

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Union Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number roughly along Main, Dunlap, Pump & Elmwood N/A not for publication

city, town Union N/A vicinity

state West Virginia code WV county Monroe code 063 zip code 24983

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>174</u>	<u>70</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>		sites
<u>7</u>		structures
<u>1</u>		objects
<u>184</u>	<u>70</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 5

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

William O. Rauer
Signature of certifying official

10/18/90
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling
 AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: Agr. outbdgs.
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Department store bdgs.
 AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: Agr. field
 GOVERNMENT/LOCAL: Court house

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling
 AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Agr. outbdgs.
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Department store bdgs.
 AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: Agr. field
 GOVERNMENT/LOCAL: Court house

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival
Greek Revival Craftsman
Queen Anne Modern

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone
 walls WOOD: weatherboard
 roof TIN: standing seam
 other BRICK, ASPHALT, CONCRETE

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Union Historic District is located in the small community of Union (pop. est. 850) in rural central Monroe County in south-eastern West Virginia. The district contains a small compact town surrounded by rich farm lands with mountains as a backdrop and which are in full view from all areas of the district. The northern town entrance follows essentially the old White Sulphur Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs Turnpike. The south western entrance and South Street were at one time the old Sweet Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs Turnpike. U. S. 219 which follows parts of these turnpikes and runs through Main Street is also the early Seneca Indian Trail. As an eastern entrance, W.Va. rt. three enters the town through North Street. Main Street north of South Street is five blocks long and lined with one, two, and three story nineteenth and early twenty century residences, commercial buildings, governmental buildings, and churches. Most commercial and governmental buildings are of plain brick architecture and blend quite well losing the idea that there is a time span in the construction. At the Main and North Streets intersection is located the old commercial heart of the town. Here stands also the governmental center of Monroe County, Monroe Court House. Main Street south of South Street is lined on both sides with nineteenth and early twentieth century vernacular residences. The western boundary line is essentially Dunlap Street and the eastern boundaries are Pump and Elmwood Streets extended to property lines. Structures east and west of these boundaries are all post World War II and do not meet the National Register age criterion. The boundary line in the south west corner is extended to enclose the large brick 1939 modernistic Union High School (#65).

The Monroe County Confederate Monument (#4) sits atop a small knoll in a field just north of the town and acts as a focal point or a terminus for Main Street. It is surrounded by a small park approached from the Presbyterian Church yard.

The Union Historic District is composed of residences, commercial structures, county governmental buildings, two large cemeteries, the old White Sulphur Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs and Sweet Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs Turnpikes, the Monroe County Confederate Monument, and cultivated and pasture lands of parts of three historic farms. Other significant features are numerous rock retaining walls on Green Hill Road and South Main, wrought iron fences, picket fences, brick, stone and concrete gate post, and numerous small barns, farm sheds, outbuildings and garages. Taken together, the components of the Union Historic District successfully portrays the historic appearance of a small southern mountain town.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The commercial section of Union contains several interesting buildings such as the Greek Revival Watchman office c. 1870 (#122) and the brick three story c. 1898 Monroe Dept. Store (#28). Stretching out north and south from the commercial core the streets are lined with residences. Comprising the majority of the buildings in the district, these residences are primarily of frame construction, one to two stories in height, and date from around 1783 to 1940. While most are vernacular in design such as the old Presbyterian manse c. 187 (#54), several reflect stylistic features prevalent at the time of their construction such as pedimented porticos, sidelights and transoms, decorative wood work in gables, and decorative trim on porches. An example is the high style Classical Revival Elmwood c. 1835 (#162) on U. S. 219. On Main Street is a Queen Anne residence (#7) with decorative gable work and one story tower. A small Greek Revival house (#159) with Italic features sits on fifth street. An example of a craftsman style cottage is (#71) on south Main.

Scattered throughout the district are five historic church buildings. Both the Union Presbyterian (#5) c. 1922 on fifth street and the Union United Methodist Church (#93) c. 1889 on Main Street are Greek Revival structures with Gothic features such as arched stained glass windows. The old Baptist Church c. 1845 (#13) on Main Street is Jeffersonian Greek Revival with multipane windows and louvered steeple. Ames Methodist Church (#115) c. 1857 on North Street is vernacular in style with multipane windows, board and batten siding and a louvered belfry. All Saints Episcopal Church c. 1873 (#126) on Pump Street is Gothic Revival with stained glass windows and an open belfry.

On South Street stands an historic school complex. The brick two story c. 1820 Classical Revival structure was the old Union Academy (#89). In 1862 additional property was acquired across the street. A boarding section was built onto the old brick Methodist Church c. 1831 (#84) for Monroe Presbyterian High School. These structures also served as West Virginia Female Seminary and the Johnson Female College in the later nineteenth century. A log building with weatherboard on North Street was the old Union Female Academy c. 1845 (#157) in the pre-Civil War years. The vernacular style c. 1898 second Union Academy (#158) on Elmwood Street was opened in 1903. Union District's first public school was opened in 1870 in the vernacular style, Old Temperance Hall c. 1849 (#153).

The impressive but quiet brick Romanesque Monroe County Court House c. 1882 (#113) sits on Main Street in the middle of the district. The Court House-Jail sits on land historically given in 1799 for such purposes and two preceding buildings with jails have been built. The original log structure was replaced in 1820 with a Classical Revival brick structure.

On Pump Street is the old town spring and from it in the pre-Civil War era water was pumped in hollowed log pipes fitted with iron castings. (examples remain)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The district contains three fields; The Monument Field (#3) and Paradise Fields (#164) are north of the town, and the Royal Oak Field (#72) is south of the town. They are used in farming now as they have always been used.

One hundred seventy-four buildings, seven structures, one object and two sites are considered contributing resources in the district. Contributing buildings include eighty two residences, five churches, eleven commercial buildings, one governmental building, four civic buildings, one fraternal building and seventy outbuildings. Six cisterns and the town spring with watering through are contributing structures, while the two cemeteries are contributing sites. The monument is a contributing object. Non-contributing resources include thirty residences, fifteen commercial buildings, eight civic buildings and seventeen outbuildings. Most non-contributing resources are less than fifty years old. Although there are a few intrusions in the Union Historic District, the district, with its commercial and residential buildings, fields, narrow streets, rock walls, iron and wood picket fences, vegetable gardens and outbuildings convey the feeling of a small nineteenth and early twentieth century town with its one hundred ninety years of growth and change.

Contributing resources (C) are significant to the historic and architectural development of the district, possess compatible design elements, and maintain the scale, use and texture of the district. Non-contributing resources (NC) have little or no architectural significance or do not fall within the period of significance of the district. The architectural survey was completed by Dr. Ronald L. Ripley of the Monroe County Historical Society.

