1. Name of Property

historic name: Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District
other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: Roughly bounded by U.S. Rt. 250/219, County Road 38, and County Road 21
not for publication: N/A
vicinity: X

city/town: Dailey
state: WV
county: Randolph
code: 083
zip code: 26757

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this _X_ 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 _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _X_ nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet.)

Signature of Certifying Official: Susan M. Price
Date: 2/26/04

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date
4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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):

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property:
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- x private
- x public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- x district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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Name of related multiple property listing N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A
6. Function or Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification:
- Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals
- Colonial Revival
- Other: Vernacular

Materials
- Foundation: concrete, stone
- Walls: synthetics, wood, brick, stone, asbestos
- Roof: asphalt, metal
- Other: concrete, wood

Narrative Description
(See continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
Criteria Considerations
(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:
_____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
_____ B removed from its original location.
_____ C a birthplace or grave.
_____ 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.

Areas of Significance
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
SOCIAL HISTORY
AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance
1934-1944

Significant Dates
1940

Significant Person
Eleanor Roosevelt

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Smith, Benjamin

Narrative Statement of Significance
(See continuation sheets.)

Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District
Randolph County, WV
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(See continuation sheets.)

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:

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

Name of Repository: West Virginia and Regional History Collection, West Virginia University Libraries, Randolph County Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 1,500 acres

UTM References

Quad Map Name: Beverly West, W.Va.

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Verbal Boundary Description
(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(See continuation sheet.)
Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District
Name of Property

Randolph County, WV
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Barbra E. Rasmussen, Ph.D.; Erin Riebe and Alan Rowe, WV SHPO
Organization: Historic Preservation and Research
Street & Number: 224 Wilson Avenue
City or Town: Morgantown

Date: June 30, 2003
Telephone: (304) 292-7652

State: WV
Zip: 26501

Property Owner

Multiple
Property Description

Geography and Geology of the Valley

Tygart Valley lies between Cheat Mountain on the east and Rich Mountain on the west. Both mountains are daunting in their elevation and ruggedness. At the point where the source stream of the Tygart Valley River enters Randolph County from Pocahontas County, the elevation is 3,100 feet. Flowing north, the river drops to 2,500 feet at the head of the valley and continues to drop to an elevation of 1,775 feet at the Randolph-Barbour County line. The elevation of Cheat Mountain is 3,750 feet; that of Rich Mountain is 3,000 feet. Tygart Valley is cradled between them. The river, which is not navigable, runs north for approximately twenty-three miles to Elkins and thence northwest to Fairmont where it joins the West Fork River to become the Monongahela River. Eons ago, the anticlinal valley was scooped out of the top of a single mountain that is now two – Cheat and Rich. That ancient mountain is estimated to have been more than 5,000 feet high before erosion created the modern valley. This geology has enriched the soils of the valley floor, while at the same time bestowing wonderful scenic vistas upon those who live there. Exposed in the valley walls are recoverable deposits of Greenbrier limestone, Pocono sandstone, and Romney shale.¹

In the modern era, the Tygart Valley River did not continue to deepen its channel. Erosion slowly widened the valley via floods that were of less intensity than in the geological past. This fact made for an area that was only lightly developed for farming. For these reasons, 181 years after initial settlement, the Tygart Valley floor remained sparsely populated because its fertile soils were held hostage by poor drainage and sporadic flooding. Flood control and drainage measures were undertaken during the Depression by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Resettlement Administration. In 1937, Tygart Dam was constructed in Grafton, some thirty-six miles downstream to the northwest. This dam created recreational sites and controlled flooding in the broad valley of Randolph County, although its true purpose may have been to tame the rampaging floods that tore at the Monongahela River Valley all the way to Pittsburgh.

It is important to realize that the waters of the Tygart Valley River begin atop the Appalachian Mountains, but they ultimately intersect the great inland water route to the seaport of New Orleans. Beginning in Fairmont, many early mountain entrepreneurs availed themselves

of this resource and shipped pork, whisky, apples, and lumber to an international market. For example, Monongahela Rye Whisky that was made near Morgantown, (West) Virginia was available in St. Petersburg, Russia before 1890. This transportation blessing opened the transmontane to settlement and commerce, even as the curse of flooding retarded growth. Tygart Valley refers to the region of Randolph County, West Virginia along the north-flowing Tygart Valley River between the bend in the valley near Shavers Run and the town of Beverly. This section of the valley hugs the Monongahela National Forest on the east and is in the lee of Rich Mountain to the west. Above the flood plain and skirting it, U.S. Route 250/219 and West Virginia Route 92/55 run together forming a highway that served the eastern portion of West Virginia as a major north-south artery until the construction of Interstate 79 about forty-five miles to the west. Now, the highway serves the region’s tourist industry consisting of ski resorts, state parks, bed and breakfast accommodations, hunting lodges, fishing camps, and historical Civil War sites. A medium security state prison is located near the head of the valley.

Geologically, the mountains of eastern West Virginia are part of the Valley and Ridge Province and parallel each other in waves of steep and narrow mountains separated by deep and narrow valleys. This mountain range sweeps from northeast to southwest. West of this range, the geology changes and becomes the Allegheny Plateau, as evidenced by the dendritic drainage patterns of the disordered mountains there. These mountains are much steeper as they roll and curl westward for miles before they begin to level out at the banks of the Ohio River. Both geologic formations, however, shared the same curse. Spring flooding, often devastating, is a universal characteristic of West Virginia’s geography. This phenomenon has had a major influence on settlement patterns, limiting prosperity and the rise of towns.

The Homesteads

The Tygart Valley resettlement community straddles U.S. Route 250/219 between the “bend” in the valley and the railroad crossing, about ten miles to the north. Homesteads in the Tygart Valley follow two basic architectural forms, varying in size. Houses exhibit modest Colonial Revival details and display either a side-gable roof, resembling a Cape Cod, or a gambrel roof. They had four, five, or six rooms. Current residents refer to their houses as either a “Barn House” or an “A-Frame.” Each house is of frame construction on a concrete block foundation. The foundations are not high, nor were they flashed, so some homesteaders had

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Termite problems. East Dailey homesteaders also contended often with rising water. The floors were finished in oak, and interior walls were plaster. Homestead wood workers constructed built-in cabinetry for each home. Upstairs floors were finished in pine. Houses were equipped with modern plumbing and electricity, but not central heat, a curious fact given the severity and length of Randolph County winters. Wood or coal stoves filled the breach. Kitchens had wood-burning cookstoves. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed the public water system which is still in use.

Both housing styles were designed by government architect Benjamin Smith. The smallest homes in each style contained two bedrooms. The largest contained four bedrooms, but fewer of those were constructed. Most of the homesteads in the Tygart Valley are two and three bedroom homes with recessed porches. One variation in architecture included a recessed full-width porch or partial porch with a recessed entry. Enclosing these porches has been a common alteration to the homesteads. Simple posts supported the roof overhang, usually six per house. The homes were constructed of lapped board siding and wooden, six-over-six double-hung sash windows. Characteristically, they have two or three front bays with a side entrance and a center chimney. Occasionally, houses have two entrances rather than windows. Cape Cod homes were one-and-one-half stories tall with and without dormers. They were roofed with asphalt shingles. The gambrel-roofed homes were two-story buildings. Some residents reported that they may have had two-component roofs. The tops of the roofs were of metal and the sides were wooden shingles. The wooden shingles have been replaced on the gambrel-roofed homes with asphalt shingles, although many of them retain the metal panels on top. A few of the gambrel homes have gabled dormers and a few have gable front entries.

Each homestead included a multipurpose outbuilding. Constructed of earth and wood with a metal roof the structure had two elevations. The outbuildings included a root cellar, chicken house, feed bin, and barn or garage. Barns featured double doors on the garage’s gable end, and three six-light windows that could be propped open from their top hinges to provide ventilation. The outbuildings were variously oriented in a straight line or with an L-wing. They are constructed parallel to the houses or perpendicular to them. In most cases, the house and the outbuilding are near the center of the homestead plot, close to one edge, with a long driveway from the street.

Most homestead lots were planted with at least one or two fruit trees, nut trees, or berries soon after the houses were built. Pear and apple trees have been well tended and are still

\(^4\text{Interview, May 21, 2002, Chelly Depp, Office manager, Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation, Beverly, WV. Ms. Depp lives in a homestead house, and has the original blueprints. Her home is a two-bedroom, gambrel-roof residence.}\)
heavily bearing. Larger orchards are common. Hickory nuts and grapes are also harvested by residents. Garden plots were established for each homesteader. He could borrow hand tools from the community’s tool library located in the community center. Some farmers raised animals while others grew crops. According to local accounts, many families engaged in a cooperative exchange.¹

The architecture of Tygart Valley Homesteads differs from that of Eleanor and Arthurdale. However, each community is characterized by spacious lots, utilitarian outbuildings, and well-kept aspect. Thus, the West Virginia homestead communities share a common link.

Nearly all of the homestead houses are in well-maintained condition, though a few are in need of modest repairs. Refashioning in each neighborhood has diminished the historic integrity of a few of the homes, even though they are very attractive residences in the community. In many cases, the central chimneys on the homesteads have been removed as heating systems were modernized. The outbuildings allowed for the keeping of small livestock. These buildings comprise a most assertive characteristic of the community. They show overall, fewer alterations than the houses do and they are well maintained. Two have been converted to dwellings, thus losing their historic integrity. The outbuildings are counted contributing only if their houses are. In some cases, outbuildings retain historic integrity, but the houses do not. Small outbuildings, such as sheds, were not included in the resource count as advised by the National Register Bulletin.

**Properties Within the District**

Descriptions are organized by plot location. The enclosed maps depict locations of plots and of resources that fall outside of the plots. Resources that are not located within a plot are described first.

**Properties outside Plots A-G**

Field No. 0024 (mapped on Plot D Map)
Dailey Community Center (Originally the Trade Center). Commercial construction with Colonial Revival details. Fluted pilasters in the Doric mode. Bowed dentil arch over the main entrance. Curved bay window and multi-pane fixed windows. Smaller gable roof dormers and one large ribbon window dormer under shed roof along the side. Siding of bluestone, wood, and brick. Roof is wooden shingles. Foundation is stone. This structure was constructed to be a bomb shelter with walls that are 24 inches thick and a full basement. Constructed in 1937, this

¹Interview Mrs. Virginia Samples October, 2001.
building has served the community continually since then. Presently for sale, it still houses the post office. There is a 100-seat restaurant with two dining rooms, three businesses, twelve short-term apartments above, and a two-bedroom apartment on the ground floor. The Huttonsville Public Service District provides water service, although the site has a well that has never been used. Originally, the building housed a cold storage unit, a bakery, restaurant, general store, barber and beauty shops, shoe repair shop, post office and auditorium. A "heat tunnel" channeled heat from the dimension mill to the building. Deed Book 433/p.365. Tax Map 3, Parcel 28.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0024-A (mapped on Plot D map)

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0025
The Homestead School. Art Moderne style brick and glass school building. Flat roof (rubberized) with 13 front bays. Two elevations. Industrial metal windows plus characteristic glass block panels in some exterior walls. Interior construction is fireproof cinder block. Curved solar room at the right end of one-story wing. This room has been the kindergarten classroom since the building was completed in 1939. The school is owned by the United States Department of Agriculture, which leases it to the Randolph County Board of Education. Rear two-story extension is combination gymnasium and auditorium with stage. There is a full kitchen and cafeteria, library and classrooms. Some original homestead maple furniture is used in the classrooms and teacher's lounge. The distinctive hard maple furnishings are sturdy and elegant. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke to the first ninth grade graduates in 1940. The building is presently threatened by fire code requirements. It is the object of substantial community efforts to prevent its closure and reversion to the federal government. Substantial historic significance in architecture and historic associations. Cemetery near school with approximately twenty grave sites, some dating to the eighteenth century. Many members of the Gordon family are buried in this cemetery.

