United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Wellington, Zachary Taylor, House
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 415 Main Street □ not for publication
city or town Huntington □ vicinity
state West Virginia code WV county Cabell code 011 zip code 25702

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets ✗ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

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

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

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
☐ entered in the National Register. ☐ 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
### 5. Classification

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### 6. Function or Use

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### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

- Other: Folk Victorian

#### Materials

- foundation: Sandstone
- walls: Weatherboard
- roof: Asphalt, tin
- other: Brick, wood

#### Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets
8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

- [ ] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [x] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [ ] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

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

<table>
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**Areas of Significance**

- Politics and Government

**Period of Significance**

- 1870-1923

**Significant Dates**

- N/A

**Significant Person**

- Wellington, Zachary Taylor

**Cultural Affiliation**

- N/A

**Architect/Builder**

- Wellington, Z.T. (builder)
- Wellington, Erastus (builder)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

See Continuation sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography**

- **Previous documentation on file (NPS):**
  - preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
  - previously listed in the National Register
  - previously determined eligible by the National Register
  - designated a National Historic Landmark
  - recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
    - Record #
  - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

**Name of repository:**
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Less than one acre

UTM References (Huntington WV-OH)

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Verbal Boundary Description
See Continuation Sheets

Boundary Justification
See Continuation Sheets

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Karen N. Nance, Owner
organization  Date  June 2008
street & number  3059 Wilson Road  Telephone  304.736.1655
city or town  Barboursville  state  WV  zip code  25504

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Property Owner

name  Johnny G. and Karen N. Nance
street & number  3059 Wilson Road  telephone  304-736.1655
city or town  Barboursville  state  WV  zip code  25504
Location and Setting

The Z. T. Wellington House is located at 415 Main Street in the City of Huntington on lot 9 of the Southern Addition\(^1\) to the Town of Guyandotte (1810-1911) that was incorporated into the City of Huntington in 1911. Lot 9 is located above the Guyandotte River bank in the flat river valley. A flood wall was constructed between the property and the river, ca. 1940.

The house was constructed in a residential neighborhood as a private dwelling and remains as such. The house is an independent detached dwelling located in a neighborhood of independent dwellings located along the Main Street. Any outbuildings or other dwellings that may have once stood on the Wellington property no longer exist. The current immediate neighborhood surrounding the Wellington House is comprised of a mixture of 1840s to early 1900 dwellings except for a modern Credit Union/Bank building located directly across the street. Most of these dwellings stood during Z. T. Wellington’s occupation of his house.

The site has a gravel driveway (22′7″ x 23′5″) and one sidewalk (3′ x 70′6″). A four foot chain link fence encloses much of the north side of the lot. A Magnolia Tree, Dog Wood Tree, Apple Tree, and several bushes are located on the lot.

Description

Exterior

The Wellington House is a two-story I-house with Folk Victorian detailing originally constructed c.1847 as a small, 1 ½-story, hall-and-parlor house. An addition and substantial changes were made c.1870 giving the house its current appearance. It is supported by a foundation of sandstone piers and concrete block and is clad in wood weatherboard siding (the north elevation has ½"x6" quarter-sawed poplar dating from c.1847 and the remainder is clad in 6" beveled pine). It has a symmetrical façade and a side-gable roof featuring a central pediment in the roofline and paired brackets with ball finials and bulls-eye rosettes, and a returned cornice on the gable ends. One brick chimney protrudes through the gable roofline. Two others were removed in recent renovations. The house has a rear, two-story ell, a modern bathroom addition, and a one-story kitchen wing.\(^2\)

The main (east) elevation has a central entrance door (34″ x 80″) with rectangular transom light (13 ½” x 34″). To each side are two tall, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows (34 ½” x 86”, poplar). The second story has five two-over-two, double-hung sash windows (34 ½” x 66”, pine). This façade features a central pediment in the roofline and paired brackets. Each side elevation of the main I-house includes a six-over-six, double-hung sash window on the first story, a one-over-one, double-hung sash window on the

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\(^1\) Map Book 2, Map number 14; 1820-1821, Cabell County, W.Va.