U. S. 219 NORTH

1. Walnut Grove. c. 1783-1825. Classical Revival. Evolved through many stages but is essentially a T-shaped house of three two story log structures c. 1783 covered by weatherboard and a large square two story hip roof Classical Revival brick structure of 1825, stone foundations and standing seam tin roofs. (C)

Springhouse. c. 1825. Brick, tin roof, one story. (C)

Infirmary-Wash house. c. 1810. First story stone (wash house), second story weatherboard (infirmary), stone outside chimney, tin roof. (C)

Coachman's Cottage. c. 1825. Weatherboard, $1\frac{1}{2}$ stories, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, one story full front porch. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4

Law Office. c. 1815. Weatherboard. standing seam tin roof, two front entrances, one story. (C)

Smokehouse. c. 1825. Brick, stone foundation, square standing seam hip roof. (C)

Walnut Grove tenant house. c. 1825. Weatherboard, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof, one story, full front porch, square columns. (C)

2 Barns. c. 1900. Vertical board, tin roof, stone pier foundations. (C) Barn. c. 1895. Weatherboard, tin roof, stone pier foundation, wood silo (C)

5 Outbuildings. c 1900. Weatherboard, tin roofs. (C)

2. Walnut Grove Spring House. c. 1855. Vernacular. Octagonal one story weatherboard structure, diamond shaped windows, wood shingle roof, stone foundation, isolated from main Walnut Grove complex and quite near U.S. 219. (C)
3. Monument Field.
4. Monroe County Confederate Monument. 1901. Stone foundation with granite pedestal and a standing figure in marble of a Confederate infantry man. (C)

FIFTH STREET

5. Union Presbyterian Church. c. 1922. Greek Revival. Brick, stone foundation with basement church hall, rectangular plan with Gothic features such as triple sash windows of stain glass. (C)
 6. James McNeer House. c. 1896. Neo-classical Victorian. Square plan, stone foundation, standing seam tin hip roof, two over two double hung sash windows. single bay gabled second story front porch, wraparound first story porch, doric columns, weatherboard. (C)
- Garage. Concrete block, asphalt roof. (NC)

MAIN STREET

7. Don Ballard House. c. 1910. Queen Anne. Square plan, two and one-half stories, asphalt shingle roof, stone foundation, decorative wood-work porches and eaves, second story round tower, shingle and weatherboard. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 5KNOBS ROAD

8. Agnes Branche House. c. 1815. Vernacular. Double log house covered by weatherboard, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof, brick chimney, six over six double hung sash windows (C)
Outbuilding. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
9. Stella Campbell House. c. 1854. Vernacular. 1½ story rectangular plan, stone foundation, tin roof, turned porch columns, weatherboard. (C)
Outbuilding. c.1900. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

MAIN STREET

10. Frances Dunlap House. c.1845. Greek Revival. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof, rectangular two story plan, c.1870 extension to the rear, square one story porch columns, stone foundation. (C)
Outbuilding. c.1946. Weatherboard (NC)
Workshop-apt. c. 1940. Asphalt roof, weatherboard (C)
11. Bill Martin House. c. 1940. Vernacular. Weatherboard, concrete foundation, asphalt roof. (C)
12. James Howell House. c. 1854. Vernacular cottage. 1½ story, standing seam tin roof, stone pier foundation enclosed with concrete block, turned porch columns, weatherboard. (C)
Outbuilding. c. 1854. Weatherboard, tin roof, stone foundation (C)
13. Old Baptist Church. c. 1845. Greek Revival. Rectangular plan, brick, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, indented front entry with two doric columns, louvered steeple, 24 over 24 double hung sash windows. (C)
14. Crebs House. c.1868. Greek Revival with some later Victorian features. Square plan, standing seam tin hip roof, stone foundation, original porch replaced by a c. 1920 porch, weatherboard. (C)

DUNLAP STREET

15. Modern trailer. (NC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 6

-
16. Virginia Newsome House. c. 1870. Vernacular, tin roof, stone pier foundation, front porch enclosed, asbestos shingle (C)
17. Russell Newsome House. c. 1940. Vernacular. Weatherboard, concrete foundation, asphalt gabled roof. (C).
Modern trailer. (NC)

MAIN STREET

18. Rowan House. c. 1850. Greek Revival, square plan, standing seam hip tin roof, stone foundation, Ionic porch columns, weatherboard covered by asphalt siding, shed-like extension in the rear. (C)
Outbuilding. c. 1870 Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
Gazebo. c. 1900. Square columns, gabled roof. (C)
Cistern. c. 1850. Brick casing. (C)
19. c. 1965. Modern commercial building. Two story, brick and concrete block, flat roof, (NC)

GREEN HILL ROAD

20. Whitcamper House. c. 1845. Vernacular plan, six over six double hung sash windows, stone foundation, turned porch columns, standing seam tin roof, modern room addition to one side, stone outside chimney and foundation, weatherboard. (C)
21. Bishop Clair House. c. 1854. Vernacular. Rectangular 1½ story plan, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, craftsman style porch added c. 1920, front entrance with side lights, weatherboard. (C)
Outbuilding. c. 1900. Vertical flat board, tin roof (C)

DUNLAP STREET

22. Modern trailer. (NC)

GREEN HILL ROAD

23. c. 1955. Vernacular. Square one story plan, asphalt gabled roof, asbestos siding, concrete foundation. (NC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 7

24. c. 1950. Vernacular, square $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan, asphalt gabled end roof, asbestos siding, concrete block foundation. (NC)

MAIN STREET

25. c. 1956 Modern commercial building. Brick and concrete block, rectangular plan, altered gabled roof from original flat roof. (NC)
26. Boone Garage. c. 1923. Modern. Flat roof, brick and tile, stone foundation with basement, two story rectangular plan. (C)
27. c. 1946. Modern. Brick, rectangular plan, flat roof, two story plan. (NC)
28. Monroe Dept. Store Building. c. 1898. Vernacular. Brick, stone foundation, 3 story rectangular plan with basement, decorative cast iron cornice, flat tin roof, modern aluminum awnings. (C)

NORTH STREET

29. c. 1946. Modern commercial building. Brick, flat roof, concrete foundation, one story rectangular plan. (NC)
30. Capt. Christopher Beirne House. c. 1825. Classical Revival, stone foundation with basement, stone outside chimney, six over nine double hung sash windows, standing seam tin roof, front entrance with oval over light and sidelights, porch with turned columns, asbestos siding (C)
31. Old Union Female Academy. c. 1815. Vernacular. Weatherboard over log, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof, 2 story square plan with $1\frac{1}{2}$ story log side wing, c. 1900 frame room extension to the rear, brick outside chimney. (C)
32. c. 1965. Vernacular. Brick, hip asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (N)
33. c. 1960. Vernacular. Brick, hip asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (N)

MAIN STREET

34. Bank of Monroe. c. 1965. Modern. Brick and stone, asphalt flat roof, one story with basement, celestial light. (NC)
35. Lewis Building. 1935. Modern. Brick, two story rectangular plan with basement, flat roof, concrete foundation. (C)
36. Caldwell Building. 1935. Modern. Brick, two story rectangular plan with basement, one story addition to the side c. 1935, concrete foundation. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8

37. Kalico Kitchen. c. 1939. Vernacular. Brick, stone foundation, asphalt gabled end roof. (C)

MIDDLE STREET

38. Lorene Weikle House. c. 1930. Craftsman. Asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation with basement, weatherboard, 1½ story, brack-eted roof supports, modern iron porch columns. (C)
39. Charles Flack House. c. 1930. Vernacular. Aluminum siding, stand- ing seam tin gabled roof, concrete foundation with basement, one story, part of porch enclosed, doric porch columns. (C)
40. Richard Crews House. c. 1930. Vernacular. Aluminum siding, stand- ing seam tin gabled roof, concrete foundation with basement, 1½ story, doric porch columns. (C)

DUNLAP STREET

41. c. 1965. Vernacular. Aluminum siding, asphalt gabled roof, one story. (NC)

MAIN STREET

42. George Lewis House. c. 1920. Vernacular. Weatherboard, two over two double hung sash windows, stone foundation, tin hip roof, turned porch columns, wraparound porch, pressed tin enclosed porch substructure (C)
Outbuilding. c. 1870. Square one story, tin hip roof, tin siding (C)
43. Hugh Caperton Law Office. c. 1820. Classical Revival. Brick, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof, double front entrances with oval over lights, doric columns, porch altered c. 1920, flagstone porch flooring. (C)
44. Dr. Roles Medical Office. c. 1900. Vernacular. Weatherboard, as-phalt roof, shingled gables, several additions but retains its integrity. (C)
45. General Augustus Chapman House. c. 1803-1870. Vernacular. Two story L shaped plan, standing seam tin roof, rubble stone foundation, c. 1920 craftsman style front porch, Italinete double door front entrance, weatherboard. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 9