**One contributing building**

**One contributing site**

Field No. 0026
"Superintendent's House." Circa 1880. This vernacular, side-gable house has lapped wooden siding, asphalt shingle roof, and cut stone foundation. Three front bays. Shed dormer over the enclosed gable front portico. Two-over-two double-hung sash original windows. Large chimney
on the left gable end. The unoccupied building is located on the school grounds, thus is also owned by the USDA. It served briefly as a residence for the project superintendent. Threatened by neglect, this structure is also the object of local preservation efforts.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0027
The Warehouse. This long, one-story wooden structure was home to the field office for the Resettlement Administration and also served as the warehouse. Commercial construction. Aluminum exterior (over wooden siding) seamed metal roof and concrete block foundation. Original roof vents and louvers are intact. Replacement one-over-one double-hung sash windows. This building retained a large supply of hand tools that homesteaders could borrow for their gardens or projects. Now used as a carpet store. Circa 1935-36.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0028-A

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0028-B
The Weaving Shop. Circa 1934. Currently known as the Immanuel Apostolic Church. Asbestos shingles, aluminum siding on the exterior, asphalt shingle roof, concrete block foundation. Seven front bays. One-over-one double-hung sash windows. The smaller wing of this building was the original homestead weaving shop. Two story extension to the right. This is one of the very first buildings constructed in the homestead community. It served as headquarters for strikers during 1937, when they protested work hour allocations. All work was closed down during the peaceful strike. The idle workers picked hundreds of quarts of berries and preserved them for the next winter. “Strike berries” were a common cause among the homesteaders. Weavers at the shop produced rugs, towels, wash cloths, cushion toppers, and table runners. Although the building has been heavily altered, it still contributes to the historic character of the community.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0029
Pawn shop, new construction, circa 1990.

**One non-contributing building**
Field No. 0047-C
Huttonsville Public Service District office. Commercial building. Adjacent to the 1900 iron bridge on Back Road. Built circa 1935 by the CCC as the public water supply for the homesteads, the facilities are still in service. One story, three bays, replacement windows. Concrete block and stone foundation, stucco exterior, metal roof, decorative shutter panels, brick chimney. One garage. This building is located next to the Canton truss bridge over the Tygart Valley River.
**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0047-D (mapped on Plot D map)
Coastal Lumber Company (The Kenwood Mill) Industrial use. One-story building with multiple bays. Arched roof line and tall tower. Foundation not visible. Exterior is metal, roof is metal, windows are metal cased industrial style. The mill occupies a thirteen-acre tract of land behind the Trade Center. Two new metal buildings.
**One contributing building**
**Two non-contributing buildings**

Field No. 0047-E (mapped on Plot D map)
Warehouse (The Potato Barn) Wood plank exterior, corrugated metal roof. Log foundation. One-story, three front bays, two hardware cloth windows, one sliding wooden door. Four sliding door industrial bays along former rail siding. Surviving one of three warehouses built for the cooperative farm. Now stores industrial parts.
**One contributing building**

Field No. 0200-A
Community Farm. A wide swath of land between Route 250/219 and the homesteads along Back Road was reserved for the communal farming activities of the settlement. There are good historic records of the agricultural activities that took place there, but actual locations have been only partially established. Written record, oral history, photography of the construction, and surviving artifacts was used to roughly locate the agricultural endeavors. Thus, the farm is listed as one resource of approximately 550 acres, that produced cattle, swine, meadow grasses (250 acres), wheat (61 acres), corn (60 acres), oats (58 acres), and potatoes (42 acres), in addition to the vegetable and relief gardens of approximately 50 acres. The vegetable gardens featured cool weather crops such as cabbage and broccoli, but they were abandoned early in the project because of overwhelming damage from foraging wildlife, primarily deer. Photographs reveal that horses and tractors were used for mowing, hauling, and threshing. These photos are housed at the Library of Congress’s American Memory web site, under the following call numbers:
Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District
Name of Property

Randolph County, WV
County/State

Section 7
Page 8

Threshing crew at the Tygart Valley, August 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LC USF33 000723-M3
Threshing at Tygart Valley, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LC USF33-000723-M2
Interior of homestead kitchen, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LC USF33-4006744-D
Panorama view, looking north, 1939, John Vachon, photographer, LC USF34-060079-D
Wheat raised at Tygart Valley Homesteads, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LC USF33-000722-M1
Crop land, looking south, 1936 Carl Mydans, photographer, LC USF33 000724-M3
Weaving shop with crops behind, 1939, John Vachon, photographer, LC USF33-001398-M1
Working in the gardens, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LCUSF33-000725-M3
Potato fields behind the Kenwood Mill, 1939, John Vachon, photographer, LC USF33-001410-M3
Corn stubble, 1938, Marion Post Wolcott, photographer, LCUSF34-050021-E
Panorama showing sown crops, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer, LCUSF34 006748-D
Swine at Tygart Valley, 1936, Carl Mydans, photographer LCUSF33 000726-M2
Cattle grazing at Tygart Valley, 1938, Marion Post Wolcott, photographer, LCUSF34-050257-E
Corn in tassel in Tygart Valley, 1938, Marion Post Wolcott, photographer, LCUSF34-050097-E DLC

Copies of some of the photos are appended to this report. The farmland was sold in 1937, but the land remained agricultural. There is a small cattle chute at the southern boundary of the meadow lands, and a cattle handling barn complex near the East Dailey Bridge.

One contributing site
One contributing structure

Field No. 0241
Back Road. Modern, one story house with side gable roof an vinyl siding. One trailer, modern garage, and two frame outbuildings also on site.

Five non-contributing outbuildings

Field No. 0242
Back Road. One-story, side gable house, c.1940, metal roof, attached garage, three-over-one double-hung sash windows, and shed roof porch.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0243
Back Road. Two-story, side gable house with vinyl siding, concrete block chimney, shed roof
porch, one-over-one windows, and rear addition. Property also includes two gambrel roof barns, concrete silo with metal roof, shed roof carport, frame outbuilding, quonset outbuilding, and metal pole shed.

Seven non-contributing buildings
One non-contributing structure

Field No. 0261
The East Dailey Bridge. Constructed in 1938 by Camp Tygart of the CCC, this steel stringer bridge replaced a submarine bridge at this location. Constructed of steel with an asphalt deck, the bridge is 204 feet long. Construction photographs of this bridge and of the bridge it replaced are located at the Library of Congress’s American Memory Web Site: 1938, bridge construction, Marion Post Wolcott, photogragher, LC USF33-030127 MI, and 1939, John Vachon, new bridge and old, LCUSF34-060070-D.
One contributing structure

Field No. 0262
Valley Bend Truss Bridge. Pratt Steel Thru Truss Bridge on Back Road. Constructed in 1900 and reconstructed in 1993, this bridge provided access to towns for farmers located in the region. The steel structure has a steel deck and stone pillars. Constructed by the Canton Bridge Co., it spans 204 feet across the Tygart Valley River.1
One contributing structure

Field No. 0263
Wamsley Farm. This early I-House, circa 1800, is located at the southeastern portion of the resettlement area, and was not originally part of the Resettlement Project, but it is encompassed by the district boundaries and now includes farmland that belonged to the homestead community. The house has an aluminum exterior, metal roof, and stone foundation. An exterior stone chimney is located to the left. There is a newer front porch with hipped roof, supported by Doric columns. There is a large rear extension. Three front bays, two stories, six-over-six double-hung sash windows. There are three single-pen log outbuildings, unchinked, that may have been used as drying houses or perhaps once as servants quarters. One large older barn to the rear of the house, and one modern barn. The property consists of approximately five-hundred acres on both sides of Back Road, part of which was once managed by the Resettlement Administration.

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Five contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0283
U.S. Route 250/219. Modern, one-and-one-half-story house with front gable, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, hip roof porch, and vinyl siding.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0284
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0285
U.S. Route 250/219. Modern, one-story, side-gable house with aluminum siding and eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0286
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0287
County Road 21. Modern trailer and three sheds.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0288
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0289
Randolph Road near Plot C. Gable roof barn with open ends and side shed extension. Wooden cattle shoot.
One contributing building
One contributing structure

Field No. 0290
Randolph Road near Plot C. Modern metal pole shed.
One non-contributing building
Field No. 0291
Randolph Road Near Plot B. c.1990 modern, two-story building with vinyl siding. Two-bay detached garage, two gable roof barns, one silo, one wood crib, one shed roof metal outbuilding, one wood, shed roof outbuilding.
Five contributing buildings
Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0292
County Road 21. c.1965 house with vinyl siding and insulbrick, side gable.
One non-contributing building

Plot A – East Dailey Community

Plot A of the East Dailey Community includes twenty-nine contributing buildings and thirty-five non-contributing buildings. Non-contributing buildings are generally trailers or modern construction. Six of the homesteads are gambrel-roofed and ten are Cape Cods. Gambrel homes are two-story and Cape Cod homes are one and one-half story. All foundations are of concrete block unless noted otherwise. All are circa 1955 unless noted otherwise.

Field No. 0030
Lot A-17. J. A. Wells Homestead. Four-room gambrel-roof homestead with two gable front dormers. Some original six-over-six double-hung sash windows, some one-over-one replacement windows. Three bays. Enclosed front porch. Wooden clapboard siding, asphalt and metal roof. Original outbuilding and stable. Five other new buildings take up space originally designated for gardens and livestock.
Two contributing buildings
Six non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0031
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0032
Lot A-11. Lester Kyle Homestead. The original building has been demolished. There are four new trailers.
Four non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0033
Lot A-7. Beverage Louk Homestead. This was the first homestead built in Tygart Valley. Six-room, gambrel-roof with front and rear enclosed extensions. Asphalt roof, aluminum exterior. Decorative shutters, some replacement windows, four bays. Original outbuilding with replacement twelve-light windows.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0034

Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0035
Lot A-5. Frank Swecker Homestead. Four-room gambrel-roof with two front gabled dormers. Aluminum siding, asphalt roof. Two front bays, most windows are six-over-six original double-hung sash. Recessed porch spanning front of house, supported by square posts. Original outbuilding is present.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0036

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0037

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0038
Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District

Two new shed porches over two entry ways. Building is adaptively reused as a duplex. Six bays, six-over-six double-hung sash original and one-over-one replacement windows. Original outbuilding is present.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0039

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0040
Lot A-15. Rental. Four-room Cape Cod. Aluminum siding and stone veneer, asphalt shingle roof. Two front bays, one-over-one replacement windows, one story rear extension. Original outbuilding with side extension, barn, three mobile homes.

Two contributing buildings

Four non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0041
Lot A-14. Circa 1945 Cape Cod with alterations. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof. Three bays, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, side extension, full front shed roof. This is possibly not an original homestead house, rather a sensitively designed later addition, on a parcel surveyed off of Lot A-14. An original homestead outbuilding is located on the plot. New two car garage.

Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0042

Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0043
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sash windows, some one-over-one replacement windows. One story extension to the right. Original homestead orchard of peach, apple, and pear trees. Original well and outbuilding.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0044
Eight non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0045
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0046
Lot A-8. Four-room Cape Cod. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, half recessed front porch double-hung sash windows are six-over-one, one-over-one, and some replacements. Square porch supports, front deck of redwood added. Original outbuilding is substantially altered by addition of a two car garage.
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0269
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0270
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0271
One non-contributing building
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Field No. 0272

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0273
Lot A-17. Modern trailer house with garage.

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0274

Two non-contributing buildings

Plot B – East Dailey

East Dailey Plot B contains eighteen homestead plots each with a traditional outbuilding. There are twenty-eight contributing buildings and twenty-four non-contributing buildings. Some feature later additions and some lots have been subdivided. Nine of the houses are Cape Cod and eight are gambrel-roofed. All foundations are concrete block with no basements. All construction is circa 1935 unless noted differently.

Field No. 0048

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0049

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0050
Four non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0051

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0052

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0053

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0054
Lot B-2. W. E. Ware Homestead. Four-room gambrel-roof. Aluminum exterior, two component roof of metal and asphalt shingles. Two front bays. Center chimney, one-over-one double-hung sash replacement windows. Typical recessed front porch is closed in. One rear porch extension. Original outbuilding with addition.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0055

Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0056
Outbuilding present. Modest alterations are reversible.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0057

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0058

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0059

Two contributing buildings

Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0060

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0061

Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0062
Lot B-12. E.L. Sipes Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Two front bays, one-over-one replacement windows. Two gable end chimneys, full-width front porch supported by extruded aluminum pillars of a concrete slab deck. Small
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rear extension. Original outbuilding.

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0063

**Two contributing buildings**

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0064

**Two contributing buildings**

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0065

**Two car garage extension. Original outbuilding.**

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0248

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0249

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0250

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0251

**One non-contributing building**
### Field No. 0252
*One non-contributing building*

### Field No. 0266
Lot B-2. Modern, one-story brick house, with side gables and one-over-one double-hung sash windows.
*One non-contributing building*

### Field No. 0267

### Field No. 0268
Lot B-8. Modern, double-wide trailer house.
*One non-contributing building*

### Plot C – East Dailey
East Dailey Plot C contains thirty-nine homestead plots. Eighteen homestead houses are original gambrel-roofed houses. There are eighteen Cape Cod houses. There is one contributing site, sixty-one contributing buildings and fifty non-contributing buildings. Most of the non-contributing buildings are post 1965 construction, or original outbuildings that have been severely altered. There are trailers, new construction, and empty lots.

