

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NR FILE COPY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Welch Commercial Historic District

other name/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number: along principal streets: McDowell and Wyoming

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Welch

vicinity: N/A

state: WV county: McDowell

code: 047

zip code: 24801

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public

Category of Property: district

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>56</u>	<u>10</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>57</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.   See continuation sheet.

UMD  
Signature of certifying official Date 2/13/92

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 Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic:	<u>Commerce/Trade</u>	Sub:	<u>business, professional,</u>
	<u>Domestic, Social</u>		<u>financial institution, specialty</u>
Current :	<u>Commerce/ Trade</u>		<u>multiple dwelling, hotel</u>
	<u>Domestic</u>	Sub:	<u>business, financial institution,</u>
	<u>Government</u>		<u>multiple dwellings</u>
			<u>courthouse annex</u>

=====  
Architectural Classification:

Late 19th century & early  
20th century American  
Movement Commercial Style

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation concrete roof poured asphalt  
walls brick other \_\_\_\_\_  
Aslar stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A & C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: commerce  
architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1900 to 1941

Significant Dates : N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: (see continuation sheet)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

X See continuation sheet.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: N/A

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreage of Property: 10 approx.

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>17</u>	<u>448120</u>	<u>4143020</u>	B	<u>17</u>	<u>448280</u>	<u>4142900</u>
C	<u>17</u>	<u>448300</u>	<u>4142680</u>	D	<u>17</u>	<u>448100</u>	<u>4142600</u>

   See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: XX See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: XX See continuation sheet.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

Name/Title: Kim A. Valente / Preservation consultant

Organization: Cameras in Architecture      Date: November 30, 1991

Street & Number: 226 Bradford St., Apt. A      Telephone: 304-344-5149

City or Town: Charleston,      State: WV      ZIP: 25301

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Section 7 Page 1 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

The Welch commercial historic district is located within the city limits of Welch, West Virginia, the McDowell County seat (population est. 4,600). The town is located at the confluence of Elkhorn Creek and the Tug River, at an altitude of 1,303 feet above sea level. The business section occupies a level area in the narrow Elkhorn Valley, with the residential area scattered on surrounding hills. Welch was the trade center for the surrounding coal fields. The commercial district is made up of two principle streets, McDowell and Wyoming, running parallel to each other, in a north/south direction, with an accessed alleyway, Mercer Street, running between them. There are few cross streets, and they serve more to facilitate traffic. Welch was the trade and banking center for the surrounding coal field from the late 1890's to the early 1940's. It is accessed by the Norfolk and Western railroad.

Sixty-six buildings are included within the district, including a municipal parking garage built in 1941. The buildings are commercial properties, which house a variety of retail stores, banks and offices, with some having apartment rentals on their top floors. Of the two principle streets, McDowell Street contains the majority of the commerce/ trade facilities, with both sides of the street lined with uniform buildings in scale, proportion and materials. Individual buildings have intricate decorative elements which adds to the rhythm of the street. The predominant style of construction is late nineteenth to early twentieth century American commercial. Wyoming Street is less dense in number of buildings, and houses mainly the financial institutes and government orientated buildings. The three oldest buildings are located in this area. There are ten (10) buildings which are considered noncontributing, (noted as nc), within the district boundaries. These buildings do not contribute architecturally or historically to the period of significance within the district. The contributing buildings, (noted as c), are significant historically and architecturally to the period of significance; 1900 to 1941.

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Section 7 Page 2 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

McDowell Street

1. McDowell, c.1925. Retail. Two part commercial block. Brick, two story, three bay, arched door entry. (c)
2. McDowell, The Liberty Building. c.1925. Office. Two part commercial block. Brick, four story, four bay. (c)
3. McDowell, Municipal Parking Garage. 1941. Car capacity 425 cars. Fireproof construction. Open concrete walls, concrete floors and roof. This was the first municipally owned and operated parking garage in the United States. (c)
4. 73 McDowell, Flat Iron Building. Green & Stowe Co., builder. c.1915. Retail and offices. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, irregular roof plan with bays of nine, one and five. Center single bay entry. Detailed cornice in stone and brick. First story covered with Carrara glass. (c)
5. 77 McDowell, George Barley Building. George Barley, builder. c.1920. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Beige brick, three story, four bay with paired center bays, 1/1 glazed windows. Dark brick string course between 2nd and 3rd story and above 3rd story. (c)
6. 79 McDowell, Ames Building. Joe Lopinsky, builder. c.1920. Originally theater, now retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick with white brick trim and decorative designs, two story, three bay. (c)
7. 81 McDowell, Bablis Building. Aleck Bablis, builder. c.1925. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Brown brick, parapeted roof line, three story, two bays of triple windows. (c)
8. 95/97 McDowell, Rhodes Realty Building. I.J. Rhodes, builder. c.1925. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Ashler stone, four story, seven bay of paired windows with swags & other decorative elements.(c)

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Section 7 Page 3 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