\(^2\) Several frame additions were made in the 1970s. They were deteriorated and thus removed in 2006-07.
second story (34 ½” x 66”, pine). The windows on the side elevations were replaced in the 1970s with windows salvaged from other historic properties.

The rear (west) elevation of the house is not symmetrical and has an entrance-way with paneled door on the first story and a two-over-two, double-hung sash window on the second story. The door, which leads to a modern wood deck, and window are situated towards the southern end of this façade. A two-story, gable wing extends from the rear elevation immediately north of the door and window. The wing’s north elevation has an entrance door on the first story and a six-over-two, double-hung sash window just above on the second story. A two-story, rectangular, shed-roof bathroom addition was constructed in the north corner between the house and wing c.1925. The addition has a historic six-over-two, double-hung sash window on both the first and second stories. These windows, salvaged from other historic properties, replaced the originals c.1970.

A one-story, rectangular, gable-roof section is situated off the southwest corner of the rear wing. It was originally constructed as the kitchen when major changes were made c.1870. While attached to the house, there is no longer a thoroughfare between the room and house and will likely be used as storage. This section has wood weatherboard and T-111 siding. It has a modern one-over-one window on the south façade, an enclosed door on the rear elevation, and a modern aluminum door on the northern elevation.

**Interior**

The Wellington House is entered through a doorway on the east elevation that opens into a central hall with a staircase. The staircase features a large, rounded newel post, turned posts, a curved railing, and decorative scroll relief panels along the carriage. The handrail is 38 ¼” tall. The continuous handrail and newel post are walnut, the spindles are oak, the treads are heart-pine, the risers are yellow pine, and the stringers are poplar.

A door to the right (north) leads into the north parlor (now a bedroom). This parlor has a fireplace and small corner closet. A door to the left (south) leads to the south parlor which features a cast iron fireplace mantle on the north wall. The rear, or west, wall of this parlor has a door leading out to a rear porch deck. The rear of the hall opens into the current kitchen (originally constructed as a dining room). A small bath is entered through the north wall of the kitchen. Also on the north wall, a door opens up to a small, modern wood deck. The c.1870 kitchen (attached to the southwest corner of the current kitchen) has been rehabilitated for storage. The second floor of the house has three bedrooms, one over each parlor, and one over the kitchen, a central hall, and a small bathroom. The two bedrooms in the main section of the house each have a fireplace and small closets.

The interior walls and ceilings of the 1870s I-house and rear ell are plaster and were once covered in wallpaper, with the exception of the north parlor that had a hand-stenciled, flower and medallion, painted ceiling. Interior doors, including closet doors, dating from the 1870s, are four-panel, 1 1/4”, pine doors.
Much of the Victorian-era, cast-iron door hardware still exists. All of the doors leading to the exterior were replaced in the 1970s. All of the windows date to the 1870s with the exception of those on the bathroom addition and the rear ell. The 1870s door from the outside to the rear ell has been closed, but the frame and transom remain. A small amount of 1840s trim remains in the north parlor and approximately half of the 1870s trim remains throughout the house. The only wainscoting is in the ca. 1871 kitchen off the side porch (current storage). It is pine, 38” to 48” inches tall, has 2 beads (3” wide), and 2” (two-part) top molding.

The 1840s post and beam, hall and parlor tongue and groove flooring still exist on the second story north bedroom, hall, and part of the south bedroom (1-1/4” x 8”-12”, heart pine) as well as under the 1930s (3/4” x 2 1/2”, oak) flooring on the first story part of the 1840s hall and parlor (1 1/4” x 8”-12”, oak). The 1871 flooring under the 1930s first story flooring is 1” x 4”-6” oak. The second story is 1” x 4”-6” heart pine.

Historic period trim from the 1840s is located in the north parlor on the baseboards and on the windows and doors. The poplar window and door trim is 1” x 6” with 4 1/4” molding along the outside edge. The parlor baseboard is poplar and 1” x 7” with a quarter round bottom trim molding. The 1870s baseboard in the rest of the house is poplar 1” x 7” boards with base-shoe and top trim molding. The 1870s period door and window trim throughout the house is missing its molding and is 1” x 6” flat boards.