Well House. c. 1870. Standing seam tin hip roof, lattice wood side, stone foundation. (C)

SOUTH STREET

46. Edith Ballard House. c. 1940. Modern. Asphalt gabled end roof, aluminum siding, concrete foundation, square $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan. (C)
47. Humphreys House. c. 1915. Craftsman. Two story square plan, weatherboard, standing seam tin hip roof with off center front gable, Doric porch columns, four over one vertical double hung sash windows, stone foundation. (C)
48. c. 1935. Modern. Much altered, aluminum siding, asphalt roof, square one story plan. (NC)
49. Sonny Noble House. c. 1837. Vernacular. Standing seam tin roof, concrete foundation, asbestos siding, aluminum awnings, square $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan. (C)

MAIN STREET

50. Herbie Johnson House. c. 1896. Vernacular. Standing seam tin roof, weatherboard, stone foundation, turned porch columns, two story L shaped plan, wraparound porch with turned columns and wood floor. (C)
- Outbuilding. c. 1870. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
51. Bill Lewis House. c. 1915. Vernacular. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, two story L shaped plan, craftsman style wraparound porch. (C)
- Root Cellar. c. 1870. Stone with weatherboard second story, tin roof. (C)
52. Anna Mae Atkins House. c. 1940. Modern. Asphalt gabled end roof, asbestos shingle siding, square $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan, small gabled front porch with square columns. (C)
- Modern trailer. (NC)
53. c. 1965. Vernacular. Brick, 1 story, concrete foundation, asphalt roof. (NC)
54. Old Presbyterian Manse. c. 1875. Vernacular. Weatherboard, two story rectangular plan, two story rear wing with double porch, two brick outside chimnies, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof, two over two double hung sash windows, doric porch columns. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 10

-
55. c. 1955. Modern. Asphalt roof, asbestos shingles, concrete foundation 1½ story. (NC)
56. c. 1965. Modern. Asphalt roof, brick, concrete foundation, one story. (NC)
57. Old Methodist Parsonage. c. 1854. Greek Revival. Standing seam tin hip roof, weatherboard, stone foundation, two story square plan. c. 1920 porches added. Doric columns. (C)
58. c. 1967. Modern. Asphalt roof, brick, one story, concrete foundation. (NC)
59. Harman Falls House. c. 1840. Vernacular. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, outside chimnies of stone and brick, two story, rectangular plan, rear one story wing, Tuscan columns. (C)
60. Grey Neel House. c. 1939. Colonial Revival. Weatherboard, asphalt roof, square 1½ story plan, concrete foundation, arch entrance porch with turned porch columns. (C)
- Garage. c. 1939. Weatherboard, asphalt roof. (C)
61. Hazel Craft House. c. 1840. Vernacular. Rectangular two story plan with one story rear wing, stone foundation, brick chimnies, craftsman style porch added c. 1920, six over six double hung sash windows, standing seam tin roof, weatherboard. (C)
- 2 Outbuildings. c. 1860. Board&batten, tin roof. (C)
- Garage. c. 1850. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
62. c. 1955. Modern. Cement block one story building, asphalt roof. (NC)
- SCHOOL STREET
63. c. 1965. Modern church. Brick, asphalt roof, T plan with rear church hall, concrete foundation. (NC)
64. c. 1965. Modern. Weatherboard, brick foundation, asphalt roof, rectangular one story plan. (NC)
65. Union High School. c. 1939. Modern. Flat roof, one story large I shaped building, brick, concrete foundation. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 11

Outbuilding. c. 1947. Concrete block, large two story, rectangular plan, asphalt roof. (NC)

Outbuilding. c. 1975. Weatherboard, asphalt roof, doric columns. (NC)

66. Alma Huchkins House. c. 1925. Craftsman. Standing seam tin roof, underpinned with concrete blocks, one story, weatherboard. (C)

67. Old State Road Garage. c. 1922. Craftsman. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof, concrete foundation, exposed rafters. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1950. Concrete block, asphalt roof. (NC)

Outbuilding. c. 1925. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

68. Stella Bell House. c. 1870. Vernacular. One story, tin gabled roof, turned porch columns, square plan, weatherboard. (C)

MAIN STREET

69. Modern trailer. (NC)

70. c. 1970. Modern. Asphalt, gabled roof, aluminum siding, rectangular plan. (NC)

71. Stella Shumate House. c. 1925. Craftsman. 1½ story square plan, concrete foundation, weatherboard, standing seam gabled roof, shed-like dormer, tapered square porch columns. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1900. Tin roof, weatherboard (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1900. Board and batten, tin roof, lattice ventilation opening at roof line. (C)

72. Royal Oak Field.

73. c. 1966. Vernacular. Brick, asphalt roof, concrete foundation, one story rectangular plan. (NC)

74. Andy Irons House. c. 1940. Modern. Asphalt multi-gabled roof, concrete foundation, brick. (C)

Garage. c. 1940. Brick, asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (C)

75. Howard Gwynn House. c. 1921. Craftsman. Two story square plan, asphalt gabled roof, weatherboard, concrete foundation, bracketed eaves, front gabled dormer. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 12

Small barn. c. 1925. Weatherboard, tin gambrel roof. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1925. weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

76. Herman McNeil House. c. 1922. Craftsman. 1½ story square plan, weatherboard, asphalt gabled roof. Concrete foundation, two front gabled dormers. (C)
77. Forest Roles House. c. 1940. Modern. Asbestos shingle siding, asphalt multi-gabled roof, concrete foundation. (C)
78. George Dransfield House. c. 1939. Dutch Revival. Gambrel asphalt roof, asbestos shingle siding, concrete foundation, two story rectangular plan. (C)
79. C. & P Telephone Building. c. 1940. Vernacular. Brick, one story rectangular plan, concrete foundation. (C)
80. James Frazier House. c. 1940. Modern. Brick, multi-gabled asphalt roof, brick and stone outside chimney, concrete foundation with basement, two story square plan. (C)
81. c. 1965. Vernacular. Brick, asphalt gabled roof, concrete foundation, one story rectangular plan. (NC)
82. c. 1960. Vernacular. Brick, asphalt gabled roof, concrete foundation with basement, square 1½ story plan (NC)

SOUTH STREET

83. ^{JAMES}~~Wm.~~ Clark House. c. 18²⁰~~10~~. Vernacular. Standing seam gabled tin roof, two story square plan with rear one story extension, log superstructure, weatherboard, brick and stone outside chimney, stone pier foundation filled in with concrete block. (C)
84. Davidson House. c. 1831-1850. Vernacular. Two story with raised stone basement. L-shaped, brick with frame wing to the rear. Stone foundation with basement kitchen and dining room, stone outside chimney, doric one story front and rear porch columns. (C)

Gazebo. c. 1900. Frame, tin roof. (C)

Wood house. c. 1880. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 13

- Meat house. c. 1860. Weatherboard, tin roof, stone foundation. (C)
- Cistern. c. 1860. Stone casing. (C)
- Carriage house. c. 1890. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
- Barn. c. 1890. Weatherboard, vertical flat board, tin roof. (C)
85. Frances McCormick House. c. 1930. Craftsman. Weatherboard, standing seam gabled roof, bracketed eaves, concrete foundation with basement, three over one vertical double hung sash windows, two front gabled dormers. (C)
86. c. 1960. Vernacular. Brick, asphalt roof, one story, rectangular plan, concrete foundation. (NC)
87. Rita Pritt House. c. 1940. Modern. Multi-gabled asphalt roof, 1½ story, asbestos shingle siding, concrete foundation. (C)
88. c. 1965. Vernacular. One story, rectangular plan, board and batten, asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (NC)
89. Old Union Academy. c. 1820. Classical Revival. Brick, rectangular two story plan with frame wing to the rear, embossed tin hip roof, c. 1900 neo-classical porch with second story one bay gabled porch added, stone foundation, front entrance with oval over light. (C)
- Cistern. c. 1850 Brick casing. (C)
90. Pearl Lynch House. c. 1922. Craftsman. 1½ story, weatherboard, concrete foundation, asphalt roof, rectangular plan. (C)
91. c. 1975. Vernacular church building. Asphalt roof, concrete foundation, rectangular plan, one story, church hall added to rear. (NC)
- MAIN STREET**
92. N. K. Lynch House. c. 1901 Queen Anne. Standing seam tin hip roof, multi-gabled, stone foundation, weatherboard, turned porch columns, decorative cut wood work, wraparound porch with second story one bay gabled porch. (C)
- Shed on property along with iron fence c. 1901.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 14

