

VSE TO COPY

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: TIERNAN, WILLIAM MILES HOUSE

other name/site number: TIERNAN - RILEY HOUSE

2. Location

street & number: 5 Kenwood Place

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Wheeling

vicinity: N/A

state: WV county: Ohio

code: 069

zip code: 26003

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: PRIVATE

Category of Property: BUILDING

Number of Resources within Property:

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

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

Name of related property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 C. Lauer

Signature of Certifying Official

2/9/93

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

Date

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

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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

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Historic: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS - Georgian Revival

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation Sandstone roof Asphalt

walls Brick other Wood Trim

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

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8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1900-1901

Significant Dates: 1901 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet. x

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State historic preservation office
Other state agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other -- Specify Repository:

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than 1 acre

Acreage of Property: Less than 1 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing

17 526760 4436360

Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the division line between lots 1 and 2 with the east line of Kenwood Avenue; thence with the east line of Kenwood N.44° 00' E (at 100 and 5/100 feet passing the division

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

The boundaries include the property historically associated with the residence.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Arch and Mary Riley, Owners

With: Katherine M. Jourdan, Director Northern Regional Office

Organization: WV SHPO

Date: 28 October 1992

Street & Number: 1528 Market Street

Telephone: (304) 238-1300

City or Town: Wheeling

State: WV

ZIP: 26003

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WILLIAM M. TIERNAN HOUSE, OHIO COUNTY, WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

This outstanding Georgian Revival style house was built for William and Eleanor Tiernan in 1900-1901. The Woodsdale neighborhood was being divided into lots during this time period with Echo Point and Kenwood Place being reclusive cul-de-sacs. Kenwood Place was platted in 1899, with two dwellings noted as being at the east end of the street. The Tiernan home would be approximately the third or fourth home on the street.

The streetscape is flat with the roadway being roughly an L-shape opening off Heiskell Avenue. There is a second opening onto Poplar Avenue (east end) which is closed with an iron gate at this time to restrict traffic since Kenwood is a private drive. The yard of the Tiernan home is open in the front with large Oak trees along the drive and west side of the property. The rear and sides are shaded by trees along the edges of the yard and there is a sunken rear garden in a half moon shape. The property originally consisted of two lots which ran from Kenwood Place to Elm Avenue. These were subdivided in 1960 when two homes were built in the rear along Elm Avenue. The carriage house, which was even with the main house on the east side, was razed when that portion of Lot 3 was sold to the property to the east. The present owners have repurchased the portion of Lot Number 3 that borders Kenwood Avenue to partially return the property to its original size.

The red brick with white trim Georgian Revival style home has some touches of the Neoclassical with the two-story Ionic fluted pilasters flanking the one story portico. The front of the two-and-a-half-story home has five bays with a symmetrical plan. The center doorway has a fanlight transom, and the sidelights have curved muntins. To each side of the entrance are two double-hung windows. All the window openings on the house are 12/1 unless otherwise mentioned. The projecting portico has an open terrace to each side with a brick post and thick squat spindled balustrade around the edge. The portico has front double Ionic and fluted columns with three columns at the front corners and a single column against the facade. There is a deep entablature on the portico with dentils. On the roof of the portico is a thin spindled balustrade with finials on the end posts. A center open terrace projects out from the portico with steps to each side. The terrace balustrade runs across the center landing and down the stairs. The floor of the entire terrace is concrete with sandstone foundation.

The second floor of the front or north facade has a center window with multilight sidelights and dividing Ionic columns between the openings. The window hood is a broken pediment and to the sides are the capitals of two-story fluted pilasters with a swag connecting the volutes. The north and east sides of the house have window shutters although they are available for all the openings. A deep entablature runs around the entire home with a Gothic arch design with small ball at the dividing points and dentils running above the arches. There is a center pedimented gable end

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with dentils on the cornice and a shield and vine motif on the tympanum. The roof of the home is gambrel with ends on the east and west sides and four tall end corbelled chimneys. There are two front dormers with a broken pediment arch and 8/1 window and a swag design at the top with a center urn on a small shelf. The sides of the dormers are slate.