### Field No. 0047-B
Abraham Carper Cemetery. Intersection of Back Road and Pritt Lane. Seven upright headstones, two leaning against tree. Most illegible. Two marked INF (infant), children of C.S. (Charles Sidney) S.M. Pritt. Carper (1791-1887); father of Nehemiah Carper, who owned 800 acres of farmland in Beverly in the late 1890s.\(^8\)
*One contributing site*

### Field No. 0066
*Two non-contributing buildings*

---

\(^8\)Maxwell, *History of Randolph County*, 341.
Field No. 0067
Lot C-13B. Alvie Vogel Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Three front bays, one-over-one replacement windows. Small portico over front entry. Very few alterations. Original outbuilding is present.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0068
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0069
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0070
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0071
Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0072
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0073
Lot C-19. Welch Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum siding and asphalt shingle roof. This is the last homestead house built in the Tygart Valley resettlement community. Four front bays, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Full-width front porch, rear extension, original outbuilding, with concrete block extension. Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0074
Lot C-20. Stewart Taylor Homestead. Small Cape Cod. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Front porch extension, two front bays. Large rear extension. One-over-one double-hung sash replacement windows. New two car garage, original outbuilding with large extension. Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0075
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0076
Lot C-22. Stanley Phares Homestead. Only the original outbuilding remains on this homestead lot. The original foundation is intact and may provide some modest archaeological information if excavated by a certified archaeologist. Original house may have burned, according to some neighbors. One non-contributing building

Field No. 0077
Lot C-23-A. Clay Chenoweth Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt roof. Two gabled dormers in front. Two front bays, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Fluted replacement porch columns. Several extensions and additions to original outbuilding alter its historic character. One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0078
Lot C-24. Sterl Gear Homestead. Larger Cape Cod house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Center chimney, three front bays. Full-width rear extension, full-width front porch one-over-one double-hung sash windows, and some fixed pane windows, altered in size, decorative
shutters. Original outbuilding also altered. This homestead still retains its historic feel, despite the number of alterations.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0079

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0080
Lot C-26. Bert Ash Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior siding, two component roof of metal and asphalt shingles. Six front bays. one-over-one replacement windows. Front and rear extensions. Original lot is heavily built up with four other new buildings, all deeded off the original homestead lot including a new garage, mobile home, wooden shed, and storage building. Original outbuilding is not evident.

Four non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0081
Lot C-27. Sillberger Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Four front bays, enclosed porch, rear extension. One-over-one, six-over-six, and fixed windows. Original outbuilding altered by new garage door and nearby extension, connected by a “dog trot.” Other important architectural details are intact.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0082

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0083
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Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0084
Lot C-30. L. E. Kennison Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Four front bays, with one-over-one replacement double-hung sash windows. Central chimney. Rear porch extension. Outbuilding has metal roof, original panel doors.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0085

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0086

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0087

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0088

Two contributing buildings
Field No. 0089
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0090
Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0091
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0092
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0093
Lot C-1. Jesse Lloyd Homestead. One new building.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0094
Two non-contributing buildings
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Field No. 0095
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0096
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0097
Lot C-5.  Paul Marks Homestead.  Six-room gambrel-roof house.  Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof.  Two front bays, one-over-one replacement windows.  Two gabled dormers, one side extension, primary entry relocated to rear of house.  Original outbuilding is in original condition.  Additional new, two-car garage.
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0098
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0099
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0100
shingle roof. Two front bays, two gabled dormers. Six-over-one double-hung sash windows. Recessed half-width porch with replacement aluminum porch posts. Original homestead outbuilding and one new outbuilding.

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0101
Lot C-9. Dale Lloyd Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Original wooden clapboard exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney, four front bays, six-over-six and one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Half-width recessed porch with two simple wooden support posts. Original homestead outbuilding and one additional older outbuilding. Historic integrity is extremely well maintained.

Three contributing buildings

Field No. 0102

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0103

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0244
Lot C-29. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof and attached garage.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0245
Lot C-28. Modern, one-story house with vinyl siding and one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0246
Lot C-23B. Modern, one-story, side gable house with center gable porch, vinyl siding, and one-
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over-one double-hung sash windows.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0247
Lot C-18. Modern, double-wide trailer house with side gable roof, vinyl siding, and one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0253
Lot C-15. Modern, one-and-one-half story house with vinyl siding, side gable roof, one-over-one double-hung sash house, and side attached garage.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0254
Lot C-36. Modern, double-wide trailer house.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0255
Lot C-35. Modern, one-and-one-half story house with side gable roof, gable dormers, and vinyl siding.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0256
Lot C-34B. Modern one-and-one-half story house with vinyl siding, recessed porch, side gable roof, and one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0257
Lot C-34B. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof, vinyl siding, recessed porch, and one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0258
Lot C-1. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof, brick chimney, vinyl siding, shed roof porch, and horizontal, two-over-two windows. Property also has a shed outbuilding.

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0259
Lot C-1. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof, and one-over-one double-hung sash
windows. Property also has a modern garage and two small outbuildings.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0260
Lot C-12. Modern trailer house.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0264
One contributing building

Field No. 0265
Lot C-13. Elmer Cross Homestead. One-story house with gambrel roof, gable dormers, vinyl siding, and one-over-one double-hung sash windows, c.1950. Property also has two trailers and one shed outbuilding. Not a resettlement homestead (note basement foundation and scale of windows.) No outbuilding.
Four non-contributing buildings

Plot D – Dailey Community

The neighborhood of Dailey consists of twenty-four lots. Fifteen buildings were constructed after the homestead era. There are forty-two contributing buildings and twenty-eight non-contributing buildings. The most common reason for this determination is that the buildings were constructed after 1965. The commercial center of the Tygart Valley is located in Dailey, on the eastern side of U.S. Route 250/219. These lots are long and narrow. Except for the commercial buildings, all of the properties in Dailey have concrete block foundations and were constructed circa 1935, unless noted differently below.

Field No. 0001
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0002
Lot D-23. F. S. Thomas Homestead. Modified four-room Cape Cod homestead with aluminum siding, asphalt roof, and some replacement windows with decorative shutters and front and rear extensions. Three bays. Eleanor Roosevelt visited this homestead on her first visit to Valley
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Bend. One homestead combination outbuilding.

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0003

**One contributing building**

**Two non-contributing buildings**

Field No. 0004

**Two contributing buildings**

**Two non-contributing buildings**

Field No. 0005
Lot D-20. Side gable vernacular cottage with beveled wooden lap siding, circa 1940, asphalt shingle roof, concrete block foundation, three bays. Some six-over-six double-hung sash windows. Building is located on the same lot as the first inn in the resettlement community.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0005-A
Lot D-20. Offices and inn. Queen Anne house. Circa 1890. This is the Eakin home that was purchased by the Tygart Valley Association to be used as temporary housing for visiting officials. Consisting of eleven rooms and generous furnishing, the association in 1940 offered it for rent at $25 per month if the tenant would operate the facility as an inn. Aluminum siding, standing seam terne metal roof, and stone foundation. Cross-gable farm house with shed porch on two sides, supported by turned posts. Rear extension, side porch door, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, transom over entry. Three bays. One of the few older farmsteads that dotted the hillsides along the Tygart Valley prior to the Resettlement Administration project.

**One contributing building**

Field No. 0006
Portico over altered front entrance. Two bays. One-over-one double-hung sash windows, one bow window, center chimney. Original homestead cellar/barn complex.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0007
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0008
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0009
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0010
One contributing building
Four non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0011
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0012
Lot D-5. Olan Knaggs Homestead. Four-room, gambrel-roof with board and batten siding, asphalt shingle roof and replacement windows, two bays. Porticoes over front and rear entrances. Rear enclosed extension. Owner is restoring property and will replace original windows. Original homestead outbuilding and two post 1965 trailer houses.
Two contributing buildings
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0013
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0014
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0015
Lot D-2. Cecil Kisner Homestead. Four-room, gambrel-roof with aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, two-over-two and one-over-one replacement double-hung sash windows, decorative shutters on all windows. Six bays. Hipped full-width front porch supported by round aluminum posts. Large one-story left side extension. Outbuilding nearly original.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0016
Lot D-1. Louis Barrackman Homestead. Five-room, gambrel-roof with asbestos shingle siding, asphalt shingled roof, five bays. One-over-one double-hung sash windows, small rear enclosure, portico over front entry. Original homestead barn/garage is in tact, re-roofed with metal. One trailer. Nice example of a gambrel-roof resettlement homestead.
Two contributing buildings
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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One non-contributing building

Field No. 0017-A
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0017-B
Lot D-12. C.I. Heckert Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod. Lapped wood siding, asphalt shingle roof, two bays, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, porch overhang extended in front. Cross gable front extension. Outbuilding in original condition.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0018
One contributing building
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0019
Lot D-15. G.D. Snow Homestead. Remodeled Cape Cod. Lapped wooden siding, asphalt shingle roof, four bays, replacement one-over-one double-hung sash windows and fixed sash. This original homestead dwelling was substantially remodeled by the architect great-grandson of Lemuel Cheyney, western Virginia’s most pre-eminent bridge builder. Original barn converted to two-story carriage house.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0020
Lot D-16. R.V. Robinson Homestead. Five-room Cape cod, with lapped wooden siding, asphalt shingle roof. One-over-one sash replacement windows. Recessed front porch, four bays. Root cellar intact, new three bay shed, new two-car garage. Except for replacement windows, the house and root cellar are nearly pristine. This home was originally owned by homesteader Charles F. Albright. It was constructed for the resident forester, who sold it to Albright.
Two contributing buildings
Two non-contributing buildings
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Field No. 0021

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0022

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0023

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0276
Lot D-5. Modern trailer house.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0277
Lot D-5. Modern trailer house.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0279

One non-contributing building

Field No. 280
Lot D-11. One-story house, c. 1950, with front gable roof, aluminum siding, and six-over-six double-hung sash windows.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 281

One non-contributing building
Field No. 282  
One non-contributing building

**Plot E – Valley Bend**

Plot E contains ten homestead plots. There are three gambrel-roof houses, six Cape Cod houses, and one L-wing log farmhouse. All foundations are concrete block and all construction is circa 1935 unless otherwise noted. Twenty buildings are contributing and eleven buildings are non-contributing.

Field No. 0112  
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0113  
Lot E-2. Charles Kittle Homestead. The Jack Long Farmhouse. Builder was Jack Long, circa 1860. L-house, possibly of log construction beneath aluminum and brick exterior. Asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation. Four front bays with two-over-two and one-over-one original double-hung sash windows behind newer aluminum storm windows. This vernacular construction is typical of rural middle class homes of the mid-nineteenth century. Notable architectural details in the wide eave returns and dual bay front gable attic windows. Resettlement era outbuilding at the rear of the house. The pre-existing Long house was incorporated into the resettlement plot.  
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0114  
Two contributing buildings  
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0129  
Lot E-7. Homesteader unknown. Four-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum, wood, and stone exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Four front bays with six-over-six original double-hung sash
windows. Rear extension. Central chimney. Original outbuilding is intact.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0130

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0131

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0132

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0152

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0153

Two non-contributing buildings
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Field No. 0154
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0155
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0213
Lot E-11. Modern house with side gable roof, clapboard siding and modern shed.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0215
Lot E-11. Modern trailer home.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 218
Lot E-4. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof, aluminum siding and front gable centered porch.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0219
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0221
Lot E-10. Modern, double-wide trailer home.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0222
Lot E-6. Modern, double-wide trailer home.
One non-contributing building
Plot EE - Valley Bend

Plot EE of Valley Bend contains twenty homestead parcels. The plot is separated from Plot E by Hickson Run on the east. There are fourteen Cape Cod houses, and five gambrel-roof houses. There are thirty-one contributing buildings and eighteen non-contributing buildings. Most of the non-contributing buildings are post-1965 construction or are trailers. Some of the non-contributing buildings are outbuildings with high degrees of integrity, but are located with a non-contributing house.