9. 101 McDowell, Blair Building. McNary/Johnson Building Co., builder. c.1922. Originally theater, now retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Beige brick, three story, two bay of paired windows. (c)
10. 103? McDowell, c. 1925. Vacant. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, three bay. (c)
11. 105 McDowell, Myra Bell Building. Myra Bell, builder. c.1920. Retail. Two part commercial block. Beige and red brick, two story, three bay of paired iron and glass windows. (c)
12. 113? McDowell, c. 1930. Retail-vacant. Two part commercial block. First floor covered with Carrar glass. (c)
13. 119 McDowell, Super Dollar Store. c.1920. Two part commercial block. Retail and apartments. Brown brick, four story, six bay, double hung windows of 6/6 glazing. (c)
14. 121 McDowell, Phillips Building. Myra Bell, builder. c. 1925. Retail. One part commercial block. White brick, two story, two bay of triple windows. (c)
15. 125 McDowell, City Hall; (formerly). Vacant. c.1925. Two part commercial block. Ashler stone, three story, one bay of triple 1/1 double hung windows. (c)
16. 129 McDowell, Camicia/Turner building. Tony Camica, builder. c.1928. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, four story, two bay of triple sectioned windows. (c)
17. 133 McDowell, Iafolla Building. J. Iafolla, builder. c.1930. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, four story, five bay. Brick corbelling at cornice line. (c)

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Section 7 Page 4 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

18. 140 McDowell, Welch Floral Building. c.1930. Retail, garage. Two part commercial block. Brick, two story, five story. Detailed brick cornice. (c) DORIS
19. 140 McDowell, Welch Floral Building. c. 1930. Retail. Two part commercial block. Brick, two story, three bay. (c)
20. 143 McDowell, Hilda Taylor Building. c.1930. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, four story, two bay of paired windows. (c)
21. 145 McDowell, Joe Hassen Building. Tony Lodges, builder. c.1945. Two part commercial block. Red and beige brick, two story, three bay. (nc)
22. 149 McDowell, Hassen Building. Tony Lodges, builder. 1949. Retail and apartments. Two part vertical block. Red brick, two story, two bay metal frame fixed windows. (nc)
23. 155 McDowell, Swope Building. W.B. Swope, builder. 1948. Office and apartments. Vernacular. Red brick, three story, four bay. (nc)
24. 15 McDowell, DOR Building/Hall Motor Co. building. Linkous/Polan, builders. 1918. Originally bus depot & auto dealership, now offices. Two part vertical block. Fireproof with reinforced concrete floors and roof. Beige brick, first floor covered with Carrara glass. Six story, bays of six, one, six. Clipped triangular roof plan. Window bays in groups of five and three, constructed of metal casings. (c)
25. 32 McDowell, Odd Fellows Temple. 1929. Retail. Two story commercial block. Brick, first floor covered with Carrara glass. Four story, three bay of paired windows. Detailed brick pillasters between bays. (c)
26. 24 McDowell, Hazamey Building. 1927. Vacant. Two part commercial block. Brick. Two story, two bay of paired 6/1 glazed windows. (c)



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Section 7 Page 5 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

27. 26 McDowell, The Recreation Building. Sam Stacks, builder. c.1928. Two part commercial block. Beige brick. Two story, two bay of paired 6/1 glazed windows. 1st floor covered with Carrara glass. (c)

28. 34 McDowell, Ron J. Studio Building. c.1930. Retail. Two part vertical block. Beige brick with 1st floor covered with Carrara glass. Four story, two bay of paired 6/6 glazed windows. (c)

29. 50 McDowell, Vicks Building. Dr. Vick, builder. c.1950. Retail. Two story, bays of six, one, four. Irregular roof plan. (nc)

30. 70 McDowell, First National Bank Building. Stowe/Greene, architect/builder. 1921. Banking and bank offices. Two part vertical block; classical revival. Beige brick, six story, (c)

31. 78 McDowell, Carter Hotel-Tyson Tower Building. Green Construction Co., builder. 1924. Offices and apartments. Two part vertical block. Brick, five story, twelve bays of triple windows. (c)

32. 83-89 McDowell, Hassen Building. Tony Lodges, builder. c.1940. Retail and offices. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, four bay of iron multi paned glass windows. (c)

33. 92 McDowell, J.C. Penny Store. J.C. Penny Co., builder. c.1945. Retail. Two part commercial block. Brick, two story, nine bays with arched window lintels, (window openings are bricked-up), paired brackets under the cornice. (c)

34. 96 McDowell, Short Building. c.1927. Office and apartments. Two part commercial block. Light brown brick, three story, nine bays. (c)

35. 114 McDowell, The Diamond Department Building. c.1924. Retail and apartments. Two part vertical block. Brick, four story, four bay. (c).

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36. 116 McDowell, c.1920. Retail. Two part commercial block. Brick, three story, three bay of paired windows. (c)
37. 118-122 McDowell, Dollar .5&.10. 1925. Retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, four bays of paired double hung windows. (c)
38. 126 McDowell, Piggly-Wiggly Building. c.1930. Originally retail, now offices. One part commercial block. Brick, one story, two bay. (c)
39. 128-130 McDowell, Sports Den. O'Bary, builder. 1954. Vernacular. Brick, two story, four bay. (nc)
40. 146-148 McDowell, Welch Bakery Building. 1926. Retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick, two story, eight bay. (c)
41. 150 McDowell, Flat Top Bottling Co. Building. 1925. Retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick, two story, three bay. Brick detail corbelling at cornice line. (c)
42. 156 McDowell, Center Chevrolet Building. Mr. Iafolla, builder. 1930. Retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, three bay, recessed window surrounds in brick. (c)
43. 158 McDowell, Dodge Auto Dealership. 1920. Retail. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, five bay, metal cased windows. (c)
44. 160 McDowell, Center Chevrolet Building. 1927. Retail. Two part commercial block. Fireproof construction. Red brick, three story, three bay. (c)

