contributing building

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**FN0162**

518 South Samuel St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Four front bays, side hall entry. 6/6 double-hung sash. Recessed entry with sidelights. Newer addition to the neighborhood.

**Circa 1950**

One contributing building

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**FN0163**

522 South Samuel St. Two and one-half story I-House with rear extension, Brick exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Center hall, three front bays 6/6 double-hung sash, shutters, and pedimented portico over front entry featuring Federal style transom and carved paneled entry system. Center front attic dormer is atypical of the style. Open eaves and fancy roof brackets. Low pitched roof. Stone sills and flat arches over the windows. Large front portico may have been removed earlier. One newer garage.

**Circa 1870**

One contributing building

One non-contributing building

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**FN0164**

528 South Samuel St. Two story Colonial Revival house. Wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Center hall, three front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, baluster on porch roof.

**Circa 1930**

One contributing building

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**FN0165**

534 South Samuel St. (Riddle-Murphy House). This I-House, with rear extension, dates from 1858. Wood exterior, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Two internal chimneys. Chimney positions suggest house may have been built in two stages, with a left extension following the original construction. Three front bays, 6/1 and 6/6 double-hung sash. Three shed roof dormers, Dentil trim on porch roof, which is supported by two Doric columns and pilasters. Sidelights and transom accent the center hall entry. Some spectators witnessed the execution of John Brown from the windows of this house.

**Builder:** Hunter, Andrew

**Circa 1858**

One contributing building

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546 South Samuel St. Gothic influences distinguish this steeply roofed Side-Hallway house. Stucco exterior, standing seam metal roof, block foundation. Two front bays, two and one half stories, 4/4 double-hung sash, wide eaves,

Circa 1860
One contributing building

FN0167
600 South Samuel St. This Gable and Wing residence may date from 1840. Brick exterior, asphalt roof, brick and stone foundation. Six front bays, two stories, 6/1 original double-hung sash. Winglet and rear extension. Balustrade at roof ridge line. Large interior chimneys, stone lintels and sills. Transom over single entry. Turned porch posts are a later, incongruous addition. Wide eave returns and cornice boards. New two-car garage.

Circa 1850
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

FN0168
607 South Samuel St. New brick ranch, sensitive infill.

Circa 1980
One non-contributing building

FN0169

Circa 1850
Two contributing buildings

FN0170
622 South Samuel St. Two story Side Hallway house with extensions. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, block foundation. Bold window sills and lintels, decorative shutters. Extensions on either side of main house joined by full porch roof. Sash is 6/6 double-hung, in four double and triple front bays. Curved portico over entry, supported by two Doric columns. Many updates.

Circa 1930
One contributing building

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story windows. Sash is 1/1 double-hung. The high-style architecture in this dwelling echoes the style of Woodford Lawn. 
Circa 1890
One contributing building

FN0172
628 South Samuel St. Side Hallway house, with substantial twentieth century alterations that may have become historic in themselves. Stucco exterior, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Central chimney. Casement windows in resized bays. Arched portico over entry with sidelights. Bay window in front, rear extension, side porch. 
Circa 1850
One contributing building

FN0173
632 South Samuel St. Perhaps dating from as early as 1820, this Side-Hallway house is a classic Charles Town architectural form that was common before the Civil War. Low pitched roof with wide overhang, and central chimney. House is a little taller than its neighbors. One of two or three homes on South Samuel Street that are much older than the rest. This may be a log house. Lapped wood siding, standing seam metal roof, stone foundation. Two front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash, working shutters. Pedimented portico over single side entry. Rose trellis and picket fence. 
Circa 1840
One contributing building

FN0174
634 South Samuel St. Side Hallway house with many alterations. Aluminum siding, metal roof, obscured (probably stone) foundation. Deep window reveals suggest replacement sash in an old log house. Central chimney. The house probably originally had four bays, one now is covered by siding. Sash is 1/1 double-hung, replacement. Closely resembles house at 636 S. Samuel St., which has a similar exterior alteration. Rear extension. 
Circa 1860
One contributing building