An attached brick garage was added to the east side of the house in 1960. The open double bay is on the lower level with an open porch above that connects to the first floor level. The railing around the edge matches the brick and wood balustrade across the front porch of the house. The east facade has two center windows on the first and second floor. A door opens onto the terrace on the left side of the first floor. The third floor gambrel end has narrow wood siding with a matching broken pediment window as the front facade's center second floor opening.

The west facade is the same as the east facade on the second and third floors. The first floor, however, has a semi-circular porch with paired fluted Ionic columns and curved spindled railing. The flooring is wood with a sandstone foundation. The house wall of the porch has a single window and a 12 light French door and 3 light storm door. There is a thin spindled railing as a balustrade on the roof edge of the porch.

The rear or south side of the house has five bays with a projecting square portico with two Doric columns, spindled railing and a plain deep entablature with dentils. The floor and steps of the porch are wood with lattice on the sides. The rusticated sandstone foundation is visible across the rear of the house with a dressed water table. There is a center door with wide sidelights and angled panes. Over the door on the second floor is a large stairway landing window with side lights. To each side of the center openings are two double-hung windows on the first and second floor. There are three dormers on the rear of the house with the two on the ends having a broken pediment arch with swag, but with the urn being missing from the shelf. The center dormer has a pedimented gable end. All the dormers have slate shingles on the sides with the center dormer having an asphalt shingle roof and the end dormers being tarred.

The interior of the home has a wide gracious center hall with a center stairway opposite the doorway leading to a rear landing. The house has a basic four-room plan on each floor. The dining room is to the left as one enters the front door with an original chandelier having tiers of cranberry and milkglass. The kitchen is to the rear of the dining room and across the hallway are two parlors. There are three marble mantels and hearths on the first floor each being a different design, with center shell or shield motifs and colored marble inserts in the hearth designs. The floors are all narrow hardwood, and the interior door and window moldings have a Greek Revival projecting cornice lintel. Pocket doors close the rooms from the hallway and divide the two parlors. The hallway and dining room have an extremely high baseboard of approximately 18

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inches. The stairway has painted spindles but a mahogany and cherry newel post and banister. The second floor has three bedrooms and two baths with a hall and linen closet near the back stairs and small servants quarters. The third floor also has three bedrooms and one bath as well as a ballroom.

The Tiernan home is a high style of Georgian Revival and is not commonly found in Wheeling. Built at the turn of the century there are some Neoclassical details, mainly with the columns and center doorway and window openings.

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The William M. Tiernan House in Wheeling, West Virginia is being nominated under Criterion C for its architecture. The Georgian Revival styled home was built in 1900-1901 and its period of significance is the date of construction.

William M. Tiernan was vice-president of the Bloch Brothers Tobacco Company with which he had been associated for 68 years, working up from bookkeeper to foreman and then superintendent before becoming a third vice president. He had served continuously on the board of directors since the firm was incorporated in 1890. Bloch Brothers began as a small wholesale grocery and dry goods store in 1879 producing cigars on the second floor. Eventually they began to market the extra flavored clippings as chewing tobacco in 1897 under their own brand, using a mail pouch as their trademark. Thus began West Virginia Mail Pouch Tobacco.

The house Tiernan built was in the developing neighborhood of Woodsdale, originally the Woods farm that was subdivided as families moved out of the city of Wheeling into the country beginning in 1892. The Tiernan's had resided in the Center Market area prior to their move to the Leatherwood Neighborhood in 1894. They purchased a lot in the first addition to Echo Point, a reclusive area on the top of Chicken Neck Hill, when it was subdivided in 1899. The short move to Kenwood Place in 1901 was made after their Georgian Revival residence was completed. The house has a twin located in St. Louis, Missouri, according to the present owners but the architect of both buildings is unknown.