Field No. 0115

Field No. 0116

Field No. 0117
Lot EE-5. Milford Townsend Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Brick veneer and aluminum siding, asphalt roof, central chimney, rear extension. Recessed full front porch supported by six square wooden posts. Some six-over-six original double-hung sash windows. Some one-over-one replacement. Rear extension is in scale to the house. Original outbuilding. Although lapped siding removed, much integrity remains. Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0118

Field No. 0119
Lot EE-3. Donald Carr Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Five front bays. Gable front configuration with six-over-six double-hung sash original windows, and four-light front door. One window is four-over-four fixed pane. Side extension with shed roof repeats four-over-four motif. Outbuilding is typical resettlement barn, with newer standing seam metal roof and new door panel.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0120

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0121
Lot EE-1. Minnie D. Hamner Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house with front and rear extensions. Four front bays. Eight-over-eight and one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Bow front window. Left side one-story extension. Alterations compromise the integrity. Original outbuilding to right rear of house is not altered.

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0122

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0123

Two contributing buildings
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<td>EE-11</td>
<td>Vernon Gum Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Brick and wood exterior siding, asphalt roof, center chimney. Windows modestly resized, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Full-width recessed porch supported by plain wooden posts. Original outbuilding. Two contributing buildings</td>
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<tr>
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<td>EE-9</td>
<td>Robert P. Lord Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt roof, central chimney. Six-over-six original windows, half-width recessed porch with simple wooden posts. Original outbuilding. High degree of integrity; one new garage. Two contributing buildings One non-contributing building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0128</td>
<td>EE-8</td>
<td>Fred Hight Homestead. Six-room Cape Cod house with extensive alterations, diminishing historic integrity. Aluminum and wood exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Two sided spindle railing porch extension. Gabled dormers, central chimney. Original outbuilding and one additional new outbuilding. Three non-contributing buildings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0157

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0158
Lot EE-18. Roy Hedrick Homestead. Cape Cod house with multiple architectural compromises. Aluminum and perma-stone exterior. Asphalt shingle roof. Five front bays, two gable extensions. Replacement windows, aluminum awnings. Windows are fixed, casement, or one-over-one double-hung sash. House is now part of Scott Auto Sales. Original outbuilding present, and two larger showrooms also on the property.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0159

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0160

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0161

One contributing building

One non-contributing building
Field No. 0223
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0224
One non-contributing building

Plot F - Valley Bend

Plot F of Valley Bend contains twenty-six homestead parcels. There are seventeen Cape Cod houses, and nine gambrel-roofed houses, all of which are considered contributing. There are forty contributing buildings and forty-four non-contributing buildings. Some of the non-contributing buildings are outbuildings with high degrees of integrity, but which are located with a non-contributing house.

Field No. 0104
Lot F-1. J.D. Hockenberry Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house with modifications. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof. Central chimney. Three front bays, original recessed porch is obscured by extended screened porch across front. Windows are one-over-one and six-over-one. Rear extension, decorative shutters. Original outbuilding is in nearly original condition, and is a good example of this architectural style.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0105
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0106
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0107

Field No. 0108
Lot F-5. Harry Gear Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house, with extensions. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Three front bays with original six-over-six double-hung sash windows, and some replacement one-over-one windows. Front bays altered modestly, rear porch is enclosed. Shed front porch supported by aluminum posts. Alterations are in scale with the building. Original outbuilding and new garage. Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0109
Lot F-6. Hugh Currence Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house with front and rear extensions. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Two front bays with replacement one-over-one windows. Gable front extension, rear shed extension. Original combination outbuilding with updates, one new metal storage building. One contributing building
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0110
Lot F-7. V.B. Snyder Homestead. Very large gambrel-roof style store. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, many extensions. Storefront facade addition and fixed glazing. Original roof line survives. Connected to another building in 1983. Large rear extension, ribbon dormer with shed roof on right elevation. Original outbuilding updated with doors and siding. This building has evolved to serve its business needs. Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0111
Lot F-8. O.O. Phillips Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Original full-width recessed porch supported by plain wooden posts. Two front bays, both with entries. Other windows are one-over-one double-hung sash. Original outbuilding with modest updates to roof and window. Two contributing buildings

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Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0134
Lot F-10. Lando Edmond Homestead. Six-room, gambrel-roof house. Brick, wood, aluminum exterior and asphalt shingle roof. Two front bays, six-over-six double-hung sash windows; two gabled dormers. Front porch enlarged with columns in the Doric mode. The porch does not detract from the homestead architecture. Original outbuilding in original condition and one trailer on the site.

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0135

Two contributing buildings
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0136

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0137

One contributing building
Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District

Section 7

Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0138
Lot F-16. Modern house with intersecting gable, attached garage, and aluminum siding. One non-contributing building

Field No. 0139

Field No. 0140

Field No. 0141

Field No. 0142
Lot F-17. R.B. Parrack Homestead. Six-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Four front bays, one-over-one and three-over-one replacement windows. Enclosed gabled front porch. Original outbuilding and one new outbuilding. Despite alteration to front, the house retains its resettlelement image. Two contributing buildings

One non-contributing building
Field No. 0143
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0144
Two contributing buildings
Five non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0145
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0146
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0147
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0148
Lot F-23. D.C. Church Homestead. Cape Cod house with multiple alterations. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Five front bays, one-over-one and sliding glass
replacement windows. Decorative shutters, assertive front and rear extensions and additions obscure original architecture. Original outbuilding, one new house.

Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0149

Three contributing buildings

Field No. 0150

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0151

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0170
Lot F-17. Trailer home.

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0183

Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0192
Lot F-17. Modern trailer home.

One non-contributing building
Field No. 0206
Lot F-16. Modern trailer home.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0207
Lot F-15. Modern trailer home.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0208
Lot F-26. Modern, one-story house with intersecting gable roof, aluminum siding, attached garage, recessed porch, and a modern garage.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0214
Lot F-9. Modern, one-story, brick house with hipped roof.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0216
Lot F-9. Modern, one-story, brick house with hip roof with gable end, enclosed porch, and modern garage.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0217
Lot F-9. Modern, one-story, ranch with side gable roof and gable front porch, vinyl siding and pole shed.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0220
Lot F-9. Modern trailer home.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0232
Lot F-26. Modern house with aluminum siding.
One non-contributing building

**Plot G – Valley Bend**

There are twenty-one homestead lots in Plot G. Fourteen are Cape Cod houses and seven are gambrel-roof houses. There are forty contributing buildings and fifteen non-contributing
buildings, many of which are post-1965 construction. All other construction is circa 1935 and all foundations are concrete block, unless noted differently below.

Field No. 0162
Lot G-8. Harvey Davis Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. T-111 wooden siding, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Three front bays, one-over-one replacement windows, sliding window replacements. One story addition to right of house. Original outbuilding has been resided to match changes to house. Parcel has been subdivided.
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0163
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0164
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0165
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0166
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0167

One non-contributing building

Field No. 0168

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0169

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0193

Three contributing buildings

Field No. 0194

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0195
Lot G-19. Bert Roberts Homestead. Six-room gambrel-roof house. Aluminum exterior, two-component asphalt and metal roof, central chimney, two large extensions. Front bays not visible. One-over-one replacement windows. Original outbuilding. This property is owned and occupied by the granddaughter of the original homesteader, Mrs. Virginia Samples. She explains that the house was expanded over time and altered to accommodate a growing family and to shield the entry from harsh weather, a fact that she believes is a design flaw in the house. Her grandfather paid $2,500 for the 1.5 acre parcel and house in the mid 1930s. Original outbuilding. Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0196

Field No. 0197
Lot G-17. Quentin Ward Homestead. Six-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum and brick exterior, asphalt shingle roof. Two front bays, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Full-width recessed front porch, with arched fascia board on front edge of overhang. Original outbuilding, one new barn and one new garage. Two contributing buildings Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0198

Field No. 0199

Field No. 0200
Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, central chimney. Two front bays, sliding glass, resized, replacement window, front porch extension, with enclosure. Replacement columns in the Doric mode support porch extension. Original outbuilding, one mobile home.

**Two contributing buildings**

**One non-contributing building**

Field No. 0201

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0202

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0203

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0204

**Two contributing buildings**

Field No. 0205

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0225
Lot G-8. Two modern trailer homes and one modern shed.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0226
Lot G-4. Modern double-wide trailer with attached garage.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0227
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0228
Lot G-1. Modern brick house with side gable roof and attached garage.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0229
Lot G-1. Modern house, c.1960, with front gable, aluminum siding, shed roof front porch and modern garage.
Two non-contributing buildings

Plot H – Valley Bend

Plot H contains twenty homestead plots. Ten are Cape Cod houses and ten are Gambrel houses. There are thirty-three contributing buildings and thirty-four non-contributing buildings, several of which are post 1965 construction or trailers.

Field No. 0171
Lot H-12. Fay Smith Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum siding, asphalt shingle roof, six front bays, some one-over-one double-hung sash replacement windows. Gable front extension encloses entry. Back porch also enclosed. These alterations substantially impact the house’s integrity. Original outbuilding is present.
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0172

Field No. 0173

Field No. 0174

Field No. 0175

Field No. 0176

Field No. 0177
Cape Cod look, but rear elevation raised to two full stories. Some original six-over-six double-hung sash windows and some casement windows. Decorative shutters. Side entry portico, single car garage may possibly be old outbuilding. Animal pens on the property evoke the original character of the homestead.

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0178
Two contributing buildings
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0179
Two contributing buildings
Two non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0180
One contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0181
Lot H-2. Earl Shue Homestead. Four-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum exterior, asphalt shingle roof, center chimney. Original full front porch enclosed in two segments, with center entry between them. Five front bays with one-over-one double-hung sash replacement windows. Rear extension. Original outbuilding and one trailer on the lot.
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Field No. 0182
One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0184
Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0185
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0186
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0187
Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0188
Lot H-17. W.D. Buchanan Homestead. Six-room Cape Cod house. Aluminum siding exterior,

One contributing building
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0189

Two contributing buildings
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0190

Two contributing buildings

Field No. 0191

Two contributing buildings
Three non-contributing building

Field No. 0209

Three non-contributing buildings

Field No. 0210
Lot H-8. Modern, one-story ranch with side gable roof, aluminum siding, and casement windows.

One non-contributing building
Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District

Field No. 0211
Lot H-9. Modern, one-story, brick ranch with side gable roof, recessed porch, shed roof porches on side and rear elevation.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0212
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0230
Lot H-12. Modern brick house with side gable roof, one story, attached garage with front gable.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0231
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0233
Lot H-6, 176. Modern, one-story house with three gables and T-111 siding.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0234
Lot 12-13. Modern, one-story house with side-gable roof, center gable porch, vinyl siding, and one-over-one windows.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0235
Lot 1. Modern, one-and-one-half story house with side-gable roof, two dormers, vinyl siding, and six-over-six new windows.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0236
Lot 2. Modern, one-story with vinyl siding, side gable roof, and center gable porch.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0237
Lot 3. Modern, one-story house with vinyl siding, side gable roof, centered gable porch, and modern garage.
Two non-contributing buildings
Field No. 0238
Lot 4. Modern, one-story house, with side gable roof, weatherboard siding, six-over-six windows, and attached garage.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0239
Lot 5. Modern, one-story house with side gable roof, vinyl siding, six-over-eight double-hung sash windows, and side addition.
One non-contributing building

Field No. 0240
Two non-contributing buildings
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

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**Statement of Significance**

The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District (Tygart Valley) is nationally significant under Criterion A for its association with the state and national political, sociological, and cultural events associated with the Great Depression, and Criterion B for its close association with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. The homesteads are also significant under Criteria C: Community Planning and Development as a self-sufficient resettlement community developed during the Great Depression. The period of significance is 1934, the year construction began in Tygart Valley, to 1944, the year the Tygart Valley Association disbanded. Tygart Valley is nationally significant as one of the country's resettlement towns created during the Depression.

West Virginia's three Depression-era resettlement communities are located in Preston, Putnam, and Randolph counties. Arthurdale (listed in the National Register in 1989), in rural Preston County, received substantial notice in the national press because it was the first project in a particularly important program of the First Lady. Begun in 1933, Arthurdale consisted of 165 homesteads, ranging in size from two-and-a-half to five acres. Each contained a house with four to six rooms. The architectural styles varied widely.1 Carved from an 800-acre farm, the planned community also provided acreage for community activities, roads, wood lots, and pasture. Arthurdale was to be the prototype of forty-nine other resettlement communities in the nation, and it was watched carefully. There were problems and much criticism. Despite Mrs. Roosevelt's personal popularity, every error, omission, poor judgement, and miscalculation associated with the homesteads found its way into the pages of prestigious national publications that were almost always critical of the program. However, Mrs. Roosevelt persevered.2

The problems encountered at the Arthurdale settlement were corrected and Resettlement Administration Director Rexford G. Tugwell and Mrs. Roosevelt turned their West Virginia energies to the project in Putnam County. There, Eleanor (Red House Garden Farms, Inc.) was the second West Virginia resettlement project. Completed in 1934, Eleanor was located on both sides of U.S. Route 35, along the banks of the Kanawha River, northwest of Charleston, the state capitol. It was initially home to one hundred fifty families but some settlers quickly left and the population settled at about 115 families.