FN0175
636 South Samuel St. Side Hallway house with many alterations. Stucco exterior, metal roof, stucco covered foundation. Like the house at 634 South Samuel, this dwelling is probably an older residence, dating from before 1860. Originally four front bays, 6/6 double-hung replacement sash, right side extension. Possibly an old log house 
Circa 1860
One contributing building

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FN0176
644 South Samuel St. Two story Italianate house with original architectural detailing intact. Side Hallway. Two front bays, 6/6 double-hung sash. Situated on a large level lot, this dignified dwelling speaks volumes about the architectural history of Charles Town. Wood lapped exterior and gingerbread trim, asphalt shingle roof, and coursed rubble foundation. It may be the second structure on this older foundation, or it could have been built in the throes of post-war Reconstruction when materials were scarce. Rear extension has original metal roof.
Circa 1870
One contributing building

FN 0177
704 South Samuel St. Two story Italianate Side-Hallway house. Wood siding, metal roof, stone foundation; this residence, as the one at 644 South Samuel Street, speaks eloquently of past housing styles in the community. Restained Italianate trim on the full front porch, 6/6 double-hung sash, three front bays, chamfered porch posts, internal chimney and rear extension. Older shed in the rear.
Circa 1870
Two contributing buildings

FN0179
Circa 1970
Three non-contributing buildings

FN0180
Circa 1920
One contributing building

FN0181
918 South Samuel St. The last house on the street, still within the city, this very old I-House probably was a rural farmstead when it was built. Aluminum siding probably conceals log construction. Standing seam metal roof and stone foundation. The wrap around porch and porte-cochere are later additions, but in themselves are also very old. The flat porch roof is supported by bold square pillars on stone piers rising above grade. Three front bays, original 2/2 double-hung sash, single entry with federal transom over. Probably an ante-bellum farmhouse. Three outbuildings are new.
Circa 1850
One contributing building
Three non-contributing buildings

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THROUGHOUT the DISTRICT
2 Contributing Structures

Low retaining walls line the sidewalk in front of some of the resources throughout the district. The walls are generally one to two feet in height and appear in different forms (including stacked fieldstone and/or large squared stones stacked two high).
Circa 1900
One contributing structure

The district has several brick sidewalks approximately three to four feet in width.
Circa 1920
One contributing structure
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The South Charles Town Historic District is historically significant at the local level under Criterion C for its architecture. The period of significance is 1840-1950 and relates to the construction dates of houses that contribute to the significance of the district. The legislature extended several town boundaries in 1872, but the aftermath of the Civil War allowed for very little growth so soon. By 1880, Charles Town was sufficiently recovered to experience a small economic boom. The town grew in a southeasterly direction, by extending the original streets that ran perpendicular to Washington Street. Although the district includes properties that date from as early as 1840, this neighborhood was not annexed to the city until 1891. The district embodies several architectural styles and retains a very high degree of integrity. It is the third historic district for Charles Town.

HISTORY

The major streets of Charles Town are named for members of the Washington family and the patriotic ideals and institutions of the new United States. The main street is Washington Street. Liberty Street parallels Washington Street on the north, and Congress Street parallels it on the south. The intersecting streets of George, Samuel, Mildred, and Church streets are denoted as north or south of Washington Street. North and South George, Charles, Samuel, Mildred, Lawrence, Augustine, West, and Church streets, plus Congress and Liberty, are the original streets in the town. This district consists of the southeastern extensions of Church, Samuel, Mildred, and George streets that were gradually expanding as the town recovered from the Civil War. Charles Town sustained serious damage during the war and it required many years for the community to rebuild its infrastructure. The jail, courthouse, some housing stock, the gas plant, the city wells, and streets were severely damaged or destroyed. Jefferson County’s agricultural heritage remained intact, but some returning veterans pursued other economic interests and opportunities. These new initiatives influenced the nature of the growth of the town.