The residence is an outstanding and substantial Georgian Revival home with Neoclassical details on the facade. These classical details include the two-story fluted Ionic pilasters with swags connecting the volutes, which flank the front one-story columned portico. The entablature encircling the house is unusual with a pointed arch design. The front of the house is symmetrical with almost all the architectural details centered on the front facade for a dramatic impact. There is a centered large doorway with radiating fanlight transom and curvilinear panes in the sidelights. The Georgian use of a broken pedimented arch has been used with a window opening on the second floor, over the doorway, with a center window and sidelights divided by Ionic columns and capped by the broken pediment as an arched window hood. The window design is repeated with the third floor openings at the east and west gambrel ends of the home, and the broken pedimented arch is repeated with four of the five dormers on the house. At the roof edge and again centered on the facade is a pedimented gable end with a decorative tympanum having a shield and vine motif.

The interior of the home is gracious with a four-room plan on each floor. The first floor with its double parlors on the west side are balanced by a large dining room and kitchen on the east side. The parlors and dining room have carved white-grey marble fireplace mantels each with a different center motif being a shield or scallop. The fireplace openings have

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colored marble insets in the hearths ranging in color from deep red to brown. Separating the rooms are large squared openings with wood pocket doors dividing the interior from the central hall and grand stairway. The wood mouldings on the windows and doorways have a Greek Revival influence with a side projecting lintel, and the hallway and dining room have an exceptionally high 18" baseboard. The dining room has an original cranberry and milkglass chandelier with three tiers of lights.

Following Mr. Tiernan's death in January of 1941 the house was in the hands of his wife Mary Eleanor until her death in 1959. William Tiernan had been the president of the board of directors of Ohio Valley General Hospital with which he had been associated since 1914. He was very generous in his will to the hospital, as was his wife with the house and other property being placed in a fund for the hospital called "The Tiernan Memorial Fund" to be used for a maternity ward. The property was purchased a year later from the hospital by Robert Ebeling, a developer, and part of the lots were subdivided. The house was owned by Delmas and Dorothy Greeneltch from 1961 to 1968 when it was purchased by the current owners, Arch and Mary Riley.

The William M. Tiernan House is an outstanding contribution to Wheeling's architectural reserve. The Georgian Revival residence is atypical of the architecture in the Woodsdale neighborhood which is generally Queen Anne, Shingle or Colonial Revival, although it does have one nearby Neoclassical example along the National Road. The brick residence remains relatively untouched since it was built by the Tiernan family and is an excellent example of early twentieth century architecture.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Deed, Land, and Will Books, Ohio County Clerks Office, City - County
Building, Wheeling, West Virginia

City Directories, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, WV

"Bloch Brothers' 75th Anniversary" BUILDING BLOCHS Vol. 3, No. 5,
(July-August 1954), Wheeling, WV.

Interview with Mary Riley, owner, October 14, 1992.

Obituary, "William M. Tiernan", WHEELING INTELLIGENCER, January 13, 1941,
p. 4.

Obituary, "Mary Ella Tiernan", WHEELING INTELLIGENCER, September 18, 1959,
p. 4.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

line between lots 2 and 3) 141 and 65/100 feet to a point at the most west corner of the lot conveyed by Penn Taylor and Louise Taylor to Helen Thomas Sonnefeld by deed dated 19 August 1954 (DB 362/352); thence leaving Kenwood Ave and with lines of Sonnefeld parcel, the following two (2) bearings and distances: S 35° 34' E 163 and 2/100 feet to a point; thence S 24° 19' E and 47/100' to a point at the south corner of the Sonnefeld parcel; thence leaving Sonnefeld S 49° 19' W 115 and 87/100 feet to a monument in the division line between lots 1 & 2; thence with the division line N 42° 26' W 168 and 1/100 feet to the place of beginning.

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Section Number PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

ADDRESS: WILLIAM MILES TIERNAN HOUSE
 5 Kenwood Place, Wheeling
 Ohio County
 West Virginia

PHOTOGRAPHER: Katherine M. Jourdan

DATE: 14 October 1992

NEGATIVE: Northern Regional Office
 WV State Historic Preservation Office

PHOTO 1 Front Elevation (North)
 Camera looking South

PHOTO 2 East & North Elevation
 Camera looking Southwest

PHOTO 3 East Elevation
 Camera looking Southwest

PHOTO 4 West Elevation
 Camera looking northeast

PHOTO 5 South Elevation
 Camera looking northeast

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Section Number SKETCH MAP

WILLIAM M. TIERNAN HOUSE, OHIO COUNTY, WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA