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Elkhorn Street

45. 24 Elkhorn, Stewart Building. c.1925. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Brick, four story, two bay of paired windows. (c)
46. 34 Elkhorn, Mitros Building. Green/Stowe, architects. c.1925. Retail and offices. One part commercial block. Mixed brick, one story, bays of four, one, one. (c)
47. at McDowell, Kwikserve Exxon. 1981. Retail. Brick. (nc)
48. 25-35 Elkhorn, Via Building. 1921. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, four story, twenty-one bay. (c)
49. 37-45 Elkhorn, Harrah Building. 1921. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, four story, eight bay of paired windows. (c)
50. 47-59 Elkhorn, Solins Apartment Building. c.1920. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Light brown brick, four story, fourteen bays. (c)
51. corner of Wyoming, Wyoming-Elkhorn Apartment Building. c.1920. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Brick and concrete, four story, three main bays in divisions of three. (c)

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Wyoming Street

52. at Bank St., Litz and Hanssen Building. Litz/ Hassen, Inc., builders. c.1930. Retail and apartments. Two part commercial block. Beige brick, three story, four bay of paired windows. (c)

53. Wyoming, Merchants and Miners Bank. H.A. Lucas, builder. 1919. Retail. Temple front. Ashlar stone, three story, five bays. Third floor addition in brick. Center entry with Ionic columns. (c)

54. 5 Wyoming, c.1945. Retail and storage. Two part commercial block. White brick, three story, five bay. 1st floor covered with Carrara glass. (nc)

55. 9 Wyoming, Lewis Fur Co. Building. McNary, architect. Johnson, builder. 1922. Two part commercial block. Retail. Mixed brick, four story, five bay of paired windows, eight bay on side facade. (c)

56. 97 Wyoming, Hutson Building. c.1912. Moose Lodge. Two story commercial block. Red brick, two story, five bay. Building has been severely altered. (nc)

57. 99 Wyoming, Payne Building. 1911. Two part commercial block. Retail. Brick, three story, 2 bay of triple windows. Wide cornice with decorative stone details, and terra cotta decorative gargoyles. (c)

58. 101 Wyoming, McDowell County National Bank Building. R. Stoner, builder. 1900. Bank and offices. Ashlar cut stone, three story, bays of ten, one, two, and four. Irregular roof plan. (c)

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59. 103 Wyoming, Appalachian Power Co. Appalachian Power Co., builder. c.1930. Vault construction. Utility office. White brick, two story, one bay. (c)

60. 102 Wyoming, McDowell County Courthouse Annex Building. Stowe/ Green, Inc., builder. 1935. Originally a post office, now courthouse annex. Brick, two story, five bay. (c)

61. 107 Wyoming, McDowell County Magistrate Building. c.1925. Government. Mixed brick, three story, four bay, brick detailed string course and cornice line. (c)

62.109 Wyoming, McDowell County Commission Building. The Masons, builders. 1916. Originally Masonic building, now offices and apartments. Two part commercial block. Brick and ashler cut stone, four story, three bays of paired windows. (c)

63. 123 Wyoming, McNary/Johnson Building. McNary/Johnson, builders. c.1926. Office and apartments. Two part commercial block. Red brick, three story, two bay. Heavy cornice line in stone. Full height brick pilasters capped with corinthian capitals in stone. Side facade windows are arched. (c)

64. 125 Wyoming, Welch Daily News. Bright and Davis, architects and builder. 1927. Newspaper office. Two story commercial block. Fireproof construction. Brick, two story, three bay, parapeted front facade. Brick inlay detailing near cornice line. Broken brick detailed string course. (c)

65. 127 Wyoming, Zenith/Ceramics Building. 1950. Retail. One part commercial block. Brick, one story, 2 bay, arched door entry offset. (nc)

66. 143 Wyoming, Dodge Auto Dealership Building. 1950. Retail. Vernacular. Brick, two story, six bays. (nc)

67. 139 Wyoming, c.1930. Originally a private home, now retail. Row house. Brick, two story, 5 sections of one bay row construction. (c)

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Section 8 Page 1 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

The Welch downtown commercial historic district is located in the center of the city of Welch, McDowell County, West Virginia. It is being nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. Under criterion A, the district is significant for the role it played as the major trade and economic center in the southern coal fields of the state from the late 19th century to the early 20th century. It is eligible under criterion C for its cohesive collection of commercial architecture constructed during the period of significance, 1900-1941.

Welch was originally a small settlement in the rugged southern most portion of McDowell County. It was a community of less than a dozen homes when the railroad came through in 1891. There were no roads which connected the area to more populated sites, and the people who did live there, lived off the land.

The prospect of developing lumber and mineral deposits brought the first surveyors to the Welch area in the late 1800's. Among the surveyors was Captain Issac Welch who was impressed by the area's lumber and mineral resources. Taking advantage of the cheap land, and realizing the economic potential, Captain Welch purchased a tract of land from John H. Hunt in 1888. This is where present day Welch stand.

As early as 1887, the Norfolk and Western railroad had rights of way in the north, by access of their construction of the Flat Top Tunnel. It was Captain Welch's accounts of a large coal seam in the southern area which impressed Frederick J. Kimball, president of the Norfolk and Western Railroad. Kimball with foresight and good business sense persuaded the railroad bosses to bring a line into the rugged mountain terrain of the valley for the purposes of extracting and shipping the black West Virginia "gold".

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In December 1890, construction began on a rail line eastward from Kenova on the Ohio and westward from Elkhorn. By 1891, the rails reached Welch. In 1892, Welch was designated as the county seat, and two years later became incorporated. In 1893, the lands were laid out into lots, and sold by the newly created Welch Land and Development Company.

With the railroad and the thirty (30) plus coal mines which sprang up throughout the valley, new businesses were born, and a small commercial center emerged. Business of all sorts set up shop and built structures along what are now Howard and Wyoming streets. These structures were located within close proximity to the train depot, for easier access for the freight and the many daytrippers who arrived in Welch to shop, and pick up supplies.