In 1889, City Council contracted with the Charles Town Water and Manufacturing Co., to provide eighteen fire hydrants with double nozzles and to maintain them. B.C. Washington was the superintendent of the water plant at that time, and Gustav Brown was mayor of town.3 The increased prosperity that came after the 1890s and the continuing recovery from the war made necessary the new housing construction on the south side of town.

The Hunter Addition was laid out in 1891. Eighteen half-acre lots were laid out on the southern extension of Mildred and East (now Church) streets, beginning at Hunter Street.4 Increased commerce near the railroad on the north side of town brought petitions to council seeking to extend George, and to macadamize parts of Congress and Samuel streets.

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2 One house within the district, the Gibson-Todd House, was listed in the National Register in 1983 under Architecture, Politics/Government, and Local History. The nomination stated that it was significant as the home of John Gibson, the site of John Brown’s execution, and as a significant example of Victorian architecture. Currently, however, it does not appear to be individually eligible for its association with Gibson, Brown, or the hanging. Gibson’s productive career predated the construction of the house and the site of John Brown’s hanging does not appear to retain integrity. Therefore, the areas of significance (Politics/Government and Local History) listed in the 1983 nomination are not included in this nomination.

3 Minutes, City of Charles Town, Aug. 15, 1899.

That same year, Charles Town petitioned the state legislature to change the form of government to a strong mayor/council system. Soon after this petition, the street commission moved to condemn property to allow for the extension of George Street that council approved earlier in the month. R.P. Lippet was awarded damages of $150 for this project. Storekeepers petitioned council to repair platforms in front of stores and to ban the storing of boxes and barrels there. These petitions to council indicate a busy downtown area that was seeking improvements at public expense. A trolley system was established in conjunction with the electric company’s plan to move electrical service along the town’s street grid and “future extensions.” Council readily agreed to the proposal. Later, town fathers agreed to extend Washington Street eastward, pleasing the forty-six town residents who sought the extension. Southward extensions are first indicated on a town plat map dated Circa 1882, which shows George Street extended to Mason Street, and Samuel Street similarly extended and developed to Mason Street, on the west side. The rest of what became South Charles Town was sparsely settled, platted only as far south as Hunter Street.

In 1892, F. W. Brown and Col. McDonald petitioned council for a boardwalk along South Samuel St. That same year, town leaders asked Dr. Richardson to present the board with a sanitary report and recommendations. He reported that the city’s water supply came from a spring one mile west of town, cisterns, and wells. This water supply was threatened by more than 500 privies, most of which discharged onto the surface of the land. In addition, there were 154 pig pens, 100 stables, 323 cellars, and four slaughterhouses. Richardson recommended moderate grading of the streets to serve the needs of sanitation, removal of the slaughterhouses, and banning pig pens in city limits. Removing the slaughterhouses provided more wholesome water for livestock, the physician explained. He noted that Charles Town was free of epidemics, but without sanitary improvements, citizens should expect them in the future. Council took no immediate action on the recommendation.

After 1900, growth proceeded more rapidly owing to a diversifying local economy and rising entrepreneurship. The town was fully recovered from the war by 1907, and the city completed the construction of storm gutters, made street improvements, and enhanced the public sanitation. Storm gutters drained water to South Lawrence and Augustine streets, where they emptied into Evitt’s Run. Still dependent upon horses, the owners of the big houses in this historic district often maintained small stables or carriage houses on their properties. By 1915, or so, most houses were equipped with running water. Indoor plumbing followed rapidly after that. Washington Street remained a favorite place for racing horses.

This compact neighborhood is within walking distance of the downtown – a factor that was attractive to businessmen, merchants, and civil leaders. New industries opened up in and around Charles Town, providing many new jobs. Harness making, brass works, and a cardboard factory arose in this era. Tin shops and mercantile establishments of all

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5 Charles Town Council Minutes, Feb. 2, 1891.
6 Minutes, Feb. 16, 1891.
7 Minutes, Feb. 24, 1891.
8 Minutes, April 6, 1891.
9 Minutes, June 1, 1891.
10 Minutes, 1892.
types were listed in Randall’s Business Directory. The owners of these enterprises, educators, and other professionals lived in this upper middle class neighborhood.