Alterations and additions

The house was originally constructed as a 1 ½ story hall and parlor c.1847. Z.T. Wellington made substantial changes c.1870 including a rear one-story dining room and kitchen addition, a 10’ extension to the south elevation of the house, and a full second story to the main house. A third bedroom was added above the dining room sometime after 1870. The two-story bathroom addition is estimated to have been constructed c.1925 when houses in the area were receiving indoor plumbing.

A one-story, centered front porch with decorative trim and a side porch were demolished in the 1970s when several windows and doors were replaced. A one-story, three-room storage addition was also constructed in the 1970s, but has since been demolished. As the house stands today, it closely resembles the period of significance with exception of the front porch.
Statement of Significance

The Z.T. Wellington House is locally significant under Criterion B: Politics/Government for its association with Zachary Taylor Wellington (18 April 1847 – 25 August 1923) who served in numerous public offices while residing in Guyandotte. He represents a significant Republican leader who came to prominence despite the 1871 Flick Amendment to the State Constitution that restored many southern sympathizers (Democrats) to office. The period of significance is from 1870 when he was first elected to a county office to 1923 when he passed away while still serving in the local Republican Party machine and living in the Wellington House.

Property History

Erastus Wellington (1793-1861), first owner of the house and patriarch of the family, left Connecticut and settled in Guyandotte c.1818 first appearing on the personal property tax records in 1820. He married Charlotte Webb in Cabell County, 3 May 1821. Around this time he started a construction business with Nathaniel Wheelwright and William Simmons on lots 5 and 6 in Guyandotte. Between 1834 and 1839 Wellington owned lot 29 including a building worth $250. According to the 1840 US Census, Erastus Wellington has two members of the household in manufacturing. Erastus and his partners owned the business together until 1847 after which Wellington no longer paid taxes on the lots.

That same year, the Wellington family constructed the original hall-and-parlor, 1 ½ story house on lot 9 of the Southern Addition to Guyandotte (founded in 1810) and Z.T. Wellington was born. The original house, as well as its c.1871 alterations, are attributed to the Wellington family of carpenters. The 1850 and 1860 US Census list the entire family including a young Z.T. Wellington, his father Erastus, and brothers living on the same property. The 1850 Census reports Erastus as a joiner and Noadiah Wellington as a carpenter. By the 1860 Census, Erastus, Erastus Jr., and Noadiah are all listed as carpenters. One year later, in 1861, Erastus died.

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3 The Z.T. Wellington House is not being nominated under Criterion C: Architecture due to the changes to the 1870s house (specifically the removal of the Folk Victorian front porch). These changes do not affect the resource’s ability to convey significance as the home of Z.T. Wellington. It is also not being nominated for its association with Erastus Wellington. Although also significant to the area’s history, the house was dramatically altered ten years after his death.

4 “Wellington Rites Today in Dwelling Used for Lifetime,” Huntington Herald-Dispatch, 27 August 1923.

5 Cabell County Tax Lists, 1820-1841.

6 Cabell County Land Books, 1820-1857.

7 Guyandotte was surveyed in 1820-21. Map of Southern Addition to Guyandotte. Survey Book 1 page 232 and “Heritage Tour of Historic Guyandotte,” Cabell-Wayne Historical Society, Huntington, W.Va., 1971. Cabell County deed records are incomplete and they do not show a deed for purchase of the property, only later deeds transferring the property to Erastus Wellington’s heirs. The first deed evidence that the family owned the house on lot 9 is a Trust Deed on Noadiah’s interest in the property between Noadiah Wellington and James H. Buffington for $270.33 “on the premises where Noadiah lives” in 1853, Cabell County Deed Book 11 page 39.

8 “Guyandotte Masonic Lodge Formed in 1818,” Herald-Advertiser, 27 August 1939.
The 1870 Census lists Z.T. and Noadiah Wellington residing at the Wellington House address. One year later Z.T. Wellington married Rebecca Smith. The house was extensively renovated around this time creating the two-story, Folk Victorian I-house that exists today.