93. Union United Methodist Church. c. 1889. Greek Revival. Weatherboard, stone foundation, embossed tin roof, doric columns, Gothic Revival features such as the arched multi-pane windows of stain glass, louvered belfry. (C)
94. c. 1970. Modern commercial building. Brick, flat roof, rectangular plan. (NC)

MIDDLE STREET

95. U. S. Post Office. c. 1965. Modern. Flat roof, stone and brick, one story rectangular plan. (NC)
96. c. 1970. Vernacular. Concrete block, square one story plan, asphalt roof. (NC)

PUMP STREET

97. c. 1970. Vernacular. Rectangular one story plan, asphalt gabled roof, aluminum siding, concrete foundation. (NC)
98. Henry Francis House. c. 1810. Vernacular. Standing seam gabled tin roof, stone foundation, square two story plan, log super-structure with asbestos shingles, stone and brick outside chimney, concrete block extension to the rear. (C)

SHANKLIN AVE.

99. Modern trailer. (NC)
100. c. 1970. Vernacular. Brick, rectangular one story plan, asphalt gabled roof, concrete foundation. (NC)
101. Monroe Day Care Center. c. 1965. Vernacular. Weatherboard, rectangular one story plan, asphalt gabled roof, concrete foundation. (NC)
102. George Curry House. c. 1840. Greek Revival with later neo-classical features. Weatherboard, two story rectangular plan, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, basement level side wing added c. 1900, two story Corinthian columned one bay gabled porch with first story side extensions with doric columns. (C)

Barn. c. 1880. Flat vertical board, tin roof. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1880. Flat vertical board, tin roof. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 15

PUMP STREET

103. c. 1946. Modern. Commercial building, concrete block, rectangular one story plan, asphalt flat roof, concrete foundation. (NC).
104. Hattie Dowdy House. c. 1880. Vernacular. One story cottage, rectangular plan, asphalt roof, aluminum siding, turned porch columns, stone foundation. (C)

MIDDLE STREET

105. c. 1960. Modern. Concrete block, flat roof, concrete foundation, two story square plan. (NC)
106. c. 1960. Vernacular. Rectangular, one story plan, concrete foundation with basement, asphalt gabled roof, aluminum siding. (NC)

MAIN STREET

107. c. 1965. Vernacular. Brick, one story, rectangular plan, asphalt gabled roof, concrete foundation. (NC).
108. Monroe Theater Building. c. 1940. Modern. Two story rectangular plan, flat roof, concrete foundation, brick. (C)

PUMP STREET

109. Town Hall. c. 1970. Modern. Flat roof, concrete block, square plan. (NC)

. Outbuilding. Weatherboard, asphalt roof. (NC)

110. Sears Store. c. 1933. Vernacular. Tin roof, stone piers, two story rectangular plan, weatherboard. (C)

Original town spring on property. Concrete c.1920 water trough. (C)

111. John Campbell House. c. 1894. Queen Anne. Square plan, hip roof with gabled one bay two story porch, first story wrap-around porch three sides, doric columns, two over two double hung sash windows, stone foundation. (C)

Stone work with raised mortar on property

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16

Outbuilding. c.1900. Two story, weatherboard, tin roof, porch with turned columns. (C)

Garage. c. 1970. Two story rectangular plan, concrete block, asphalt roof. (NC)

112. Senior Center. c. 1926. Craftsman. Bracketed eaves, exposed rafters at roof line, raised basement, weatherboard, concrete foundation. (C)

MAIN STREET

113. Monroe County Court House. c. 1882. Romanesque. Standing seam tin hip roof with centered gabled projection on all four sides, brick, stone foundation with basement. Roman arched four over four double hung sash windows, original solid wood shutters, two and half story square plan, c. 1975 two story modern wing to the rear, modern jail wing to the side. Two State Historic Markers on property. (C)

Jail. c. 1882. Romanesque. Roman arched windows with iron grills, stone foundation, tin roof, brick. (C)

Jailor's Cottage. c. 1970. Vernacular. Brick, asphalt roof, concrete foundation. One story square plan, raised basement. (NC)

Pump House. c. 1900. Brick, small rectangular one story plan. Gabled tin roof. (C)

NORTH STREET

114. c. 1946. Modern. Commercial building, rectangular, one story plan, brick and concrete block. Flat roof. (NC)

Outbuilding. c. 1925. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1925. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1950. Concrete block, asphalt roof. (NC)

115. Ames Methodist Church. c. 1857. Vernacular. Board and batten, standing seam tin roof, louvered belfry, stone foundation, indented portal with one story square columns, 24 over 24 double hung sash windows. (C)

State Historic Marker on property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 17

116. Compton House. c. 1900. Vernacular. Standing seam tin hip roof, two story rectangular plan, wraparound first story porch, doric columns, rear one story wing, stone foundation, two over two double hung sash windows, weatherboard. (C)
- Outbuilding. c. 1900. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
117. King House. c. 1922. Craftsman. Rectangular $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan, bracketed eaves, exposed rafters at roof line, tin roof, weatherboard (C)
- Garage. c. 1965. Concrete block, asphalt roof. (NC)
118. c. 1946. Vernacular. $1\frac{1}{2}$ story square plan, asphalt roof, asbestos siding. (NC)

PUMP STREET

119. Delmar Compton House. c. 1940. Modern. Square $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan, concrete foundation, aluminum siding, asphalt roof, front gabled porch. (C)
- Garage with second story apartment. c. 1940. Weatherboard, asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (C)

MAIN STREET

120. Shiflett Building. c. 1935. Modern. Two story rectangular plan, brick, flat roof, concrete foundation. (C)
121. c. 1970. Modern commercial building. Brick and concrete block, rectangular one story plan, flat roof. (NC)
122. Watchman Office. c. 1870. Greek Revival with Italianate features such as the heavy bracketed roof line. Stone foundation, standing seam tin hip roof, weatherboard, shed like extension to the rear, six over six double hung sash windows, craftsman style porch with concrete floor. (C)

GREEN HILL ROAD

123. Henry Stever House. c. 1804. Vernacular. Square two story plan, weatherboard and stucco over log superstructure, stone chimney repaired with concrete block, stone foundation, weatherboard over log one story extension to the left side, one story frame extension to the right side, square porch columns, cut stone doorway surround,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 18

tin roof, sunken stone walled garden to the rear. (C)

124. Virginia Herring House. c. 1940. Modern. Square 1½ story plan, gabled asphalt roof, front gabled dormer, wood latttice porch supports, concrete foundation, abestos siding. (C)
125. Judy House. c. 1915. Vernacular. Standing seam gabled end tin roof, gabled front and rear dormers, square 1½ story plan, weatherboard, eaves bracketed, turned columns rear porch, doric columns front porch, stone foundation. (C)

PUMP STREET

126. All Saints' Episcopal Church. c. 1874. Gothic Revival. Standing seam tin gabled roof, rectangular one story plan, stone foundation, weatherboard, stain glass multi-paned windows, open belfry, five sided bay to the rear with a stain glass rose window, iron fence c. 1900 on property. (C)