Robert Preston Chew (1843-1921) invested heavily in post war Charles Town with as much dash and élan as he had displayed with his “Flying Battery” of guns during the Civil War. He established Powhatan College for women in 1901. He became head of the town’s water works and founded the Charles Town Mining, Manufacturing, and Improvement Company in 1890. Other local incorporators were Frank Beck, Forrest W. Brown, T.C. Green, W.F. Lippitt, A.W. McDonald, and B.C. Washington. This enterprise, built on 850 acres of land north of Charles Town, ultimately became the separate town of Ranson, but the company’s investors always resided in Charles Town. Further educational opportunities for women arose in 1907 with the opening of the John Stephenson Female Seminary on East Washington Street. The Reed, Lung, and Manning Grain Elevator, Coal, Wood, and Fertilizer Company provided many new jobs in this era as well. It was located in the center of North Charles Town. With this growth came demands for additional housing that reflected the increasing prosperity of the community.

Criterion C: Architecture

The buildings in South Charles Town are all houses and their dependencies, except for the former Catholic Church. The architectural styles are generally upscale, reflecting the growing commercial and professional class that brought a more diversified economy to the small community. Colonial Revival, Folk Victorian, Victorian, Queen Anne, Italianate, American Foursquare and a few Gothic Revival embellishments complement several variations of the I-house form, the predominate housing style in the older parts of town. Log houses comprise the earliest construction style in Charles Town. North Charles Town, which is much older than this district, contains many of them. The presence of log houses in South Charles Town indicates that the area was at least sparsely settled at a very early date. Log houses remained popular in Charles Town long after milled lumber and nails became available. Somewhat more rare than frame homes or log cabins, the log houses were difficult to construct and difficult to expand. More labor-intensive than a one-story house, their appearance in Charles Town further evidences a growing prosperity early in the town’s history. Before the Civil War, slave labor was used to construct these houses. The logs never remained exposed. Chinking included stone, mortar, and/or straw. Builders always sheathed log houses with lapped weatherboard siding nailed to lath as soon as time and finances allowed. South Samuel Street contains a few examples of these log structures. Most other houses in the district express architectural styles of the mid-nineteenth century. The building surge of the early twentieth century echoed architectural trends of an earlier age, but with modern amenities and design twists. Reliable rail service brought to Charles Town milled lumber and building materials that enabled the construction of more elaborate houses. Terne metal roofs with snowbirds are a ubiquitous characteristic of Charles Town and many houses in this district retain the architectural detail as well.

Although the record is silent about this, several houses seem to be the work of one architect or company. These American Foursquare houses are larger and more delicately trimmed than is usual for the form. Houses with arched window lintels of brick and wood appear on every street. These houses generally are constructed of red brick in a running bond, and feature a flat façade. Often, there is a front dormer or center front gable on the third story. Their massed plans generally are wider than they are deep. Their front porches are full width, supported by slender columns
and capitals, usually Doric. This proportion makes them quite at home in a neighborhood that features many older I-houses.

Period maps of the area indicate that it was mostly in open fields at the outset of the Civil War. However, the property at 414 South Mildred St. (FN0107) contains some evidence of prior occupancy. The owner has recovered shards of early cream ware, early pearl ware, Gaudy Dutch and other ceramics, which date from the mid-eighteenth century through the date of the house’s construction. These findings suggest that this was not the first house on the property, or that a campaign of fill dirt preceded the construction of the house.\(^{13}\) Because the area generally is quite level, it is unlikely to have been filled.