In 1872, Rebecca Smith Wellington was deeded the Wellington House and lots 8 and 9 by the heirs of Erastus Wellington, excluding her husband who retained his interest in the property inherited from his father. Z.T. lived in the house until his death in 1923, and Rebecca lived in the house until she died, 6 October 1930. Their daughter, Nellie Williams inherited the house. The Wellington House remained in the family until 1959 when descendent Martin Williams, a carpenter, sold the house to Beulah Trent. The house has changed hands a number of times since then.

**Criterion B: Politics and Government**

Z. T. Wellington’s story is one of a politician who served during a turbulent period in West Virginia’s political history; the end of the Civil War and turn of the 20th Century. He represents a Republican leader who came to prominence in West Virginia due to the passage of laws that restricted Confederate sympathizers from voting or holding office. After 1872, when these laws were declared unconstitutional by the courts, southern sympathizers regained political offices in southern West Virginia. Wellington, however, was one of the few Republicans to continue to serve in public offices.

Wellington held elected offices in Guyandotte that were consistently won by Democrats prior to and after the Civil War. Before the Civil War, southern counties of current-day West Virginia elected Democrat leaders. After the government of Virginia in Wheeling called for a second succession vote, the Town of Guyandotte still voted for succession when most of the men eligible to vote had joined the Confederate cause and were not present to vote – such as Z.T.’s own brother, James, who had joined the Confederacy.

After the Civil War, southern sympathies still ran high, and southern sympathizers (former Democrats) were still the majority in southern West Virginia, especially in Guyandotte where Z.T. Wellington lived and rose to prominence. Historian George Selden Wallace follows the progress of Republican leaders in his book, *Cabell County Annals and Families*. He states that the 1871 Flick Amendment to the State Constitution caused many Republicans to lose their offices. The amendment restored voting rights to former Confederate supporters and therefore placed many Democrats back in office. Most of Wellington’s Republican counterparts’ post Civil War political careers’ were short-lived due to the decision by the courts. It took nearly 20 years for most Republicans in southern West Virginia to gain control of local public offices again.

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9 “Wellington Rites…”
10 “Will of Rebecca Florence Wellington,” 22 October 1930, Will Book 9 page 354
11 George Seldon Wallace, *Cabell County Annals and Families* (Garrett & Massie: Richmond, Va., 1933), 34-47.
“From 1872 to 1896 the county was Democratic except for some minor upsets” Wallace writes.12 “On the Republican side were Sam Gideon… Taylor Wellington, Frank L. Hersey, D.E. Abbott, Sam Hawk, and ‘Doc’ suitor, with a younger group which included Elliott Northcott…”13 During this period Z.T. Wellington was elected to the office of Cabell County Assessor. He also served as a Cabell County deputy sheriff for eight years. He was a member of the common council and served as Guyandotte’s treasurer for some time. He was Guyandotte’s postmaster until annexed into Huntington when he became Clerk of the Guyandotte post office. Upon his death he was serving on the county Board of Review and Equalization.14

Summary

In conclusion, families such as the Wellingtons settled in small towns such as Guyandotte, Virginia, and started businesses. These early settlers became founding members of society and political leaders as well as participants in the Civil War; they were local leaders that impacted the formation of the State of West Virginia. Most significantly, Z.T. Wellington impacted politics and government as one of the founding members of the Republican Party in southern West Virginia and until his death was an active member of the local Republican machine. He served in government positions and elected offices at a time when those positions where overwhelmingly Democrat.

The Z.T. Wellington House is locally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion B: Politics and Government for its association with Zachary Taylor Wellington, significant post-Civil War Republican leader. The building retains sufficient architectural integrity from the period of significance (1870-1923).

12 Ibid., p.48.
13 Ibid., p.247.
Works Cited and Referenced


Cabell County Land Books. Cabell County, 1820-1857. (WV Archives)

Cabell County Personal Tax Records: 1820 – 1841. (Micro film, Karen Nance)


Eldridge, Carrie. *Miscellaneous Cabell County, (West) Virginia Records: Order Book Overseers of the Poor 1814-1861; Fee Book 1826-1839; 1857-1859 (Rule Book); Cabell Land for Tax Purposes 1861-1865.*


*Guyandotte Planning & Feasibility Study.* Mullin & Lonergan Assoc., Inc. Pittsburgh, October 1996.