The majority of the town's first structures were constructed of wood and were located near the Southern Express Co. depot on Howard Street. A disastrous fire in 1911 wiped-out an entire two-block commercial area except for a few masonry structures; i.e. McDowell County National Bank Building, (#52), and Payne Building, (#51).

The fire did not stop the fortunes to be had, and quickly the businessmen rebuilt, this time with brick or stone.

During 1910-1915, the county upgraded services, and roads radiating from Welch were being paved. With the advent of a new form of transportation that allowed more people in and out of the area, many more businesses sprang up. The rows lining both sides of what is now McDowell street were built from 1915 to the 1930's.

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Coal was the predominate economic factor for the prosperity of Welch and McDowell County. Wages at that time were above normal when compared to the rest of the state. The buying power of the consumer was great. Specialty shops of all kinds sprang up throughout the town, and businessmen had the extra capital to build their stores using contractors and architects. A 1924 state census report estimated that there were 4,500 people living in Welch, and the income was above the national level.

In 1924, the town had over two dozen coal company offices, three dozen plus lawyers and doctors and countless retail shops. Theaters, hotels, social clubs and many restaurants provided the social entertainment for both the town and the surrounding countryside.

The automobile was becoming a major influence in the way people and supplies moved. Roads were more than just dirt and mud carvings in the landscape. Many of the middle class workers could afford this new luxury. Both Chevrolet and Dodge dealerships built showrooms, service garages and office buildings. (#42,43,44,60)

Throughout the 1920's, Welch was experiencing a time of financial stability. Schools were built, city services were upgraded and pride throughout the community was strong. This came to an end with the advent of the Great Depression of the 1930's. Welch, and countless other southern West Virginia communities were hit so hard, that 60 years later, some have yet to recover fully. Coal prices dropped, jobs disappeared as companies pulled out or closed, and many lending institutions failed. People moved to find work outside the state. Welch fell silent and progress halted during the 1930's.



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The few who did stay found work with the government WPA and PWA projects. The financial difficulties did not last long though, and with the advent of World War II, and the American involvement, coal was once again a much needed resource. Thousands of tons of coal were again being mined. Money, although less than in times past, flowed back into Welch and southern West Virginia.

Stores opened again, movie houses were lit, and the general feeling was that the town was getting back on track. Men returning from a victorious war found their way of life more economically sound than when they had left. But after the initial post war boom, Welch, like many other communities, fell silent once again, this time never to recover. More coal than ever was being produced, but demand for the product declined, and prices were low. Only the largest of the mining operations could withstand the economic misfortunes handed to them. Technological advances in the industry eliminated a great majority of the jobs, and hundreds of mining operations throughout the state went bankrupt or simply abandoned their sites. With the opening of the new Elkhorn tunnel in 1950, the original Flat Top bore was replaced. This new double tracked tunnel, just east of the county line provided a much better grade for the Norfolk and Western's main line, and diverted much of the rail activity away from Welch.

After 1941, Welch's commercial operations started to decline. Growth was at a standstill. Fringe areas surrounding the commercial district became populated due to the post war baby boom, but the new population conducted its business matters elsewhere. The automobile, and improved roads, allowed residents to travel to Bluefield and Princeton. These cities were not hit as hard as Welch, economically, because they had not relied solely on the coal industry for economic stability.

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With little to stimulate the economy, Welchs' commercial district saw little building or rehabilitation. Because of this, it has been spared the misfortunes of the kind of urban development of the 1970's that leveled many fine older structures to make room for parking lots.

Though there has been some new construction in downtown Welch, (Municipal building), most of it has occurred on the periphery of the district. This can be seen as the leading factor as to why the core of the business district is much as it stood in the 1940's. The rhythm of the buildings with their complementary scale, material and design is one of cohesiveness. The overall size of the district is scaled to a human element, and is very people-oriented.

Although the economic future is not as bright as it once was, the people of the city take a great pride in their heritage. A new energy has been sparked with the citizens and the business owners to make sure their heritage is preserved for future generations. This National Register nomination is just one step in that direction. Although Welch is home to three large hospitals which serve the entire county, and home of the only daily newspaper in the county, these services do not generate enough income or business to make a difference.

With only a handful of mines in operation, the city of Welch has been left behind without an economic leg to stand on. If Welch is to survive economically into the 21st century, it will have to creatively use its people resources. Welch can no longer solely depend on coal, the one factor, which gave birth to the city.

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Listed are buildings whose architect and or builder are known. The key number to the left corresponds to the buildings' key number on the sketch map.

- 4,30,46,60. Green & Stowe Co., architect/builder.
- 5.            Barley, George, builder.
- 6.            Lopinsky, Joe, builder.
- 7.            Bablis, Aleck, builder.
- 8.            Rhodes, I.J., builder.
- 9.            McNary/Johnson Building Co., builder.
- 11,14.        Bell, Myra, builder.
- 16.            Camica, Tony, builder.
- 17,42.        Iafolla, J., builder.
- 21,22,32.    Lodges, Tony, builder.
- 23.            Swope, W.B., builder.
- 24.            Linkous/Polan, builders.
- 27.            Stacks, Sam, builder.
- 29.            Dr. Vick, builder.
- 31.            Green Construction Co., builder.
- 33.            J.C. Penny Co., builder.

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- 39. O'Bary, builder.
- 52. Litz/Hassen Inc., builder.
- 53. Lucas, H.A., architect/builder.
- 55,63. McNary/Johnson, architect/builder.
- 58. Stoner, R., builder.
- 59. Appalachian Power Co., builder.
- 62. The Masons, builders.
- 64. Bright and Davis, architects and builder.