Like Arthurdale, Eleanor had troubles, too. An industrial employer could not be found to locate there, a problem that was common to each of the homesteads. Business leaders were

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2 See, for example, Calvert Estill, "Blanders at Arthurdale," The Washington Post, 12 August 1934, and Rice, Harpers Magazine.
resistant to the idea because many of them believed that the government should not compete against private sector enterprises. Of West Virginia’s three communities, only Eleanor had access to a good transportation network. Eleanor’s homesteads were cinder block homes, each with a multipurpose out building, sitting on one acre or less. The enterprise included a community farm, school, gas plant, cannery plant, greenhouse, carpentry shop, and small stores. Nearly all of the homesteads in Eleanor are still standing and in good repair in 2003.

Tygart Valley is the last and largest of the three West Virginia resettlement communities. Together, the three communities offered a new start in life to nearly six hundred struggling West Virginia families. For them, it was a dream come true, but for the thousands of others who remained stranded in the coal towns, the Great Depression continued on its ravenous campaign through the state until World War II fired the nation’s economic engines anew. Mrs. Roosevelt nurtured all of the homesteads and ran interference for them with the President when the bureaucracy resisted her. She visited each of the West Virginia projects several times. The Great Depression was an economic catastrophe that the nation’s leaders were poorly prepared to handle. Even so, Mrs. Roosevelt steadfastly pursued her project, growing in compassion with every year. For West Virginia, the conditions were apocalyptic.

It is not possible to overstate the magnitude of the tragedy of the Great Depression for West Virginians. Although the entire nation slid into economic disaster and near collapse in 1929, West Virginians by then were more than ten years in the depths of economic crisis, and extremely vulnerable to additional hardships which relentlessly came. Before the worst was over, West Virginia would see her rivers ruined, her forests denuded, and her towns ghosted by joblessness and despair. Most tragic of all, parents would see their children starving.

According to historian Jerry Bruce Thomas, there were many conditions at work in West Virginia that made it ripe for an economic disaster. Traditionally, a remote and agricultural place, the rapid industrial development of the state’s resources by 1920 triggered a growing demand for more public services. Though extremely modest by the standards of other states, West Virginia issued bonds for roads, schools, and new buildings in the early 1920s. However, as the decade advanced and corporate incomes declined, there was a public “revolt” against such “high government spending” and the state retrenched. Consequently, very little infrastructure was in place that could attract other industries when the inevitable decline in coal mining began.1

By 1927, the extractive industries, particularly coal, were vastly overdeveloped and on the brink of collapse. Production was declining as this overcapacity glutted the market, triggering

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losses, bankruptcies, lowered wages, and layoffs. The railroad industry was greatly to blame also, as it encouraged overproduction with sweetheart deals and rebates to coal companies in their own frenzied attempt to keep the rails profitable. As mining and timbering had expanded, so had the rails, spawning a mountain industrial complex in which each industry depended upon the other for its own livelihood. Prudent business decisions were set aside in the race for gain. State government took no steps to moderate or regulate the mineral and timber extraction. The coal companies raised the stakes in their battle to avoid unionization of the coal mines and at the same time they cut miners’ wages.

The state government, under pressure from the coal industry, dug in its heels and refused to reform the workman’s compensation program. Miners were finding it to be exceedingly hard to make ends meet and their welfare began to spiral downward at an ever increasing rate. The mud-sill workers of West Virginia’s coal fields and timber regions faced a constellation of hardships and suffering. These economic woes were obscured by a climate of boosterism that permeated the state’s Republican-dominated press, which continued to promise that resource extraction equaled prosperity for all.

Conditions were also difficult for the state’s indigenous farmers. Since the American Revolution, free range grazing had characterized mountain farming and barter had characterized mountain economics. Extractive industries worked a hardship on both traditions by fouling fresh water sources, removing the forest, and forcing the burden of fencing upon cash poor farmers. Enclosure further forced the mountain farmers to look to sources other than naturally occurring chestnut mast as feed for their livestock. In areas where grazing was still open, an additional harsh blow came in the form of chestnut blight, which rapidly killed the native stands of chestnut, literally wiping out much of a farmer’s economic security. Acid mine pollution killed the mountain streams that provided water for humans and animals alike. Floods washed away hillside farms and droughts followed.

In 1929, a severe drought undermined those farmers who had turned to cultivation when grazing became impossible. When the stock market crashed, there were no coal mine jobs to resort to. In fact, farmers who had become miners found themselves jobless and landless. In 1932, severe flooding wiped out what few gains mountain farmers had made. By then, their reserves were gone. With little collateral, farmers could not borrow money to acquire equipment, seeds, or agricultural chemicals. West Virginians were stranded in a barren place, as jobs

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5Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 4.
disappeared and agriculture failed. There was no where to go. Destitute workers turned to their state and federal governments for help. They found a sympathetic ear in President Herbert Hoover, but he steadfastly refused to enter into deficit spending or public relief programs, recommending that private sector charity step in. He even wrote a large personal check to the American Red Cross, thus demonstrating his personal grief over the suffering in the nation.

West Virginia leaders raised property taxes a little and then stripped down the state’s budget in order to stay solvent. Both actions were harsh for the farmers and miners. Higher taxes were feared and actively opposed by industry, and therefore the state legislature declined to raise revenues even by the slight amount that would allow West Virginia to match federal relief funding. The starvation and despair increased. Desperate fathers abandoned their families so that wives and children might qualify for meager public assistance. When that was not enough, mothers abandoned their children to state and county orphanages and poor houses where their children might be fed. In many places, family structure was nearly destroyed by the harsh conditions.

Such desperate times as these led to desperate choices. Thousands of men flocked to Fayette County to build the Hawk’s Nest Tunnel, an engineering marvel that would supply water to Union Carbide Corporation, a metallurgical complex. The tunnel was three miles long and forty-two feet in diameter. The mountain was ninety-nine-percent pure silicon. As a result, deadly silicosis came with the jobs that desperate men were taking. The disease killed approximately seven-hundred workers and crippled unknown numbers of others. Physician researcher Martin Cherniak calls this catastrophe the worst industrial accident in the history of the United States, a sentiment that Thomas, and most other West Virginia historians, echoes. This, and other hardships, brought increasing federal attention to the state. Scotts Run in Monongalia County, mining sections of Mingo County, and Hawk’s Nest were but the surface blush of conditions that could have led to massive civil unrest and riots. Hoover administration official, Fred C. Croxton, reported to Washington that conditions in West Virginia were “unbelievable.” Even so, no aid was forthcoming. In 1932, Frank Keeny of the West Virginia Mine Workers’ Union led a hunger march on Charleston to focus attention on the plight of his people, but it came to nothing as well. A frightened and angry America did not re-elect Herbert Hoover to the presidency, choosing instead Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Fears of a popular uprising were growing in the new administration, so Roosevelt sent Associate Press reporter Lorena Hickok to West Virginia for a first-hand account. The seasoned reporter was sickened by what she saw. She reported that miners faced bleak prospects because their factionalized unionizing attempts were failing. Companies were also “organizing” to resist the miners. She chided the union and the companies equally for being misguided. Hickok was a close personal friend of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and warned her that there was a “dangerous situation” in the West Virginia coal fields. Her urgent messages escalated, and Hickok finally told the President that he should become a “dictator” if that is what it took to resolve the coal field crisis.10 Hickok urged Mrs. Roosevelt to work to relocate stranded miners, and pleaded with her to go to West Virginia to see the conditions for herself.11 Doing so, Mrs. Roosevelt was stunned. She reported to the President that there was a “violent revolutionary” situation brewing in the coal fields and that immediate federal initiatives were necessary. She intervened with recalcitrant West Virginia leaders and repeatedly sent Hickok back to the state for trustworthy updates on the deteriorating conditions.12 Other journalists swarmed to West Virginia to see the conditions for themselves. William Brooks of The Atlantic Monthly labeled Scott’s Run in Monongalia County, “the damniest cesspool of human misery I have ever seen in America.”13

Soon, federal and state efforts addressed the disaster. Roosevelt urged passage of a Bituminous Coal Code to moderate the harsh conditions in the coal fields. Furthermore, West Virginia Governor Herman Guy Kump sought the Tax Limitation Amendment to the state constitution in an effort to aid farmers. Kump steadfastly refused to participate in a program of direct federal relief. Harry Hopkins, administrator of the Federal Emergency Relief Agency, pressured the governor endlessly, but only a feud developed. Kump did nothing. The state revenues, lost in the tax limitation initiative, were recaptured with a two-percent sales tax that angry West Virginians referred to as the “Kump Kopper.” Storekeepers in the state kept tin tax collection cups so labeled near their cash registers.

9Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 49, 51.
10 Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 93.
12 Blanche Wiesen Cook, Eleanor Roosevelt, Vol II: 1933-38. See particularly chapters eight and fifteen for the extent and nature of Eleanor Roosevelt’s impassioned efforts on behalf of destitute and suffering West Virginians, and of the resettlement communities of Arthurdale and Red House.
Under pressure from Mrs. Roosevelt, the president ultimately decided upon resettlement communities as a means to combat the poverty that was rampant in the nation’s stressed industrial areas. M.L. Wilson was Roosevelt’s first administrator. West Virginia was at the top of the list of concern, so the Arthurdale project was begun to relieve the rampant suffering in Scott’s Run. That program relocated 165 families from the Monongalia County coal camp to a homestead community in Preston County, about twenty five miles to the east. As then envisioned, the communities would mimic successful Mormon villages in Utah. For West Virginia, the communities would enhance resettlement work that the American Friends Service committee (Friends) was doing in Monongalia County. The Friends were slowly relocating a few families to farmland in Preston County.

With Eleanor Roosevelt’s intervention, those efforts became the community of Arthurdale, the nation’s first Depression resettlement community. Two more were planned for West Virginia, and as many as two hundred were slated for the nation as a whole. Sources vary widely as to the number ultimately built.14 One inventory compiled from works by Paul Conkin, Donald Holley, and the Farm Security Administration includes 198 planned resettlement communities in thirty nine states and territories. Of that number, eleven were never developed. The size of the New Deal homesteads ranged from a low of four units in Mendocino and Santa Cruz counties in California, to a high of 890 units in Greenbelt, Maryland.15

Under the direction of Tugwell, the Tygart Valley Homestead project was authorized as part of the First Hundred Days legislation and financed by the National Industrial Recovery Act through the Federal Subsistence Homestead Corporation and the Resettlement Administration. The agency’s initial mission was highly controversial and congressional conservatives were ultimately successful in their efforts to turn the agency’s mission toward improving existing farms, not creating new ones. Even that step was meagerly funded. Tugwell had envisioned an

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15 Paul Conkin, Tomorrow A New World: The New Deal Community Program, (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press and the American Historical Association, 1999); Donald Holley, Uncle Sam’s Farmers: The New Deal Communities in the Lower Mississippi Valley, (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1973); Farm Security Administration, Hearings Before the Select Committee of the House Committee on Agriculture, to Investigate the Activities of the Farm Security Administration, House of Representatives 78th Congress, June 7-July 2, 1943. USGOV.
all-out war on poverty and was disheartened when the federal efforts fell short of that. Later, the organization was renamed the Farm Security Agency. Farm Security has evolved into the Farmers Home Administration. The historic purpose of this institution has been to assist rural and destitute families and migrant workers, though the methods have changed over the years.