GREEN HILL ROAD

127. Rosser Shires House. c. 1810. Vernacular. Weatherboard over log superstructure, 1½ stories, stone foundation and basement, standing seam tin roof, one story extension to the rear c. 1940, shed-like dormer, craftsman style porch. (C)
128. Susie Brown House. c. 1922. Craftsman. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, gabled ends and front porch underpinned with concrete block. (C)
- 2 Outbuildings. c. 1922. Frame construction, weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
129. Kenneth Brown House. c. 1939. Modern. Square plan, gabled end asphalt roof, asbestos shingle, concrete foundation. (C)
- Garage. c. 1925. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
130. Bowles House. c. 1940. Modern. Square plan, gabled end asphalt roof, asbestos shingle, concrete foundation, aluminum awnings. (C)
131. Hattie Burdette House. c. 1921. Craftsman. Rectangular plan, standing seam tin roof, bracketed eaves, two gabled dormers, stone foundation, stone retaining walls with raised mortar on property, weatherboard. (C)
- Large Outbuilding. c. 1922. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 19

132. c. 1970. Colonial Revival. 1½ story rectangular plan with rear wing, gabled end asphalt roof, gabled dormers, weatherboard, concrete foundation. (NC)
133. Fletcher Ellis House. c. 1835. Vernacular log house. Two story square plan with one story addition and dogtrot, stone foundation with basement, stone chimney, wood shingle roof, regional building but as been reconstructed, one story front porch, very typical of the region's rural log houses and the only one of its kind in the district, built on the site of the Alexander homestead. (C)
134. Greenhill Cemetery. c. 1799. Decorative cast iron arch over entrance with side post and gates. (C)

PUMP STREET

135. General John Echols House. c. 1846. Greek Revival with heavy Italinat features such as bracketed roof line and porch columns, brick, square two story plan, standing seam tin hip roof, four outside brick chimnies, stone foundation. (C)
- Stable. c. 1846. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
- Kitchen. c. 1846. Two stories, tin roof, stone chimnies, stone foundation, weatherboard. (C)
- Cistern. c. 1920. Concrete (C)

GREEN HILL ROAD

136. McCreery House. c. 1846. Vernacular. Rectangular two story plan with one story wing, stone foundation and basement, original double porch removed and replaced with small entry porch, weatherboard. (C)
137. Union Community Fire Hall. c. 1965. Vernacular. Brick and concrete block, basement social hall, rectangular two story plan. (NC)

MAIN STREET

138. c. 1965. Modern. Commercial building, brick, rectangular one story plan, flat roof. (NC)
- Outbuilding. Metal siding and roof. (NC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 20

139. Edwin Brown House. c. 1846. Greek Revival. Square $2\frac{1}{2}$ story plan, standing seam tin hip roof, weatherboard, front entrance surmounted by rectangular over light and side lights, stone foundation, second story added c. 1915 along with front porch with turned columns. (C)
140. Sebert Pyles House. c. 1925. Craftsman. Weatherboard, concrete foundation, bracketed gabled end asphalt roof, bracketed gabled dormer, rectangular $1\frac{1}{2}$ story plan with rear extension, four over one vertical double hung sash windows, aluminum front porch awnings, brick exterior chimney. (C)

THIRD STREET

141. c. 1950. Vernacular. Square plan, one story, concrete foundation, rear one story extension, asphalt gabled end roof, weatherboard. (NC)
142. c. 1980. Vernacular. Rectangular plan, one story, concrete foundation with basement, asphalt roof, weatherboard. (NC)

PUMP STREET

143. Jackson Early House. c. 1846. Vernacular. Brick, rectangular two story plan, standing seam tin roof; brick foundation with basement, outside brick chimney, upper front door bricked in c. 1900. (C)

ELMWOOD STREET

144. c. 1960. Vernacular. One story rectangular plan, asphalt gabled end roof, front gable, brick, concrete foundation. (NC)
145. c. 1960. Vernacular. Rectangular one story plan, brick and stone, concrete foundation, asphalt roof with front gable. (NC)
146. Walter Neel House. c. 1920. Craftsman. $1\frac{1}{2}$ story rectangular plan, weatherboard, standing seam tin roof with front gabled dormer, gabled ends, concrete foundation. (C)
- Garage. c. 1920. Weatherboard, standing seam tin roof. (C)
- Stable. c. 1960. Weatherboard, tin roof. (NC)
147. Eva Leach House. c. 1940. Vernacular. Square one story plan, asphalt gabled end roof, concrete foundation, asbestos siding, outside brick chimney, gabled dormer over front porch. (C)
148. Anne Randolph House. c. 1854. Vernacular. $1\frac{1}{2}$ story, central block with rear wing, two side extensions of one story, asphalt roof,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 21

aluminum siding, turned porch columns. (C)

Cistern. c. 1900. Concrete. (C)

149. Wallace House. c. 1854. Vernacular. $1\frac{1}{2}$ story square plan, one story extension to the right side, front porch with turned columns and spindle work, rear porch with doric columns, stone and brick outside chimnies, stone foundation, weatherboard, standing seam tin roof. (C)

150. Nellie Thomas House. c. 1854. Vernacular. Two story rectangular plan, board and batten, front and rear one story porches with square columns, stone foundation, standing seam tin roof. (C)

Outbuilding. c. 1830. Log covered vertical board, tin roof. (C)

THIRD STREET

151. Margaret Stewart House. c. 1920. Vernacular. One story rectangular plan with front gabled extension, standing seam tin gabled end roof, asbestos shingle, underpinned with concrete block. (C)

MAIN STREET

152. c. 1946. Modern commercial building. Rectangular two story plan, brick, flat roof, concrete foundation. (NC)

153. Masonic Hall or Old Temperance Hall. c. 1849. Vernacular. Rectangular two story plan, weatherboard, standing seam tin roof half hip with rear end gable, stone foundation, tapered square porch columns, wood porch floor, six over six double hung sash windows. (C)

154. Dr. Early House. c. 1854. Greek Revival. Front gabled double portico, doric columns, weatherboard, stone foundation, two story rear wing, front entrance surmounted with rectangular over light and side lights, standing seam gabled end tin roof. (C)

155. Houston-Johnston House. c. 1846. Greek Revival. Two story rectangular plan with $1\frac{1}{2}$ story rear wing, standing seam tin roof with gabled ends, outside brick chimnies, square one story columns to front portico with Chipendale style second story railing, front entrance surmounted by rectangular over light and side lights, latticed enclosed side porch, one story side bay c. 1870, brick, picket fence and mounting block on property. (C)

Cistern. c. 1846. Brick casing, frame cistern house. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 22FOURTH STREET.

156. c. 1970. Vernacular. One story rectangular plan, aluminum siding rear deck, asphalt roof. (NC)
157. Connell House. c. 1846. Vernacular. 1½ story plan, standing seam tin roof, stone foundation, brick chimney, square beveled porch columns, asphalt siding. (C)
- Outbuilding. c. 1870. Weatherboard, tin roof, deteriorating. (NC)

ELMWOOD STREET

158. Union Academy. c. 1898. Vernacular. Rectangular two story plan, standing seam tin hip roof, two story side extensions, wrap-around porch, louvered shutters, tapered square porch columns with solid railing, stone foundation, weatherboard. (C)
- Root Cellar. c. 1898. Stone with second story weatherboard, tin roof, lattice decoration. (C)
- Outbuilding. c. 1950. Concrete block, tin roof. (NC)
- Cistern. c. 1920. Cement casing. (C)

FIFTH STREET

159. The Rectory. c. 1857. Greek Revival. Some Italiniate features such as bracketed roof line, brick, brick foundation, rectangular one story plan with raised basement, frame one story rear wing built on brick piers now enclosed with concrete block, ten sided porch columns, standing seam tin roof. (C).
- Stable. c. 1870. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)
160. c. 1955. Vernacular. One story rectangular plan, asphalt roof, concrete foundation with basement, brick. (NC)
161. Presbyterian Manse. c. 1965. One story rectangular plan, brick, concrete foundation, basement, front gabled one bay dormer extended as a porch. (NC)

U. S. ROUTE 219

162. Elmwood. c. 1835. Classical Revival with Greek Revival features. Brick, raised two story square plan, hip roof, formal entrance

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 23

doorway with oval overlight and side lights, carved cornice under wide eaves, classic pediment with fanlight over veranda, formal entrance to second story balcony surmounted by rectangular overlight and side lights, Chipendale style railing for portico and balcony, doric columns, brick foundation and stone stairway to portico. (C)

Brick Barn. c. 1906. Two story, tin roof, stone foundation. (C)

Frame Barn. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof, stone foundation. (C)

Granary - Corn Crib. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Blacksmith Shop. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Shop building. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Cattle Scales building. c. 1910. Frame, tin roof. (C)

Machine Shed. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Chicken House. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

"Crusher House" or Mill House. c. 1910. Weatherboard, tin roof. (C)

Brick Cottage. c. 1965. Vernacular. Asphalt roof, concrete foundation. (NC)

163. Elmwood Cemetery. Originally a slave cemetery, utilized by the black community since the Civil War. (C)
164. Paradise Fields. Contains many springs, used as town water supply early twentieth century. (C)
165. Erskine Tenant House. c. 1800. Vernacular. Log, rectangular one story with loft "two pen" plan, stone foundation, stone outside chimney, wood shingle roof with gabled ends, has been moved a few yards off U. S. 219. (C)

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
ETHNIC HERITAGE: BLACK

Period of Significance

c. 1783-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Matthew W. Clair, Sr.

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

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

The Union Hist. Dist. in mid-Monroe County, W.Va. is being nominated under National Register criteria A and C. Under criterion A, the district is significant for its association with the White Sulphur Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs and Sweet Springs to Salt Sulphur Springs Turnpikes, along with the later U. S. Rt. 219 and W.Va. Rt. 3. It is significant for its role as a trade center for the surrounding farms in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is eligible under criterion C because it contains a fine collection of vernacular architecture dating between 1783 and 1940. When Union's small scale vernacular architecture is combined with its narrow tree-lined side streets, rock retaining walls, iron and wood picket fences, numerous vegetable gardens, outbuildings, and surrounding farm land, the feeling of a nineteenth to early twentieth century community is readily conveyed.

The Alexander farm was the focus of the original settlement of the town. James Alexander, a Revolutionary War soldier, settled here in 1774. His first house was burned by Indians the year of the Dunmore War, the second was built on what became Main Street. The third "Old Hundred" was built low down on the western slope of Green hill (now gone). The reconstructed Fletcher-Ellis House (#133) is built on the site of this house. It was here that the first court proceedings were conducted before the first court house was built and the first Presbyterian Church services were held here also until they could be held in the court house. The Brynside, Erskine, Clark and Dunlap families soon joined James Alexander in the years following 1774. James Alexander sold land to the Erskine family that is the nucleus of Walnut Grove (#1) today. Descendants of the Erskine family still farm this land which in 1976 became a Bicentennial Farm. Michael Erskine built several mills in or near the present district in the late 18th Century. When Monroe County was formed from Greenbrier in 1799 the new court settled upon the Alexander farm as a place for county buildings, it being in the middle of a prosperous and thriving farming community. James Alexander responded by giving the court one acre of land and laid out a town of twenty-five acres in quarter acre lots. The trustees of the new town in August, 1799 resolved that "the size of the buildings on each lot must be

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

one square log house, of the same size of 16 x 18 feet out to out, two stories high of common height, roof of shingles, and chimnies of brick or stone; to be floored and finished in the inside in a workman like manner." Examples of these early houses are: the Wm. Clark House (#83), the Henry Francis House (#98) and the Henry Stever House (#123).

Union, the town, receives its name from the union of militia units that gathered in the Royal Oak Field (#72) each spring and fall for a muster. These musters occurred each year during the last decade of the 18th Century up to and through the Civil War.

In 1800 Union was chartered by the Virginia Assembly and also in that year received a post office. By 1804 a log court house and stone jail had been built. There were several taverns or inns, three merchants, a tailor, a wheelwright, a lawyer and approximately twenty-five residences. The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1783 at Good Hope meeting house (now gone). By 1816 they had built a church and school in Union. The Methodists organized in 1786 at Rehoboth Church (still standing as a museum just east of Union). They in 1831 built a brick church in Union. In 1838 the town limits were extended to the north and again in 1846 a further extension to the north. This area contains some of the most interesting pre-Civil War homes in Union. In 1835 Union had two hotels, two tanyards, two saddleries, one school, two churches, one attorney, two doctors, forty-five dwellings, and four hundred people. A classical revival brick court house had been built in 1820. In 1849 the Monroe Savings Bank was incorporated and in 1853 a branch of the Bank of Virginia established at Union an office of discount and deposit. Union received its corporate charter in 1868. The turnpikes established in the 1830's facilitated Union's growth as a trade center. In the period, in the pre-Civil War years, the town doubled in size and many new and diverse businesses were established. It was a town of many inns, taverns and hotels being an active stop for tourists on their way to and from the springs. Being an almost integral part of the resort hotel complex at Salt Sulphur Springs (two miles southwest of Union), Union received many important visitors during that period. Martin Van Buren, while President of the United States, visited Walnut Grove a week and several receptions were held for him in Union. Henry Clay was such a frequent visitor to Elmwood that a bedroom was named in his honor. Union grew rapidly as trade center for the surrounding rural area until the Civil War. Both Confederate and Federal troops were often stationed in Union. Union was a frequent rest station utilizing the bounty of the

(continued on section number 8, page 2)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

of the rural area. Armies of both sides utilized the Royal Oak (#72), Monument (#3), and Paradise (#164) fields as campsites. Walnut Grove (#1) was utilized as a hospital by the Federal Army.

Samuel Kercheval in his A History of the Valley of Virginia, and writing in 1833, describes Union as a sprightly village. He seems to have been quite impressed with the vitality of the small town and with its surrounding natural beauty. He visited the huge Royal Oak just south of Union. Ann Royal writing in about the same time period describes Union as a poor village but with a very elegant brick court house and two remarkable homes, Walnut Grove and Elmwood.

Journalism in Union dates to 1850 with the UNION DEMOCRAT. In 1874 Charles M. Johnston bought THE BORDER WATCHMAN, previously started in 1872. He changed the name to THE MONROE WATCHMAN. His son and grandson kept the paper going and at this date is in its one hundred sixteenth year of publication. It has been printed since the 1920's in a building called the Watchman Office (#122). It was previously the Spessard General Store and built as such. The Johnston home (#155) bought in 1884 is still owned by members of the Johnston family.

At the turn of the century Union began to grow again and much new construction was accomplished. In 1916 the business and professional interest of Union included two banks, two general stores, one planing mill, one printing office, two blacksmiths, one shoemaker and one milliner. It also had two telephone centrals, three attorneys, two physicians, and one dentist.