(NPS Form 10-900)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 1 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

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Major Bibliographical References

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McDowell County Centennial: 1858-1958. McDowell County, WV.

McDowell County History. Fort Worth, Texas: University Supply & Equipment Co., 1959.

Marshall University Research Corporation. "Downtown Welch Survey" 1990.

State Gazetteer of WV: 1885 to 1924

City of Welch, WV: Sanborn Insurance Map Co.: New York, 1928, 1945.

(NPS Form 10-900)  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 2 (Welch Commercial Historic District)

Verbal Boundary Description

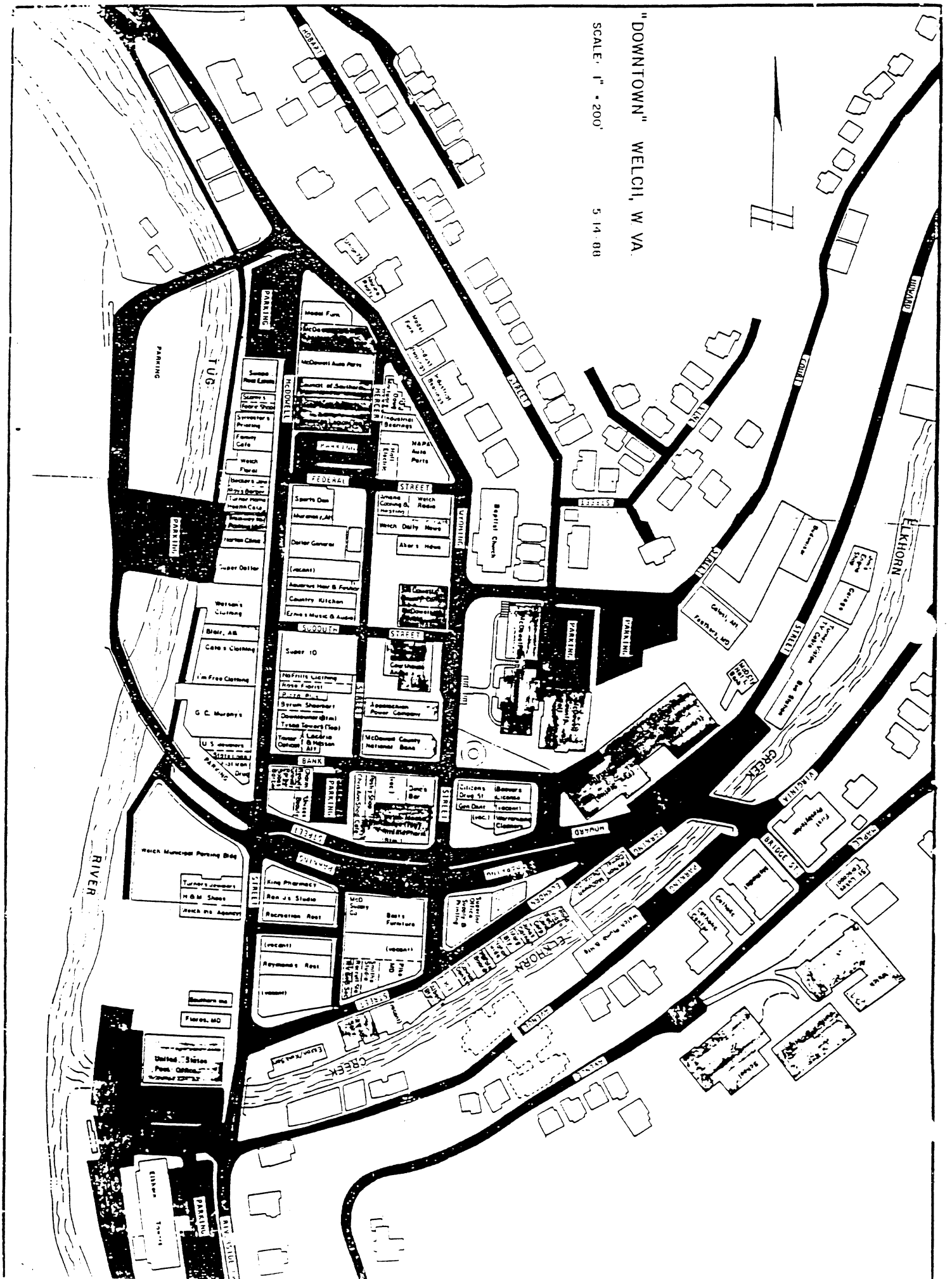
The Welch commercial historic district is situated within the city limits of Welch, WV. The district consists of the core commercial and trade center for the city. The point of beginning in the southeastern corner is the intersection of Wyoming and Elkhorn street. Running north up Wyoming street to the intersection of McDowell street. South down McDowell street to the intersection of Elkhorn street. East along Elkhorn street to the point of beginning. See enclosed map with boundaries drawn.