As long as he was in charge, Tugwell was controversial and so was his program. His outspoken nature clashed with many public objections to the "give away" housing projects. He actually considered the resettlement plan "utopian" but he supported it anyway. For a great many other affluent Americans, the relief project stirred fear of socialism and excessive welfare. The bulk of the federal resettlement effort was directed toward destitute families of Anglo-Saxon ethnicity who were stranded without jobs in America's coal fields and other industrial regions. 16

Driven by Eleanor Roosevelt and Louis Howe, FDR's secretary, the resettlement program was one of many federal government attempts to respond to the Great Depression. Many projects were closely monitored by Mrs. Roosevelt, who deeply believed that stranded workers in depressed industrial settings would rehabilitate themselves as small self-sufficient farmers if they were given just a little assistance by the government. In explaining her support of such programs, Mrs. Roosevelt wrote that the intent of resettlement homesteads was to allow a family to produce a portion of its own food while working at nearby employment. She often cited the example of small villages in France to support her contention that similar communities could take hold and become viable in the U.S. 17 She believed that all Americans should have at least a modest house. The homestead houses that she envisioned were to be "very simple," but would provide certain definite things, "among these a chance to be clean, a shower or bathtub in every house, a suitable tub in which to wash clothes, enough room so that every member of the family can have a bed of his own." 18 In Randolph County, local detractors hooted that homesteaders wouldn't know any better than to store coal in the bath tubs. 19

The first lady was careful to explain that the resettlement program intended no competition against established industry or commercial agriculture, but it was a tough sell. There was public outrage against the plan to build mailboxes at Arthurdale. As a result, that work project was stopped. Front page newspaper editorials berated Mrs. Roosevelt’s efforts, raising

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16 Plans for two homesteads for black miners in West Virginia were developed, but dismissed by the U.S. Department of Interior. An option on 350 acres of land in Monongalia County for that purpose was allowed to expire. Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 204; Cook, Eleanor Roosevelt, 140.


18 Roosevelt, "Subsistence Farmsteads," 200; Cook, Eleanor Roosevelt, 144.

the specter of communistic activities. Her experience with her furniture factory in Hyde Park, New York further led Mrs. Roosevelt to believe that many Americans would welcome a career in the manufacture of small handicrafts, subsidized by small scale farming. Despite her hard work, Mrs. Roosevelt’s Jeffersonian vision of a back-to-the-land cure for America’s economic hardships did not really catch on. Interior Secretary Harold Ickes called it “nothing but a headache from the beginning.” Though he supported the projects publically, President Roosevelt secretly agreed with Ickes.21

The $25,000,000 federal commitment to developing housing relief allowed Mrs. Roosevelt to proceed with her projects, but it proved to be a bumpy ride. The homestead program was not a giveaway federal project, although there were many public and political allegations that it was. It was criticized by some as social engineering and by others as a constraint on personal freedoms. Fears of “Sovietization” of American industry cooled support from the business sector, which also objected to a perceived unfair competition, but Mrs. Roosevelt kept pushing. She was convinced that the conditions were so severe in the coal fields that social unrest was imminent. Although there were many accusations to the contrary, each homestead was paid for by the homesteader through a combination of wage work and sweat equity. President Roosevelt endorsed the program because he believed the government would ultimately get most of the money back.22 Sailing bravely into the controversy, Tugwell and the Resettlement Administration went forward, encouraged by Mrs. Roosevelt. By the time they got to Randolph County, fortune favored them with an area long in historical associations reaching back before the American Revolution.

The valley and ridge formations of the Eastern Appalachian mountains influenced early settlement patterns. Land hungry farmers who first came in the mid eighteenth century moved steadily westward by drifting south through the valleys and west through mountain passes until locating available land to their liking. In many cases, these settlers were the children or grandchildren of those who fled Northern Ireland for America as early as 1717. Their attempts to settle in the mountains often were unsuccessful, since the Shawnee, who were protecting the Iroquois fur trade, resisted such incursions.

The edge of the Tygart Valley was a prime location for these early comers because it is considerably wider and flatter than most of the other valleys in the mountains. The valley and its

20 Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 173.
21 Cook, Eleanor Roosevelt, 136.
22 Eleanor Roosevelt, Forum, 199-201.
twisting river are named for early settler David Tygart whose family came in 1753, only to be pushed back by Native Americans. George Washington believed the Indians were Ottawa, but they may also have been Shawnee.²² Tygart barely escaped with his life. Fellow settlers, such as the Files family, were not so fortunate. These realities insured that only modest settlement occurred over the next 180 years. Because of the region's geography and geology, the town of Beverly became a western terminus in the eighteenth century. Once the county seat of Randolph County, it was established in 1787. The first courthouse was erected on lands donated by Jacob Westfall.²³ The region has stayed sparsely populated throughout its history and Beverly never expanded up the valley.

Many aspects of this locale invited struggle of all kinds. For example, Native Americans fought colonial intrusions into their hunting areas until after the American Revolution. During the Civil War, the battle of Rich Mountain overlooked the valley. Union troop lines there stopped Confederate advances into the mountainous west. This Union victory allowed West Virginia statehood deliberations in Wheeling to proceed unhampered by Confederate military action. Most valley residents of the time, however, probably saw the Union victory as a tragedy. Some Randolph County farmers in this era were slave holders, and many sympathized with the Confederacy.

Because the region was best suited to timbering and to farming, no large towns arose in the region until after the Civil War when the second American Industrial Revolution brought Henry Gassaway Davis and Stephen B. Elkins to Randolph County. West Virginia's two most famous industrialists laid out a town at the intersection of Leading Creek Valley and Tygart Valley, which they soon named Elkins. The town overwhelmed the hamlet of Leadville already at that site. On July 3, 1890, 948 citizens signed a petition calling for a referendum on a proposal to move the county seat to Elkins. According to county historian Hu Maxwell, "Two elections were held for the purpose of removing the Court House to Elkins, in both of them the decision was in favor of Beverly."²⁴ Disregarding the negative election results, county fathers moved the seat to Elkins where it was more convenient for those concerned with the trains and offices that Davis and Elkins established there. The new town of Elkins grew, but historic Beverly did not, and the Tygart Valley remained the domain of scattered farms and homesteads. Davis and Elkins constructed a branch rail line of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburg Railroad from Elkins to


²³Hu Maxwell, History of Randolph County, 190.

²⁴Maxwell, 291.
Huttonsville. Dailey Station, which became the community of Dailey, was named for C. Wood Dailey, a consultant for the railroad.\textsuperscript{26}

Tygart Valley was, in 1932, only lightly developed. By 1934, the owners of the bottom land were willing to sell for several reasons. First, the financial exigencies associated with the Great Depression made property taxes burdensome. Secondly, a few owners of large parcels were located out of state and were able to cash in their West Virginia investments for a much higher price than otherwise could be expected. Lastly, although the land was fertile, it was poorly drained and flooded easily.

Preliminary announcement of the Tygart Valley project came on December 21, 1933 and an initial sum of $675,000 was allocated for land acquisition and building construction.\textsuperscript{27} Perhaps to skirt the criticism of government competition with the private sector, the Tygart Valley Association was established as a local entity and operated as a corporation under the laws of the State of West Virginia. It was funded by a loan of $330,000 from the Resettlement Administration. Subsequent funding from other sources brought the start up total to $400,000. Other loans rapidly followed. Three small neighborhoods and a commercial center comprise the community, which was begun in 1934. Eight parcels, comprising more than 1,800 acres of land, were conveyed to the Federal Subsistence Homestead agency in 1934. Local farmer A.J. Crickard transferred 277.1 acres for $19,398.40. H.F. Phares of New York sold 162.2 acres for $9,736.50. B.W. Eakin, of Raleigh County, West Virginia sold 680 acres for $18,000. Evangeline Long conveyed 166 acres for an unspecified sum, and Mary Kittle Yocum conveyed 410 acres for $16,409.20. Bruce Pritt sold 521 acres for $23,258.20.\textsuperscript{28} The homestead area would ultimately acquire another thousand acres.

The board of directors of the Association consisted of homesteaders A.B. Moore, president; Harry C. Fidler, secretary; Andrew Wood, F.S. Thomas, and Jesse L. Buillion. Initially, Horace W. Truesdell served as construction manager of the project, followed briefly by Col. George Wilson. In 1934, L.Wade Coberly, mayor of Elkins, was appointed manager and president of the Association. Rachel Ashby was secretary to the association. Ruth Linger was Family Selection Worker. F.E. Tolbord served as chief accountant with the assistance of Mildred Hickman. Social activities and clubs were organized by Robert and Dora Wilson of the Friends Service Committee. In 1943, J. Earle Romine was appointed as supervising community

\textsuperscript{26}Josephine Vance County.

\textsuperscript{27}Ross, "The Early History of the Tygart Valley Homesteads at Dailey and Valley Bend," 2.

\textsuperscript{28}Randolph County, West Virginia, Deed Book 139; 419-431.
manager.29

The resettlement community, in three neighborhoods, extends from the “bend” in the Valley, northward almost to the community of Beverly, along what is now U.S. Route 250/219. Valley Bend and East Dailey are located south of Beverly on the east side of Route 250. Valley Bend is the southernmost of the three communities. East Dailey is separated from the highway by the former farms, and is not fully visible from the highway. Daily is located across the highway from East Dailey. The commercial center is along the east side of U.S. Route 250/219 in East Dailey.

The homestead community published a small newspaper, The Homesteads Paper, which carried news of the homesteaders’ progress, successes, and challenges. The visits of federal dignitaries were noted in July 1935, when Tugwell came to the area.30 There was advice about managing the sewage disposal system, news of social events, reports of association meetings, and announcements of new homesteader selections. No full run of the papers was readily available for this investigation, but they may exist in private collections.31

A health care system was incorporated on October 2, 1937. The Tygart Valley Health Association was opened to any homesteader who wished to join. Dues were fifty cents per month. Most used this membership as a form of health insurance. According to Mrs. Vansoy, there were no charges for office calls or medicines. Home delivery of a baby cost $15. “In 1948, as members of the association, my husband and I paid for no prenatal office calls and fifteen dollars for home delivery of our first child,” she said. The doctor’s office was located at Plot E-7, Valley Bend, and later moved to Plot D-9, Dailey. The Association maintained a relationship with Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Company until 1992 when the Association was dissolved. At the dissolution, the membership of the association voted to give the health care site to the Tygart Valley Volunteer Fire Department, which rents out the house.

In 1939, the Homestead School was constructed at a cost of $500,000 on the south edge of East Dailey. It serves the three communities as a middle school. Construction began on the school after it became apparent that the array of two-room schools surrounding the homesteads simply could not meet the needs of the homestead children. The masonry building replaced


small schools in the towns of Dailey, Steiner, West Side, East Side, Glade Run, and Thomas. It offered classrooms, a cafeteria, gymnasium, stage, sewing room, industrial arts’ classroom, library, offices, ball fields, and a large playground. Funding for the project came as a result of the efforts of Mrs. Roosevelt and Representative Jennings Randolph, West Virginia Democrat. Both Randolph and Mrs. Roosevelt spoke at the school for its first commencement exercises in 1940. Originally, it offered kindergarten to ninth grade. It was a state of the art facility in the Art Moderne style. Multiple elevations, flat roofs, glass block wall panels, and curving windows are characteristic of its genre. Perhaps the true heart of the Tygart Valley Resettlement area, and one of its significant historic resources, the school is beloved by the many community in the community serves.

By 1989, Randolph was a U.S. Senator and he returned to help the school celebrate its fiftieth graduation program. The Homestead School has remained in service as a school since its construction. There have been no alterations or changes to the exterior of the building. Curriculum changes have prompted modest adaptations to some interior spaces. Although it is a masonry building, its continued use as a school is jeopardized by changing fire code regulations. The school is owned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and has been leased to the public school system for a period ninety-nine years, so long as it remains in service as a school. The million dollar price tag for necessary upgrades to the building in 2003 threatened this arrangement and school officials were struggling to find funds for repairs to keep the school in operation.33

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp Tygart, Company 2584, provided the manpower to install drainage systems and culverts that made the land arable. They then constructed a public water supply, digging a well that produced 1,000 gallons of water per hour. The system is still in service and administered by the Huttonsville Public Service District. Camp Tygart was established expressly “for the purpose of assisting the homesteaders in the carrying out of their extensive work program.” The men worked in a nearby rock quarry, crushing gravel building roads. They dug root cellars and drainage ditches, which “has done wonders to the swampy land.”34 They also served in many other capacities, from sod collection and landscaping to fire fighting. In November 1934, a homestead store burned to the ground despite the CCC efforts to stop the blaze. They were successful in containing the fire to its original site and

33Homestead School notebook, April 19, 2002.
34Interview, Barbara Hornbeck, kindergarten teacher, Homestead School, April 19, 2002.
34The Tygart Tattler, 1-4(March 1936), 2.
protected adjacent properties from the flames. No record of its location or whether it was rebuilt was discovered.