In 1989, Union received monies through the Model Cities Block Grant Program for community improvements. Union town council used the monies for construction of sidewalks in the commercial blocks. To this construction were added brick walls, landscaping, iron railings and antiqued lamp posts. All of this was done in keeping with the "turn of the century" feel of the town. Through a program sponsored by the Rotary Club, architectural lighting was placed on the Confederate Monument. Here at the start of the 1990's, Union is becoming more aware of its wonderful history. Several tours of school children have been conducted this year. Civil War re-enactment groups camped in the Monument Field and gave talks to local citizens about the Civil War. The Monroe County Historical Society has bought the Hugh Caperton Law Office (#43) and opened a museum with displays of Indian artifacts, Civil War memorabilia, and 19th Century domestic and farm implements. Monroe County Community Services has bought the General Augustus Chapman House (#45) and is restoring it along historic preservation guidelines. The Rowan House (#18) is currently being restored to its original appearance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 4

Union Historic District portrays life in a town of transition which has managed to preserve historic examples of major time periods through two hundred years plus. Union remains as it was originated, a seat for county government and a trade center for one of the most rural areas in the United States. The district encompasses all historic buildings including land used for farming. Union Historic District, although it has some recently constructed buildings, contains one of the most intact collections of nineteenth and early twentieth century vernacular architecture in West Virginia.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

The Union Historic District is also significant under Criterion B of the National Register for its associations with Matthew W. Clair, Sr. (1865-1943), a figure of great prominence in West Virginia's black history. Under the National Register area of significance for ethnic heritage, Clair must be recognized for his achievements and contributions, first to his native community, Union, a Southern village in a remote corner of West Virginia, and later to the nation as one of the first black bishops of the Methodist Church. Three sites within the Union Historic District are closely associated with Rev. Matthew Clair. These resources include: the Old Baptist Church (#13); the Bishop Clair House (#21); and the Ames Methodist Church (#115). Bishop Clair achieved additional distinction as the father of Matthew W. Clair, Jr. (1890-1968). The younger Clair was the only son of a Methodist Bishop to become a Bishop himself.

Matthew W. Clair, Sr. was born and reared in Union, and, after a short stay in Ohio as a teenager located in Charleston, West Virginia, where he committed himself to the Methodist faith at Simpson M.E. (Methodist Episcopal) Church, one of West Virginia's largest and most famous black churches. Clair preached from a very early age.

A number of education honors were earned by Matthew Clair. He studied classics and theology (1880s) at Morgan College and earned D.D. (1918) and L.Ld. (1920) degrees from that institution. At Bennett College the Ph.B. (1897) and Ph.D. (1901) degrees were conferred. Howard University granted to Clair the D.D. (1911) and Wilberforce University the L.Ld. (1928). Famous in the educational field among blacks, Clair was affiliated with the following organizations, boards, and institutions: Member of the American Advisory Committee, Booker T. Washington Agricultural and Industrial Institute, Liberia; member of the Board of Education, Republic of Liberia, appointed by President C.D.B. King; member of the Federal Council of Churches; member of the General conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1904, 1916, 1920; trustee of Morgan College, Baltimore, Maryland; trustee of Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia; president and trustee, Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas; member of the American Geographical Society; member Alpha Phi Alpha and Pi Gamma Mu, fraternities; member of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Clair's name is perpetuated in the naming of Clair Chapel in Omaha, Nebraska.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6

Clair's pastorates were many. Perhaps his most famous was at the Asbury M.E. Church in Washington, D.C. In 1902 Clair was appointed to that church after serving from 1897 to 1902 as presiding elder of the Washington District. Holding office at Asbury until 1919, Clair was responsible for the building of that fine Gothic church at the corner of 11th and "K" Streets, N.W., Washington. The 1800-seat Asbury Methodist Church is a landmark on the street.

At the General Conference of the Methodist Church, held at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1920, Clair was elected Bishop. He and R.E. Jones were the first two black bishops in the Methodist Church. Bishop Clair was assigned to Liberia, Africa, and later to Covington, Kentucky.

Bishop Clair's connections to Union, West Virginia, are many. In Ballard's Matthew W. Clair: A Biography, it is reported that Clair frequently preached at Ames Methodist Church (#115), and also at Union's First Baptist Church (#13). Known for his excellent speaking ability, Clair always drew large crowds.

Bibliography

Ballard, Dr. Margaret B. Matthew W. Clair: A Biography. Buckhannon, W.Va.: Commission on Archives and History of the West Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church and Monroe County Historical Society, 1973.

Comstock Jim. West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia. Richwood, W.Va. 1976, vol. 5, pp. 1011-1012.

Period of Significance

The period of significance begins with substantial settlement of the immediate Union area c. 1783 when the log segments of Walnut Grove (#1) were constructed. The period extends through the construction of Union High School, c. 1939 (#65), a Moderne-style building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 175 acres

UTM References

A

1,7	54,100,0	4,16,17,5,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

1,7	53,99,0,0	4,15,96,3,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

1,7	54,118,0	4,15,95,0,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

D

1,7	54,03,0,0	4,16,18,2,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Ronald L. Ripley
organization Monroe County Historical Society date July 1990
street & number Box 193 telephone (304) 772-5539
city or town Union state West Virginia zip code 24983

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the extreme southwest corner of the Union corporate line on south Main Street, the boundary runs due east approximately 1225 ft., thence due north 1100 ft., thence due west 1200 ft. (to enclose the Royal Oak Field); thence due north 600 ft., thence east 800 ft., thence due north 600 ft., thence 300 ft. due north to connect with North St. (WV Rt. 3); thence along the north edge of North Street approximately 600 ft., thence due north 200 ft., thence approximately 800 ft. west along the south edge of Greenhill Road, thence north 425 ft. to a point north of 3rd Street, thence in a straight line due east approximately 1000 ft. to the northwest corner of Green Hill Cemetery, thence in a line enclosing Green Hill; and thence from the northeast corner of Green Hill in a line due north 1800 ft., thence in a straight line about 1400 ft. northwest to the point of intersection with U.S. Rt. 219; thence in a straight line 1300 ft., thence in a straight line about 3400 ft. to the north corporate boundary; thence 1630 ft. in a straight line to U.S. Rt. 219; thence in a line southward 1000 ft. to the north side of School Street; thence 800 ft. along the north edge of School Street, thence 400 ft. south; thence 1100 ft. in a straight line to a point of intersection with south Main Street; thence in a line about 400 ft. south along the east edge of south Main Street to the point of beginning.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Union Historic District is situated within the corporate limits of the town of Union. Most resources are located along Main and Pump Streets. District boundaries generally follow property lines and streets. The northern boundary includes the Walnut Grove house and farm buildings, while the northeast boundary includes the Elmwood and Green Hill cemeteries. The northwest boundary is delineated by a straight line from Walnut Grove to Dunlap Street. The southern boundary is extended to include farm land that was the Royal Oak Field. See sketch map with boundaries drawn.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Union Historic District is a compact related collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century resources that form a small rural trade center. Boundaries are drawn to exclude those areas that have developed since the second World War. Boundaries are drawn to include not only residences and commercial buildings, but related farm land and out-buildings which are representative of the emergence of the town into a trade center. Overall, the Union Historic District exhibits a high degree of architectural and historic integrity.