Thirty five houses in the district date from circa 1840-1877, when military occupation by the U.S. Army ended. These houses tend to be a little smaller than the grand Victorian mansions built before or after the war, but they are far larger than twentieth century houses in the district. They often have Italianate embellishments, especially at the roofline, with deep overhanging eaves and ornate brackets. I-houses and side hallway houses also feature modest ornamentation in most cases. Eighty four of the properties date from 1878-1920. This era saw Victorian, Italianate, and Colonial Revival construction. No other part of Charles Town features this “high style” architectural feel. The formality of the Colonial Revival and American Foursquare houses pays homage to the community’s historic association with the family of George Washington. Containing almost ninety years of architectural change, this district reflects a consensus of taste that has been as effective as a strict zoning code in influencing housing construction. The remaining twenty one contributing resources date from between 1920 and 1950. Many of these properties are constructed on a smaller footprint, on slightly steeper lots. Colonial Revival details are common on these houses. The high level of integrity of nearly all of the houses in this district makes each of them significant architecturally, however, a few architecturally distinctive properties also have associations with prominent town leaders or locally important historical actors. Most of the non-contributing properties are substantial brick ranch homes constructed in the late twentieth century.

Attorney Andrew Hunter in 1858 built the house at 534 South Samuel Street, one year before he assisted with the prosecution of John Brown, an association that is historically significant to the residents of Charles Town. Now known as Riddle-Murphy House, (FN0165) the building offered a few spectators a clear vantage point to witness Brown's execution. This frame house is a center hall I house, with a winding stairwell inside the entry that climbs to the third floor, where three shed-roofed dormers face forward. Working wooden shutters and a classical revival front portico supported by Doric columns distinguish the exterior of the house, which sits behind a white picket fence.

Architect Julius Holmes was active in Charles Town, although within this district only the William L. Wilson House (FN0085) at 309 South Mildred Street has been positively identified as his work. This Victorian house is actually two joined structures. A Circa 1850 farmhouse was repositioned on the lot. In 1879 Holmes oversaw the addition of a wing. The porches and extensive decorative millwork convey a sense of cohesion to the building, but from the rear of the property, the complex and illogical roofline reveals that the building is a marriage of two structures. The center entry is flanked by sidelights and a transom. Above it, a square tower rises for three more stories to a viewing perch overlooking the town. Fish scale shingles, milled spindles and other gingerbread trim, in unmatched uses, distinguish the exterior of the house, which sits behind a white picket fence.

\(^{13}\) Interview, Barbara Rasmussen with Robert Warnock, 2002.
this Gable Front and Wing house. Congressman Wilson was the political voice for agrarian interests in West Virginia during a time when industry was setting the political agenda. Wilson, who also served as president of two universities, and as Postmaster General under President Grover Cleveland, helped to establish a Baptist Church in Charles Town and served as the local Superintendent of Schools. Wilson house has been designated a local historic landmark by the community.

Chew House (FN0260) at 512 South George Street, dates from 1836. R.P. Chew acquired the Victorian property in 1901 from the Bedinger family, and lived there until his death. Although somewhat altered over the years, the house’s three story octagonal tower is distinctive for its open air third floor. It is located on land that once belonged to the Washington family. Next to Chew House, on land once owned by Chew, stands Burns House, (FN0259) a large brick Victorian mansion that was built in 1897. The house was renovated in 1942, with removal of the Victorian elements of the exterior. Additional alterations and renovations gave the house a Chateauesque tone. A round tower with steep pointed roof anchors the right side of the façade. Surrounded by mature conifers, the property consists of three and a half acres of land within town limits. This house features curved walls, imported wallpapers, and an elevator that accommodated the needs of Dr. Burns, who used a wheel chair.

The Gibson-Todd House (FN0137) at 515 South Samuel St. is architecturally significant for its High Victorian architecture that is accented with a bold Norman tower. This large brick home was built by John Thomas Gibson in 1891. It features a cross gable roof line, with a right side chimney heavily ornamented with corbelling. The parapeted slate roof lends an air of substance to the house. Elaborate collector boxes located at the base of roof valleys direct rainfall through copper downspouts. A three-quarter front porch spans the front from the base of the tower to the edge of the right face. It is trimmed with finely turned spindle railings, gingerbread cornices and a stylized banister. A bird motif decorates the steep peak of the conical tower roof. John Gibson sited his house on the parcel of land that contains the site of Brown’s gallows. Briefly owned by The National Trust for Historic Preservation, the house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Although the gallows site has lost its historic integrity, a West Virginia State Highway Historic Marker acknowledges the site.