Camp Tygart was located in East Dailey, to the east of Back Road, the border of the homestead community. It consisted of fifteen acres. That site now is “Wildwood,” a housing development unrelated to the homestead era, yet there are reminders of the camp visible on the landscape. Faint marks on stones against the hill remind visitors that this site was also used as a firing range for military training during WWII. The presence of the camp also added a layer of social interaction to the Valley. The CCC members engaged in intermural sports with teams from the Homesteads. There were community dances as well. Care of forest properties and construction of recreational facilities earned the unit the nickname, “Woodpecker Army.” With the CCC assistance, one hundred ninety-eight homesteads were constructed on the property that the federal government acquired from local and absentee owners. The homesteads were between one and two acres in size. Each one included a house, a multipurpose outbuilding, space for gardens, fruit trees, and livestock or chickens.

The homesteads represented a change in the fortunes of at least some of the stranded industrial workers in Randolph County who were left destitute during the Great Depression. Timbered over and rapidly losing coal revenues, the county was ravaged by poverty in 1930. Approximately 8,700 persons, or 35.5 percent of the population, were receiving direct relief, including about 35 percent of the county’s farmers. It is ironic that Governor Kump opposed the resettlement program so ardently, yet the Tygart Valley project was located less than twenty-five miles from his Elkins mansion at the intersection of U.S. Route 250 and U.S. Route 33. The Tygart Valley Homesteads are approximately fifty miles south of Arthurdale on State Route 92.

Between January 1938 and March 1940, the federal government lent a total of $958,000 to Tygart Valley. The loan was a forty-year mortgage, with the principal to be amortized over

35The Tygart Tattler, 1:1 (November 1935), 3
37The Tygart Tattler, 1:2 (February 1936), 7.
38The Tygart Tattler, 1:2 (December 1935), 5.
thirty-seven years. The funds were invested in land, buildings, machinery, and equipment. The industrial loans were used to establish the dimension mill and a sawmill and to equip them. The woodworking shop followed shortly. Initial start-up capital was also provided. Of the initial federal outlay, $300,000 in stock was subscribed and paid for by the Tygart Valley Association, making it the complete owner of the Kenwood Corporation. Officers of that firm were C.D. Dosker, president; Charles B. Castner, Vice President; and Joseph D. Burge, secretary. The Tygart Valley Association owned the plant, its equipment and yard facilities, and leased them to Kenwood. The factory paid taxes and insurance costs plus annual payments to the government. Burge, Castner, and Dosker also formed the board of directors for the Gamble Sales Dimension Company which received loans of $370,000 in 1938, to be amortized over forty years under the same terms as for the lumber mill. Gamble was the sales and distribution arm of the lumber enterprise. Some one-hundred-and-fifty workers were employed at the plant, manufacturing dimension furniture. Eighty-five percent of the production at Kenwood went into the nation’s defense program during World War II.

Locally, newspaper stories explained that the mill project would compete fairly with private sector loggers. Principally, the association planned to purchase rough lumber from local loggers and millers who could produce the materials the dimension plant required. Special efforts were made to purchase small trees that were previously unmarketable hoping ultimately “to open up new markets to the local logger, sawmill man, and forest landowner.” Annual yields of six to ten million board feet of lumber were planned. It was a brave hope for a county that was all but denuded by the timbering that swept through the mountains between 1880-1920. The prospective jobs associated with the project stirred local optimism. Most of the Tygart Valley homesteaders were displaced lumber workers who came to the community with considerable professional experience. Thus, the major economic pursuit of the community, located along the edge of the Monongahela National Forest was the processing of dimension lumber. The Kenwood Mill was established there in an agreement with the Association. Timber for the plant came from the forest and from privately owned land in the vicinity. That enterprise survives in 2003 under private ownership as the Coastal Lumber Company.

Randolph County had become so dependent upon timbering and logging that economic development seemed to be a synonym for a resurgence of lumber mills. Few other economic development efforts were undertaken. Planners for the Resettlement Administration project

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40House Select Committee Hearings, 1756-7.
41Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram, Ibid.
42Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram, circa March, 1936.
called for a system that operated on a sustained, permanent basis that would not "cut out and move on," the press accounts wrote. The annual payroll was estimated at $100,000, which was also expected to fatten local tax coffers.

From an application pool of 1,640 hopeful families, 198 homesteaders were carefully chosen for participation in the program. Local social workers played a major role in the homesteader selection process. After being chosen for the program, the homesteader helped to build his house. Homesteaders then purchased their residences from the government on generous terms after a year of probation and paying rent. The interest rate was about three percent. Each man worked three days a week for thirty cents per hour and three days for credit to be applied to the purchase price of his house. The homesteader signed a contract with the Association, agreeing to a monthly mortgage payment, usually $12-14, for forty years, to pay off his home purchase. The homesteads cost between $2,800 and $3,500, depending on the size and style of the house. A few of the homes are still owned by people who grew up in them. The deeds issued by the federal government to the homesteader were designed to protect the settler and his youngsters, all of whose names appeared on the title. The property could not be sold without the concurrence of the homesteader's children.45

The homesteaders sometimes did not share the project's broader vision of a complete lifestyle change. Some of them saw the program as a temporary step; they planned to sell out and leave as soon as they could. They hoped to eventually rejoin the national industrial economy and had no particular desire to remain on the land.44 Even so, many of them ended up living their lives in their new homes, passing them down to their children and grandchildren.

The national press and political reactions to the homestead project were negative. Many historians consider the project to be a failed one; however, the homesteaders themselves usually felt quite the opposite. Mrs. Elizabeth Guye Kittle of Elkins, who grew up in Valley Bend homestead H-18, described her home and experience thus:

[Our house] had a porch across the front with four square columns -- it had a small bath with a tub on the right as you entered, then enclosed stairs to your left. You could also enter through a door directly into a paneled alcove off the living room. Except for the paneled alcove in the living room, all rooms were rough plaster. Three bedrooms upstairs. One large room had two similar closets (no doors) and two bedrooms had gable inserts, and there was a large walk in closet with shelves near the third bedroom. Outside there was a dirt-floor garage, a basement cellar for winter vegetables, a little storage shed and then a chicken house -- all attached as one unit. I believe all of these still stand. It's important for historians to

45 Public comments, April 19, 2002, meeting with homesteaders at the Homestead School.
44 Paul Lunignan, National Park Service, e-mail, August 14, 2001.
know that "the Homesteads" rescued many families like my own (Mr. and Mrs. Louis R. Guye – original owners) from becoming welfare recipients. My two brothers and I all became graduates of [Davis and Elkins College]. . . My father died in 1978 at the age of 78 in his Valley Bend home. My mother (Estella Ferguson Guye) was the first woman mail carrier in West Virginia. Our whole family were hard workers and when we got the Valley Bend house in 1936 we were so thrilled, as at that time we were living with my grandmother at her Montrose, West Virginia, farm. 45

The homesteaders shared in the community's life through the cooperative ventures in the crafts center where women wove textiles, in the large the potato farms, and in the dimension lumber plant. Woodworking was included, and a native Appalachian woodworker named Bud Godlove was hired to head up the furniture making project. Godlove was from a remote mountain hollow in Greenbrier County, some one-hundred miles south of Elkins. His chair was put into production at Valley Bend. 46 In a similar vein as Arthurdale, a distinctive furniture style was produced at Valley Bend, expressing utilitarian themes. Some original educational equipment built there is still in service at the Homestead School. Construction of commercial buildings accompanied the community's development in the hopes that an independent town would take hold.

The weaving shop became a strike headquarters briefly in 1937. Residents were protesting unpopular wage and work assignments. Here they developed the survival strategy of picking and preserving "strikeberries" (wild blackberries, blueberries, and huckleberries) that helped sustain the community residents during winter following the work stoppage.

Residents felt safe in their homestead community. They trusted each other. Mrs. Josephine Vanscoy, daughter of an original homesteader, recalled that "one family had a very small girl that attended the nursery school. Her mother would fasten her into a wagon that had slats. The family bull dog would take her to [the] nursery. At the time for her to go home, he would be there to take her home. I can't recall there being any problem with anyone bothering her. All the neighbors along the way would watch for her." 47

Most of the farming efforts were not successful and were discontinued early. Farm work paid only fifteen cents per hour, perhaps leading to the sale of the farm to private individuals

46Thomas, An Appalachian New Deal, 56.
after only two years. The vegetable crops were ravaged by browsing deer. Potato farms were only successful for a few seasons. The Randolph County Potato Growers Association graded and packaged the crop. The potatoes were shipped in fifteen pound bags to the A & P and Kroger grocery stores within a seventy-five-mile radius. Towns served included Graffon, Fairmont, Morgantown, Clarksburg, and Elkins. In addition, the association furnished potatoes to the Homestead School for its hot lunch program. One farm, now owned by Paul Swecker, was located near the present site of the Coastal Lumber Company mill which adjoins the Dailey Trade Center building. He purchased the farm from his father, Wesley L. Swecker. Other potato farms, adjacent to the homesteads, were owned by the Kittle family on the Georgetown Road, C.W. “Red” Harris in Valley Bend, and Beverage Louk, owner of the first homestead built in East Dailey.

The 550-acre cooperative farm was established in 1935, and contained 250 acres of meadow, sixty-one acres of wheat, sixty acres of corn, fifty-eight acres of oats, forty-two acres of potatoes, more than twenty acres of other vegetables, and a thirty-acre county relief garden. The farm was sold in 1937. The cannery, located on Back Road, was constructed with Works Progress Administration laborers under the direction of Adonis Hunt. Other persons were hired by the Civil Works Administration to work with Camp Tygart to build roads and the warehouse.

Tygart Valley homesteaders were very busy. At its peak, the community enterprises were diverse. There was a stone quarry, potato curing houses, woodworking shop, beef cattle lots, crops, warehouse, stores, the trade center, filling station, and various other activities that included weaving and child care. The potato curing houses, one of which survives, were located behind the Trade Center. The cannery and the preschool were in East Dailey, next to Camp Tygart. Cattle grazed on the broad plain between the homesteads and U.S. 250/219. A remnant of a cattle chute serves as a reminder. A cluster of commercial buildings anchored by the Trade Center (now community center) formed the commercial core of the community. To manage their gardens and homes, the homesteaders could borrow hand tools from the community’s tool library located in the community center. Some farmers raised animals, while others grew crops. Most families engaged in a cooperative exchange among themselves, according to local accounts.

There was a large underground tunnel from the lumber mill to the trade center that

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47Cay Wood, notes from interview with Paul Swecker, April 19, 2002, Homestead School public meeting.

50Interview, Mrs. Virginia Samples October, 2001.
provided steam heat for the center. That building contained stores, restaurants, a post office, cold storage, meeting spaces, and an auditorium. Originally, the fire department was housed in the basement. Envisioned also as a bomb shelter, the basement walls of the center are two-and-a-half feet thick.

A four-hundred-acre park was located between Eakin Avenue and the present Valley Bend Volunteer Fire Hall. Stone walls, bridges, picnic areas, and a fire tower defined its character. The park was the common location for community gatherings, including Randolph County’s 4-H Field Day. Subsequently sold to the West Virginia University College of Forestry, the park site was timbered as a student demonstration project in the early 1960s and has deteriorated since then. As part of that transfer, the Fire Department received a parcel of the land from West Virginia University. The fire tower has been torn down and residents report that the former park has become infested with copperheads and rattle snakes.51

Three of the Valley Bend homestead buildings were pre-existing residences when the project began. One first served as the project’s nursery school, one became a homestead, and one became temporary headquarters and an inn. Two of them are nineteenth century farmhouses, bespeaking the valley’s history of farming and “homesteading” long before the Great Depression. sent Eleanor Roosevelt and Rexford Tugwell in search of places for destitute Americans to live.