Huntington Quadrangle: West Virginia – Ohio, 38082-D4-TF-024. 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic). Geological Survey.


Map of Guyandotte, Virginia. Cabell County Maps. 1809.


White, M. Wood. White’s New County and District Atlas of the State of West Virginia. Grafton, WV, 1873


Verbal Boundary Description

Located at 415 Main Street, Huntington, WV. Parcel Number: 05-12052500000000. All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the City of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, in that part thereof formerly known as the Town of Guyandotte, know and designated on a map of the Southern Addition to said Town of Guyandotte, a copy of which map is of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Cabell County, West Virginia, in Surveyor’s Record No. 1 at page 232, and later recorded in said clerk’s office in Map Book No. 2, Map No. 14, as a part of Lot Number Nine (9) and Ten (10).

Beginning at a point in the west line of Main Street, which point is distant southerly 122.75 feet from the point of intersection of the said line of Main Street with the face of the south curb of the alley lying between Lots 7 and 8 of said Southern Addition, said beginning point being the southeast corner of a parcel of land conveyed to Minnie M. Whittington by deed of record in the said clerk’s office in Deed Book 32 at page 160; thence with the said line of Main Street, S. 10° 44’ W., 100.3 feet to the southeast corner of a parcel of land conveyed to the City of Huntington by deed of record in said clerk’s office in Deed Book 325 at page 86; thence with the north line of said parcel N. 79° 16’ W., 67.28 feet to a point in the easterly or landward line of the permanent easement acquired by the said City for flood wall right of way; thence with said line, N. 7° 34’ W., 16.92 feet; thence continuing with said line, N. 15° 35’ W., 84.7 feet to a point in the south line of a parcel of land conveyed to the said City of Huntington by Nora and H. C. Clay by deed of record in said clerk’s office in Deed Book 324 at page 205; thence with the south line of said parcel, it being the south line of a parcel referred to as conveyed to Minnie M. Whittington, S. 89° 33’ E., 43.82 feet to the southwest corner of a parcel of land now or formerly owned by John Beale, which parcel is the easterly part of the aforesaid Minnie M. Whittington parcel; thence with the south line of said Beale, formerly Whittington, S. 79° 38’ E., 66.4 feet to the point of Beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Lucian Gordon Jackson and Francis Jackson, by Willie Baker and Roberta Baker, by deed dated May 18, 1988, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Cabell County, West Virginia, in Deed Book N. 899, at page 206.

(Cabell County, WV Deed Book 1148 Page 225)

Boundary Justification

The Z. T. Wellington House has never been moved. It is located on its original lot as described above that Z.T. and his wife purchased from his family and passed down to their daughter except for the west end of the property that the city of Huntington Floodwall Board purchased to construct the floodwall between the house and the Guyandotte River (Deed Book 325 Page 86). The part of the lot purchased for the floodwall does not contain any resources related to Z.T. Wellington and it no longer retains integrity so it has been excluded.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 12

Photographer: Karen N. Nance
Date: 2007 (digital color)

Photo 1 of 10: Front Façade / East Elevation, Camera facing west, color, black/ white

Photo 2 of 10: North Façade / North Elevation, Camera facing southeast, color, black/ white

Photo 3 of 10: South Façade / South Elevation, Camera facing north, color, black/ white

Photo 4 of 10: West Façade / West Elevation, Camera facing southeast, color, black/ white

Photo 5 of 10: Front Façade / Front Gable Brackets, Camera facing west, color, black/white

Photo 6 of 10: North Parlor / Ceiling stenciled flowers / Digital color, black/ white

Photo 7 of 10: Stairway / Center Hall, Camera facing west, digital color, black/ white

Photo 8 of 10: Cast Iron Mantel / South Parlor, Camera facing north, digital color, black/ white

Photo 9 of 10: Wood Mantel / South Bedroom, Camera facing north, digital color, black/white

Photo 10 of 10: 1840s-1870s Flooring / South bedroom, digital color, black/ white
(NPS Form 10-900)
Wellington, Z. T. House
Name of Property

Cabell County, WV
County and State

roof of porch to be reconstructed

north bedroom # 2

south bedroom # 3

west bedroom
# 4

Not to scale

metal gable roof over wood shingles