Woodford Lawn (FN0145) at 619 South Samuel Street was moved to its present location from Washington D.C. in 1890. It was dismantled on its site on Massachusetts Avenue, and transported by train to Charles Town where it was meticulously reassembled. Owner James M. Mason, an attorney for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, carefully oversaw the re-construction of the building in three phases, as his family grew. The house occupies a large lot that includes formal boxwood gardens. The privately owned house has traditionally been available to the community for civic and charitable events, and is a source of pride for the community. Local lore holds that the house was once part of the holdings of the Embassy of Switzerland. The diamond pane windows and all of the interior woodwork are original to the house. Although it has been on its present site for 119 years, it is not clear how old the building was at the time of its removal from Washington.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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15 *Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac*, 10.

16 *Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac*, 58.
Brown-Shugart House (FN0147) at 633 South Samuel Street is a distinctive two-story Victorian House that was built by a member of the Washington family. Forest Washington Brown constructed the house in 1883. It features Italianate window lintels, fish scale shingle trim and a multi-gabled roof. This house, with its soaring tower, contains fifteen rooms, including a first floor ballroom. It occupies a very large, shaded lot. Brown House (FN148) at 635 South Samuel Street is another distinctive two-story Center Hall I House. Nestled near the rear lot line, the house oversees a broad expanse of lawn and mature landscaping. Doric columns support a three-quarters portico, and operational shutters accent the unusual four over four double hung windows. The very large site is bounded by a low stone wall that incorporates Native American artifacts and American Civil War relics.17

Porterfield House (FN0104) at 316 South Mildred Street exemplifies the romantic houses of the late nineteenth century. Featuring ranked bays on the front façade, the strict discipline of its I-House form is softened with Italianate architectural embellishments. The house features a low roof pitch, wide eave overhangs, and a highly ornamented façade with curved lintels, shutters, and a transom over the entrance. The house was built in the 1870s on a parcel of land that was included in the original town plat of 1786. Its large rear extension belies the small footprint often associated with I-houses. Banker John Alexander Porterfield built the house of soft, locally fired brick that was subsequently painted.18 Charles Town had at least one local brickyard in this era. The Hessey Brick Yard was located north of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad tracks. Porterfield was the founder and president of The Bank of Charles Town, and a key actor in the financing of the post Civil War enterprises that led Charles Town into its new era of economic prosperity.

On a more modest scale, the Colonial Revival house at 615 S. Mildred St. (FN0301) was built in 1932 by Nancy Witcher Langhorne Astor, Viscountess (1879-1964). She was the first woman ever elected to the British Parliament. Witcher was born in Albemarle County, Va., the daughter of a former confederate officer. Her early years were spent in penury because of the Civil War. Her father recaptured his prewar fortune as a tobacco auctioneer, but would not consent to send her to college, a decision she always resented. She was a frequent traveler in the Shenandoah Valley when she returned from England to visit with family there. She built the house as a small country retreat. Her international life style afforded little respite from the media, but in Charles Town, occasionally at least, she found peace and quiet. Lady Astor was an outspoken advocate of equality for women and held all dictators in contempt. Known for her witty repartee, she was also a devout Christian Scientist and moralist. During World War II, Lady Astor made her English estate, Clividen, available to American soldiers when they were near. She was married twice, once to Robert Gould Shaw and then to Waldorf Astor. After Astor died in 1952, she largely retired from public life. Although she never renounced her American citizenship, she is buried with her husband at Clividen.