Government photographers Carl Mydans, Marion Post Wolcott, and John Vachon captured the construction of the community and daily life there. Their photographs are housed at the Library of Congress’s American Memory project.52 In addition, Forest Service photographer E.S. Shipp chronicled activities in the Tygart Valley during August 1935. Those images are housed at National Archives II in College Park, Maryland.53

Mrs. Roosevelt maintained her interest in the community throughout the Great Depression and visited on multiple occasions. Her earliest visit had occurred on June 7, 1934, when she spoke at commencement ceremonies at Davis and Elkins College. She was accompanied by Governor and Mrs. Kump, West Virginia Congressman Randolph, Subsistence Homesteads Administrator M.L. Wilson, and Mrs. Harold L. Ickes, wife of the Secretary of the Interior. Subsequently, the First Lady returned frequently to West Virginia with or without

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51 Interview, Thomas Liston, April 19, 2002.
52 LC-USF33-000718-M1 to LC-USF33-000720-M4
53 See Forest Service Archives 305427.
In the face of mounting criticism, Tugwell resigned from the government in 1936, but Mrs. Roosevelt kept working. In 1937, she brought tobacco heiress Doris Duke Cromwell to visit, in hopes that the wealthy woman would invest in the enterprise as she had done in Arthurdale. This apparently came to naught.55

In the late 1930s, water lines were laid to allow for another two-hundred homesteads, but according to longtime residents, the outbreak of World War II diverted federal efforts away from homestead projects, and construction activities ceased. Soon after, the federal government resolved to get out of the homestead business and began selling all of its homesteads back to the private sector.56 By 1943, Congress was investigating federal assistance programs. Questioning whether federal dollars were being managed wisely and spaced by the collective nature of the resettlement communities, the lawmakers were anxious to privatize the projects. Driven by public controversy and impending national elections, Congress formally investigated the Farm Security Administration in 1944. With the Depression over, and war concerns dominating the national psyche, the resettlement programs were thought by many to be a dangerous waste of resources, not to mention an alarming example of socialism and social engineering. The congressional hearings produced volumes of information about the entire resettlement program, and in the process they created a substantial historical record of the enterprise.

When economic conditions eased, the cooperative activities began to wane. The Tygart Valley Association was disbanded in 1944 and the Kenwood Mill was placed in receivership. Elkins businessman, A. Spates Brady, arranged for the sale of the woodworking plant and the trade center, returning to the federal government $1,152,000 and proceeds from the sale of the quarry and four large farms.57 These dollars were above and beyond the mortgages paid by the homesteaders. Thus, the Tygart Valley project successfully repaid the federal government for its investment. As President Roosevelt had predicted in 1934, the government did get its money back. It took less than ten years. Congressional fears of rampant federal giveaways proved to be unfounded.

54Miscellaneous Homestead Papers, Donald Rice, Randolph County Historical Society.

55Ross, "The Early History of Tygart Valley Homesteads," 6; Cook, Eleanor Roosevelt, 141.

56"Homestead Residents are asked $3,313 for Homes," Elkins Inter-Mountain, Nov. 1, 1946.

Summary

As part of a national movement to aid poor rural families, the Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is not only significant to the history of West Virginia, but also to the country. The community obtains its national significance as one of the nation’s planned resettlement communities established by the federal government during the Great Depression. Tygart Valley Homesteads retains excellent integrity in its plan, landscape features, and homesteads. Modern construction does not detract from its ability to convey significance under Criterion A for its significance to the country’s social history, Criterion B, for its association with Eleanor Roosevelt, or under Criterion C for its developed plan.

Criterion A

Under Criterion A, properties are significant for an event or patterns of events. To be considered eligible, properties must have existed at the time of the event or pattern of events and to have been associated with those events. Furthermore, the property must also be considered important. The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the state and national political, sociological, and cultural events associated with the Great Depression. It is significant under Politics and Government, Social History, and Agriculture.

The National Register defines Politics and Government as “the enactment and administration of laws” by which a jurisdiction is governed and as “activities related to the political process.” The Tygart Valley Homestead project was authorized as part of the Roosevelt Administration’s First Hundred Days legislation and financed by the National Industrial Recovery Act through the Federal Subsistence Homesteads Corporation and the Resettlement Administration. It was a significant piece of legislation that allowed for the support of desperate families in rural West Virginia. The resettlement program was one of many federal government attempts to respond to the Great Depression.

Social History is defined as “the history of efforts to promote the welfare of society; the history of society and the lifeways of its social groups.” The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District was a planned community in which families were brought together to live and work. Lifeways of the families often changed dramatically once they moved to Tygart Valley. For many, the resettlement program represented a change in fortune.

Agriculture is “the process and technology of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and plants.” The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is significant for its agricultural history as the homesteads not only provided plots for individual families to grow
crops and raise livestock, but the resettlement community also provided a large area of land for communal farming.

Criterion B

Under Criterion B properties are eligible for their association with the lives of people. The property must illustrate a person’s significant achievement in the past. Page 20 of National Register Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons states that while properties considered eligible under Criterion B should be evaluated against other properties significant in a person’s life, “this does not mean necessarily that only the best examples are eligible for the National Register.” Furthermore, “several properties may qualify for National Register listing under Criterion B for associations with the same person.”

The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is eligible under Criterion B: Politics and Government and Social History for its association with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. The First Lady played a significant role in bringing the homestead program to West Virginia. She was persistent in her efforts to help rehabilitate workers from depressed industrial settings as small self-sufficient farmers. Many projects were closely monitored by Mrs. Roosevelt. Furthermore, she visited each of the West Virginia homestead communities on several occasions. Eleanor even spoke at the first commencement ceremony at the Homestead School in 1940.

Criterion C

Under Criterion C, properties are listed in the National Register for their physical design. The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is significant under Community Planning and Development. As defined by the National Register, Community Planning and Development is “the design or development of the physical structure of communities.” The district is eligible as a self-sufficient resettlement community developed during the Great Depression. It was a planned community meant to assist desolate rural families struggling in the Depression. Each individual homestead was between one and two acres in size. Each one included a house, a multipurpose outbuilding, space for gardens, fruit trees, and livestock or chickens. The planned community also included other facilities and amenities such as a dimension mill and sawmill, community trade center, and school. The resettlement community was also set up with its own health care system, fire department, community farm, and board of directors.

Integrity
The National Park Service has not devised standards for the percentage of contributing and noncontributing buildings in a historic district. Rather, National Register suggests that the district must retain integrity and the ability to convey significance under the selected criteria.

As stated in *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, "integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance." The National Register recognizes seven aspects that define integrity which include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District retains excellent integrity in all seven aspects.

*Location* is described by the bulletin as "the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred." The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District retains integrity in location. All of the structures and buildings within the boundaries remain in their original location.

*Design* is described as "the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property." The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District retains excellent integrity in its design. Despite some modern garages and trailer houses, the spatial arrangement of the district has remained the same. The visual rhythms of the streetscapes are also unaltered.

*Setting* is described as "the physical environment of a historic property." The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District is situated in a rural environment as it was during the historic period. Many of the homesteads still have fruit trees that are still heavily bearing. The wide open fields on both sides of the Tygart River between Route 250/219 and Back Road are still undeveloped and used for crops and grazing.

*Materials* are described as "the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property." Although some of the homesteads in the historic district have been modified with synthetic siding, this does not affect the district’s ability to convey significance under *Criteria A, B, and C.* The physical elements that make up the Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District as a whole remain intact.

*Workmanship* is described as "the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory." Although some of the buildings in the Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District have undergone alterations, the overall style of the buildings and structures has remained the same. Furthermore, the few modern
houses in the district have been constructed in a style sympathetic with the original homesteads.

*Feeling* is described as “a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.” Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District has excellent integrity of feeling. As a rural historic district, the area conveys the feeling of an agricultural life in the 1930s and 1940s. The district retains original design, workmanship, and setting that all contribute to this feeling.

*Association* is described as “the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.” The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District retains excellent integrity of association in that it is the place where the homesteads were constructed and where Mrs. Roosevelt visited and assisted in developing. Furthermore, the district is sufficiently intact to convey this relationship to the observer.
Bibliography

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Newspapers

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The Inter-mountain. Elkins, West Virginia, 1946.
The Tygart Tattler. Camp Tygart CCC, 1936.
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Farm Security Administration, *Hearings Before the Select Committee of the House Committee on Agriculture, to Investigate the Activities of the Farm Security Administration*, House of Representatives 78th Congress, June 7-July 2, 1943. Washington, D.C.: USGPO.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District</th>
<th>Randolph County, WV</th>
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Kreiser, Christine M., ed. “‘I wonder whom God will hold responsible’: Mary Behner and the Presbyterian Mission on Scotts Run.” *West Virginia History,* 53:61-94.


Rakes, Paul H. “Casualties on the Homefront: Scotts Run Mining Disasters During World War II.” *West Virginia History,* 53:95-118


Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning on County Road 21 (Georgetown Road), northwest of U.S. Route 250/219 where County Road 21 bends north, in the Beverly West Quadrangle of Randolph County, West Virginia, thence southeasterly along County Road 21, crossing U.S. Route 250/219 and the Tygart Valley River to the intersection with County Road 38 (Back Road), near the mouth of Wood Run, thence southwesterly along County Road 38 past a triangular intersection of County Road 38, County Road 37, and County Road 21 (Old Trail Road), thence along County Road 37, going north over the iron bridge over the Tygart Valley River to U.S. Route 250/219, thence northeasterly along U.S. Route 250/219, thence southeast along Oak Lane to the abandoned railroad grade, thence northeasterly along the railroad grade to a point approximately fifty yards south of the Homestead "hool, thence northerly to U.S. Route 250/219, thence northeasterly along U.S. Route 250/219 to the point where the highway crosses Cassity Run, thence north to the gated end of Eakin Avenue, thence northeasterly to the point of origin. The boundaries encompass approximately 1,500 acres. The boundaries are encompassed in a polygon denoted by the following UTM references, moving clockwise from point A to point K.

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Boundary Justification

The area chosen is the remaining footprint of the Tygart Valley Homestead Community, encompassing homestead sites, the commercial center, the original inn, the former nursery, the former cannery, two cemeteries, an eighteenth century homestead, the Homestead School, and the three neighborhoods of Dailey, East Dailey, and Valley Bend, former potato fields, pasture, crop lands, two historic bridges, and a dimension lumber plant. Not included in this boundary are the site of the old CCC camp, the site of two hundred proposed additional homesteads, and the site of the former homestead community park, which have all lost their historic integrity. The former homestead nursery and cannery are also outside of the district boundaries. They have both lost historic integrity through alterations and additions. A section of homestead property between U.S. Route 250/219 and the abandoned railroad grade has not been included in the boundaries due to the significant amount
of modern construction. This area has lost its historic integrity. The boundaries are further described in Randolph County Deed Book 139, Pages 558-570; Deed Book 128, Page 221; Deed Book 138, Pages 419, 417, 421, 424, 431, 442; Deed Book 139, Page 426.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District
Randolph County, WV
Name of Property
County/State

Section number    Photo    Page    1

Photo 1 of 27    Field No. 0131. Gambrel-roof house. View facing north.
Photo 2 of 27    Field No. 0178. Cape Cod house. View facing north.
Photo 3 of 27    Field No. 0047A. Potato Barn. View facing east.
Photo 6 of 27    Field No. 0118. Cape Cod house. View facing south.
Photo 7 of 27    Field No. 0082. Cape Cod house. View facing west.
Photo 8 of 27    Field No. 0025. Homestead School. View facing south.
Photo 9 of 27    Field No. 0002. Cape Cod house. View facing north.
Photo 10 of 27   Field No. 0019. Altered house. View facing north.
Photo 12 of 27   Field No. 0042. Cape Cod house. View facing west.
Photo 13 of 27   Field No. 0262. Pratt Truss Bridge. View facing south.

Photos 14 to 27 taken by SHPO staff, Erin Riebe. Negatives located at the WV SHPO.

Photo 14 of 27   Field No. 0261. View facing north.
Photo 15 of 27   Overview of Plot A homesteads. View facing northwest.
Photo 16 of 27   Field No. 0016 and overview of Plot D. View facing southwest.
Photo 17 of 27   Field No. 0083 and 0084. View facing northwest.
Photo 18 of 27   Field No. 0086, 0087, 0088. View facing north.
Photo 19 of 27   Field No. 0203. View facing south.
Photo 20 of 27   Field No. 0204 and 0205. View facing south.
Photo 21 of 27   Field No. 0154. View facing south.
Photo 22 of 27   View south on long road towards Franklin.
Photo 23 of 27   Field No. 0178 and 0179. View facing west.
Photo 24 of 27   General view of cooperative farm. View facing west.
Photo 25 of 27   General view across cooperative farm towards Plot H.
Photo 26 of 27   Field No. 0024. Tygart Valley Trade Center. View facing east.
Photo 27 of 27   Field No. 0025. Homestead School. View facing northeast.
Tygart Valley Homesteads
Historic District, Randolph County, WV
(overview map)
Sketch Map Plot EE Valley Bend, Tygart Valley West Virginia Homesteads

PLOT EE Tygart Valley Homesteads, Randolph County, WV

C: Contributing Resource
N: Noncontributing Resource

• Planned building on plot is noncontributing
  (Altered Homestead in modern construction)
Sketch map — not to scale.
Community Farm, Tyrone's Valley Homesteads, Randolph Co., WV.
Schematic plan of a homestead plot of approx. 2A
Tygart Valley Homesteads, Randolph County, West Virginia