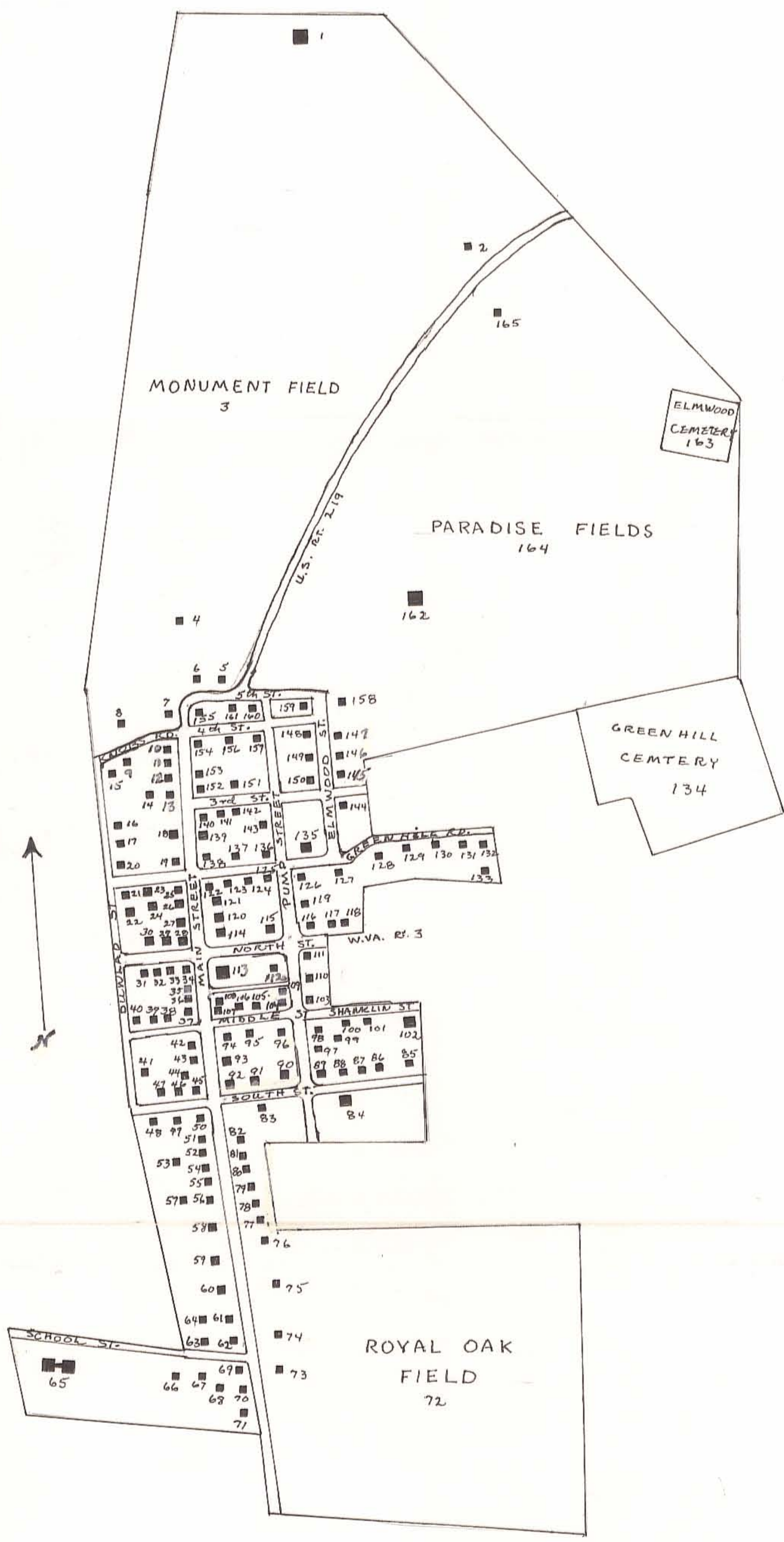
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Morton, Oren F. History of Monroe County, West Virginia. Reprint of 1915 edition, Regional Publishing Comp., Balt. Md., 1980.
- Kercheval, Samuel. A History of the Valley of Virginia. Sixth edition, C. J. Carrier Comp., Harrisonburg, Va., 1981.
- Frances, John. "Remembrances Past and Present" 1884 weekly editions of THE MONROE WATCHMAN. (March and April)
- The Papers of Dr. Margaret Ballard. W.Va. University Library, Morgantown W.Va.
- The Papers of Nannie Campbell.
- The Papers of The Monroe County Historical Society, Union, W.Va.



UNION HISTORIC DISTRICT

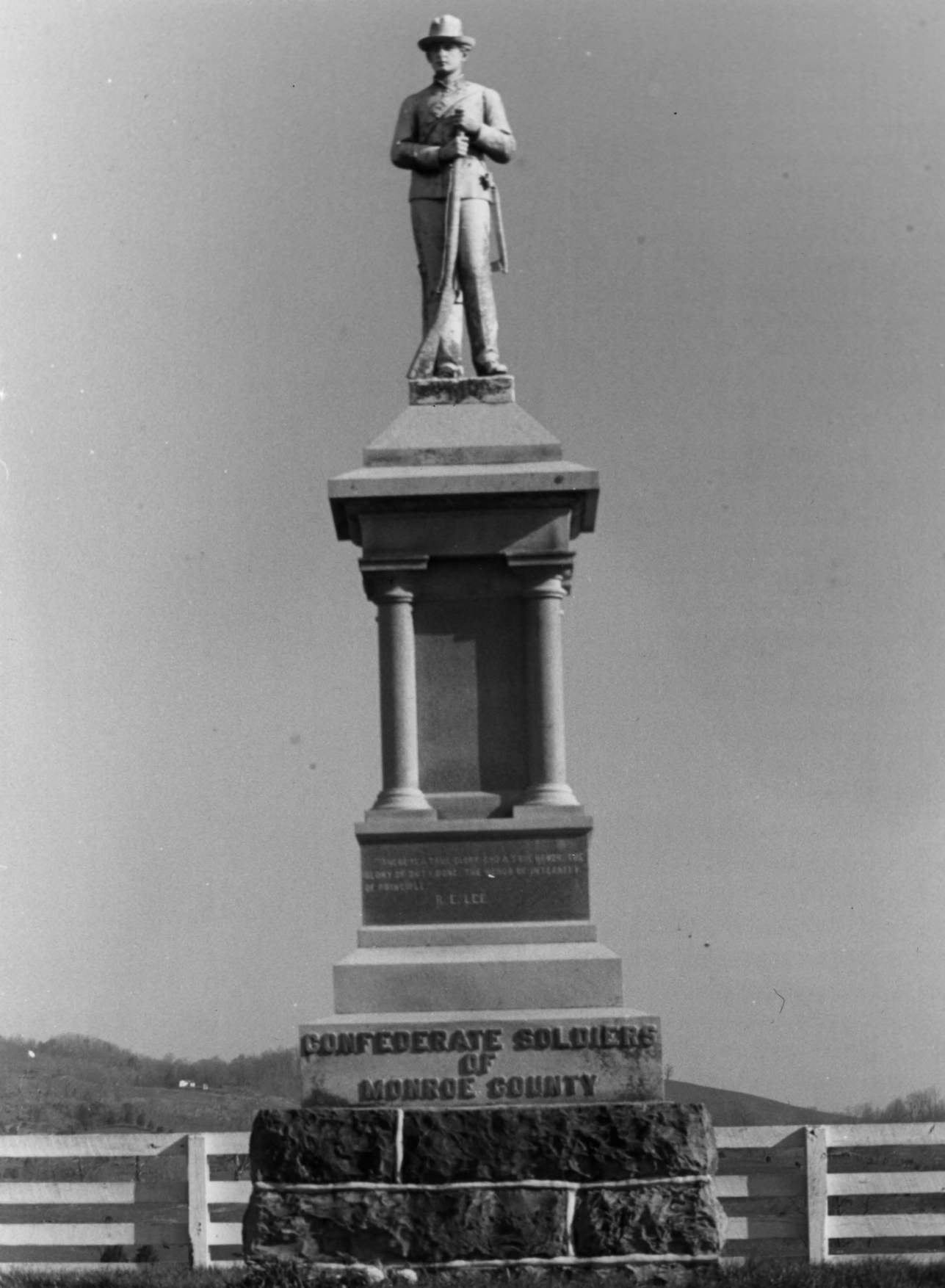
SKETCH MAP





MONROE
Rexall
PHARMACY

A
775-578



THERE IS NO GORY AND A TRUE HERO, THE BLOODY OF DUTY LOOM, THE KING OF INTEGRITY OF PRINCIPLE.
R. E. LEE

**CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS
OF
MONROE COUNTY**