Although this district possesses very fine examples of several different architectural forms, the properties form a coherent vibrancy that provides visually pleasing streetscapes. The neighborhood evokes the feeling of calm and solidity with buildings that possess a very high degree of integrity. Original architectural elements have been well maintained, reflecting refined workmanship. Design is well defined in each of the various house styles. The historic

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17 Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac, 48.
18 Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac, 55.
association with the family of George Washington is a very cohesive community value for Charles Town. Descendants of the family reside in the neighborhood to this day. Streetscapes are unbroken by empty lots or insensitive intrusions. Large lots are artfully landscaped and maintained. The district’s parallel streets, largely level aspect, and landscaping visually set it apart from its surrounding neighborhoods which feature newer, smaller houses on the east and west, and very old, modest I- houses on the south. To the north, the district is distinct from the commercial historic district that includes properties on Congress and Washington streets. The South Charles Town Historic District embraces nearly all of the city’s high style residential architecture.

SUMMARY

The South Charles Town Historic District is historically significant under Criterion C at the local level for its many examples of high style residential architecture and for its older architectural forms that survived the Civil War. This architecture reflects the growing prosperity and economic diversity of the town in the years between 1840 and 1950, as agriculture receded in economic importance.
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III. Maps

S. Howell Brown, 1830, 1852, 1888
Sanborn Insurance Co. 1885-1934
IV. Interviews/Correspondence

Roger and Wanda Perry, November 2002
George Rutherford, January 2002
Evelyn Taylor, January 2002
Alvin Tolbert, January 2002
Annette Van Hilst, October 2002
Robert Warnock, January 2002
Betsy Wells, November, December 2002, May 2003

V. Primary Sources

Minutes, Town of Charles Town Council.
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southern edge of the Historic Downtown Charles Town Historic District at the property located at 208 S. George Street, and thence along the southerly boundary of the Downtown District to the property located at 301 S. Church Street, and thence southeasterly along the rear lot lines of the properties on S. Church Street, crossing Academy, Hunter, and Mason streets to the property located at 619 S. Church Street, then crossing that street and moving northerly to the property located at 534 S. Church Street, then south again along an un-named alley encompassing the four properties on South Mildred Street south of Mason Street, crossing Mildred Street and thence to the southerly boundary of the property located at 604 South Mildred, thence south along an unnamed alley, crossing Green Street, crossing Wall Street, to the southern lot line of the property located at 703 S. Samuel Street, then south along South Samuel street to the property located at 918 S. Samuel, thence in a northerly direction along the rear lot lines of South Samuel St., to an unnamed alley, thence westerly to South George St to its intersection with Mason Street, thence westerly to the rear of the property located at 530 South George St., and thence northerly along the rear lot lines of the properties of South George Street to the place of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary was drawn to include all resources that contribute to the architectural significance of the area known as South Charles Town. Resources along the periphery that do not retain integrity were excluded.
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**Photographer:** Norval Rasmussen  
**Date:** 2008

| Photo 1 of 13 | South Church Street, streetscape image  
Camera facing southeast |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|
| Photo 2 of 13 | South Church Street, streetscape image  
Camera facing east |
| Photo 3 of 13 | Wilson House, resource #0085  
Camera facing northeast |
| Photo 4 of 13 | 316 South Mildred Street, resource #0104  
Camera facing southwest |
| Photo 5 of 13 | South Samuel Street, streetscape image  
Camera facing east |
| Photo 6 of 13 | 312 S. Samuel Street, resource #0153  
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| Photo 8 of 13 | South George Street, streetscape image  
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| Photo 9 of 13 | 530 South George Street, resource #0259  
Camera facing southeast |
| Photo 10 of 13 | South Mildred Street, streetscape image  
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| Photo 11 of 13 | 615 South Mildred Street, resource #0301  
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Camera facing northeast |
| Photo 13 of 13 | 644 South Samuel Street, resource #0176  
Camera facing southwest |
South Charles Town Historic District
Jefferson County, WV

A 18 253789E 4352714N

B 18 254199E 4351917N

C 18 253016E 4351734N

D 18 253306E 4353273N
South Charles Town Historic District
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