Boundary Justification

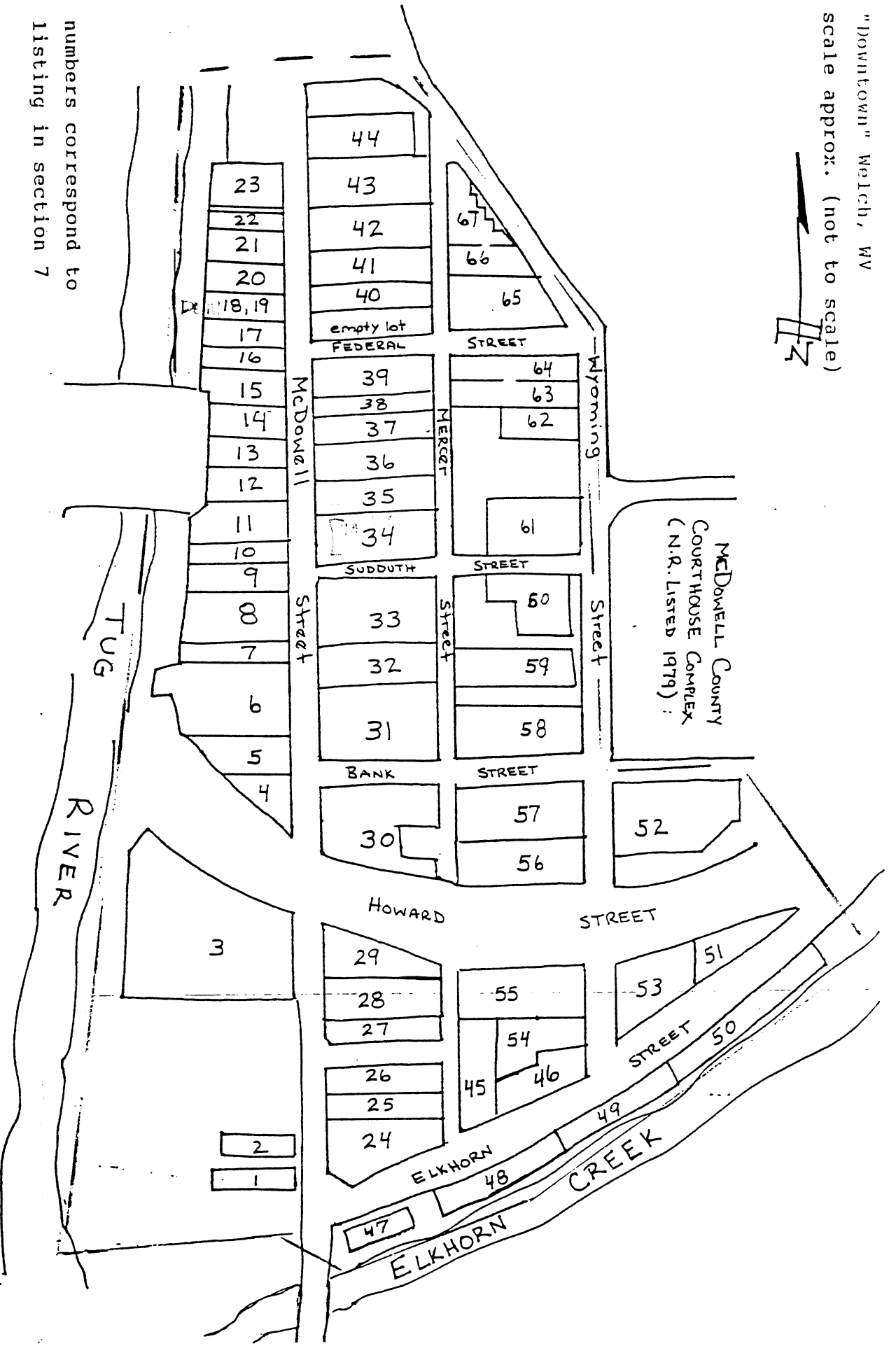
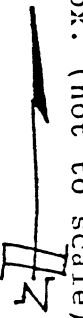
The district is a cohesive collection of early twentieth century resources distinctive in the deep Appalachian coal fields of southern West Virginia. The boundaries are drawn to include commercial and trade structures on the two principle streets. Natural boundaries include the Tug River on the west, and the Elkhorn Creek to the south.

"DOWNTOWN" WELCH, W. VA.

SCALE: 1" = 200' 5-14-88



"Downtown" Welch, WV  
 scale approx. (not to scale)



numbers correspond to listing in section 7



4146  
27'30"

4145

4144

4143

4142

25'

1 MILE  
PREMIER 1 M.

WELCH COMMERCIAL  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WELCH, MCDOWELL  
COUNTY

WEST VIRGINIA

UTM:

X.17/448120/4143020

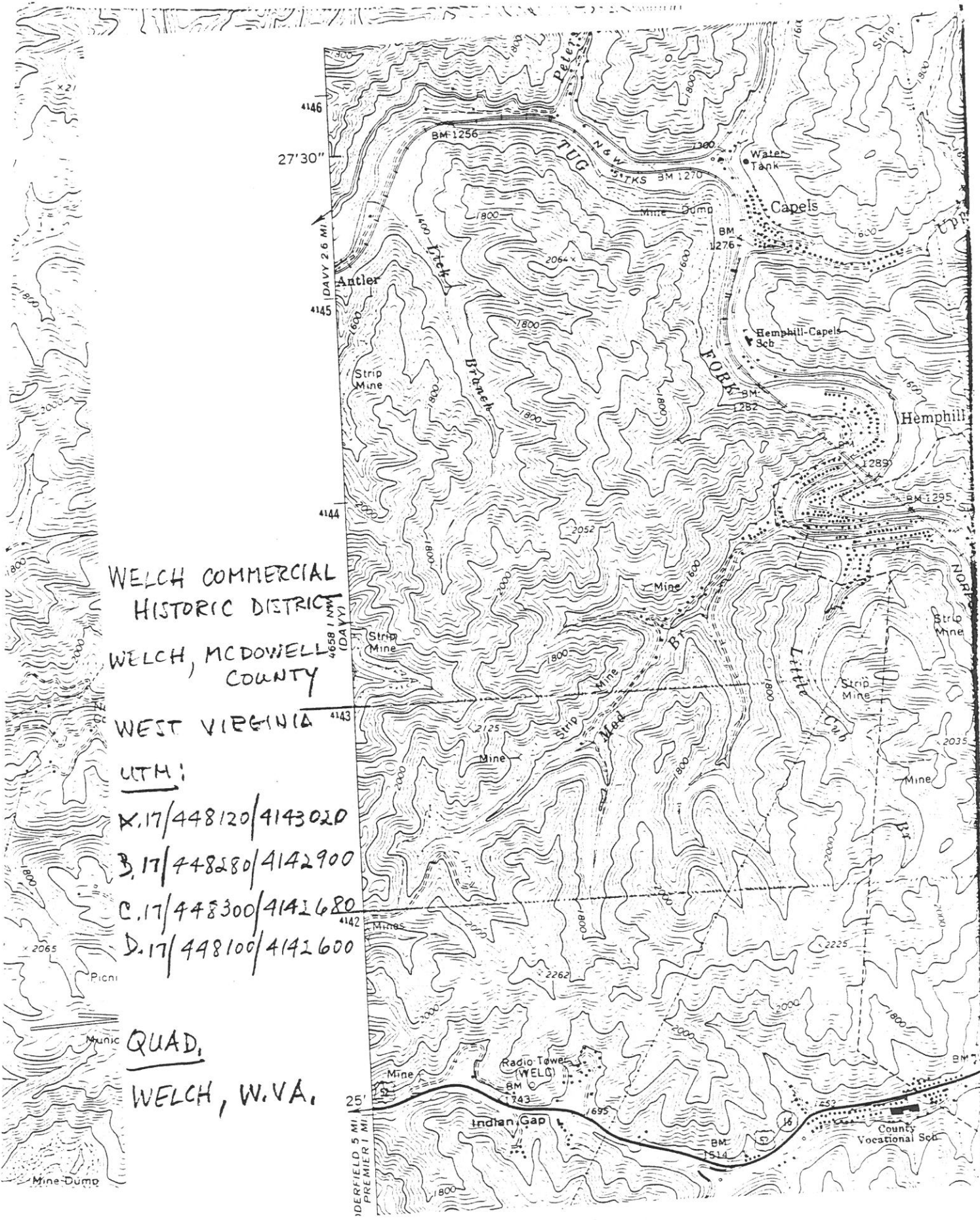
B.17/448280/4142900

C.17/448300/4142680

D.17/448100/4142600

QUAD,

WELCH, W.VA.



4146  
27'30"

4145

4144

4143

4142

25'

1 MILE  
PREMIER 1 M.

WELCH COMMERCIAL  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WELCH, MCDOWELL  
COUNTY

WEST VIRGINIA

UTM:

X.17/448120/4143020

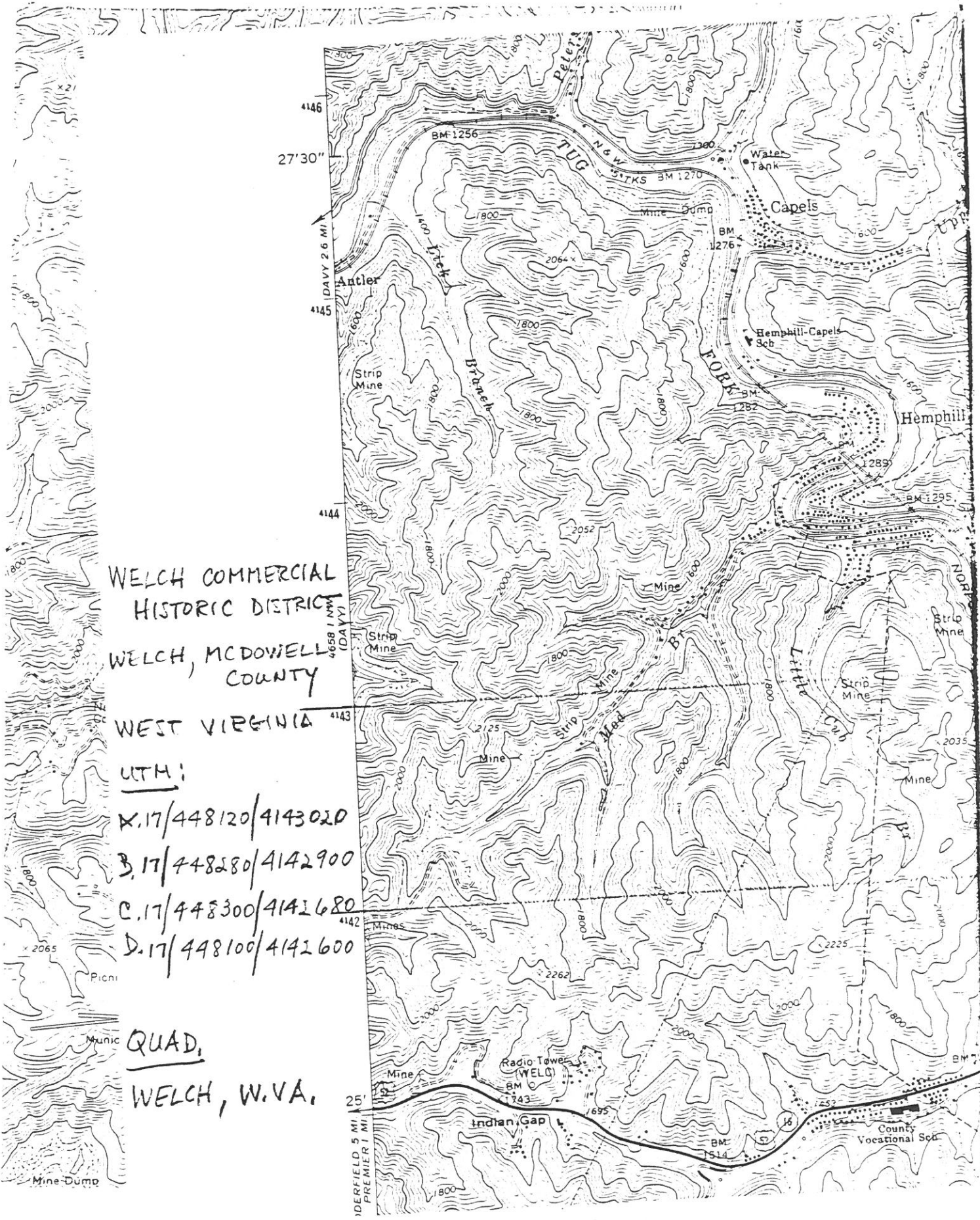
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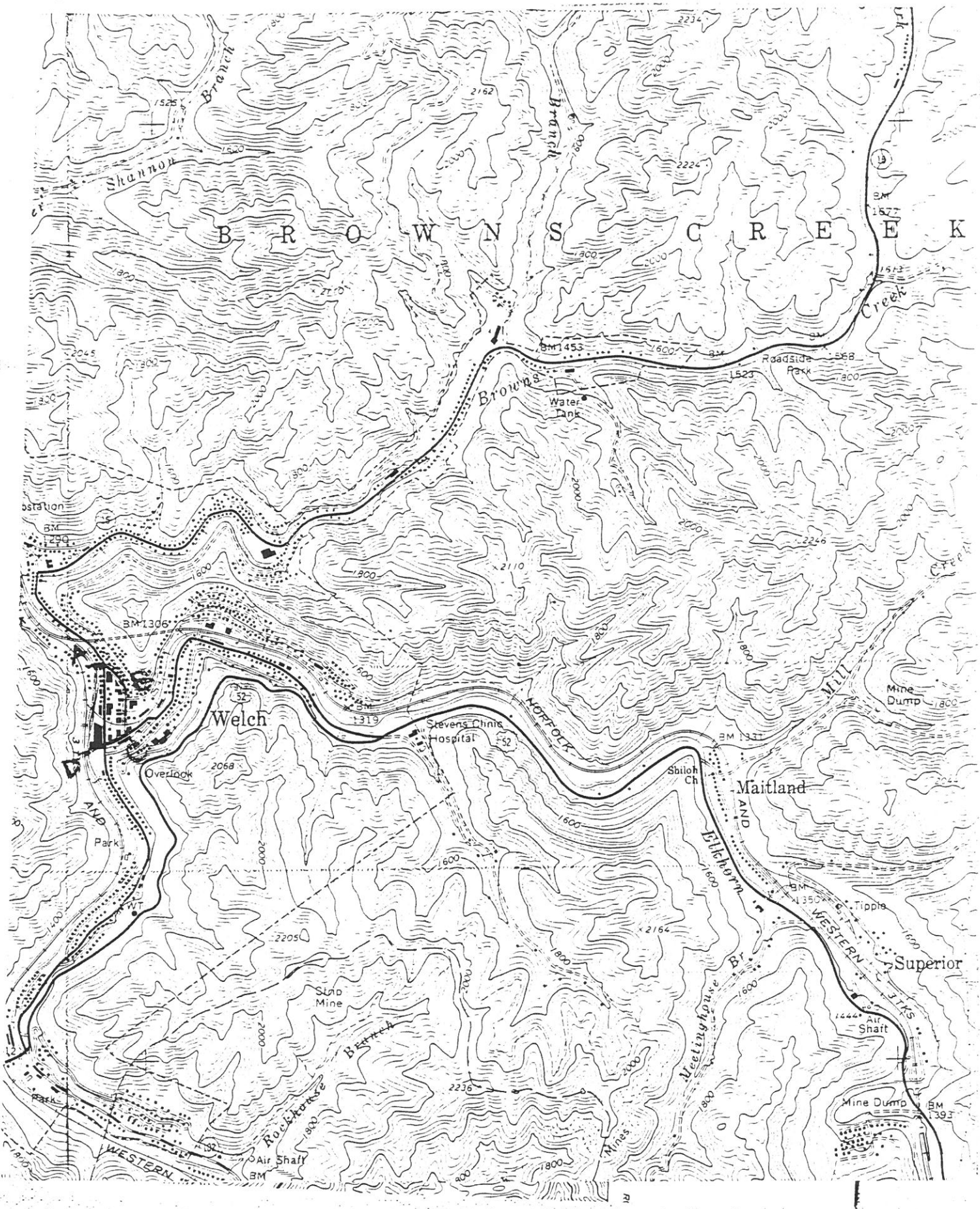
C.17/448300/4142680

D.17/448100/4142600

QUAD,

WELCH, W.VA.







MCDOWELL  
COUNTY  
NATIONAL  
BANK

M P

MCDOWELL COUNTY  
NATIONAL BANK



**DOLLAR**  
GENERAL STORES

THE NORTON  
CLINIC  
436-3152  
WELCH  
RADIOLOGY  
2ND FLOOR 436-4625

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DOLLAR**  
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NO PARKING  
LOADING  
& UNLOADING  
15 MINUTES

*Cola*





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STATE Loan Co.  
'25 TO '300

Jewelers

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U.S. JEWELERS

TYSON TOWNS

Taylor

Optical