

**Mountain State Legacy:  
West Virginia Statewide Historic Preservation Plan  
2020-2024**

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## **Letter from the DSHPO**

West Virginians have a passion for our state, not just its future, but its legacy. We love to tell stories about our state – its people, events and places. These stories make up our legacy and our historic resources connect us to our past and illustrate those stories. The statewide comprehensive plan provides direction forward with goals and objectives to protect our legacy for the future.

The legacy of the Mountain state is found down in the valleys, on the mountain ridges and hill tops, along the rivers and on downtown streets. In each corner of West Virginia, patterns and themes of our rich history can be found: our Native American past, settlement, agriculture, industry, government, the New Deal efforts during the Depression, Civil Rights, religion, ethnic history, and others. These physical reminders of our past provide direct links to the places, people, and events of West Virginia’s legacy.

Historic preservation supports our legacy and includes activities to identify, evaluate, nominate, protect and use historic resources so that they remain vital aspects of our communities. The benefits of preserving our resources are many. By adaptively reusing historic resources, our unique character is preserved. Historic preservation reinforces our connection and commitment to towns and diverse communities throughout West Virginia thereby enhancing the overall quality of life. This same character, achieved when historic resources are well maintained, makes cities and towns engaging and attractive places to visit and conduct business. Our rural landscape similarly supports West Virginia’s spirit through agriculture and recreation.

Prepared by staff of the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in consultation with our citizens, the statewide historic preservation plan represents our commitment to West Virginia’s legacy and to her historic resources. Preservation is most successful when efforts occur through cooperative measures across the state. I have seen great success when we come together to support our historic resources and look forward to continued efforts across West Virginia.

Susan M. Pierce  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

## **Vision Statement**

Preserving West Virginia's historic resources of intrinsic value by ensuring the broadest base support of our citizens, including our youth, through new partnerships, strengthened existing relationships, increased awareness, ....so that preservation enriches lives and supports the economic health of our communities.

## *A West Virginia Perspective on the Historic Preservation Movement*

The United States is a relatively young country and its attachment to its historic buildings and sites has varied over its history. When historic preservation efforts in the United States began in the mid-19th century, the focus was on great individuals. Efforts at George Washington's Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello are well known. Other well-known efforts followed in the first half of the twentieth century such as the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg and the first local preservation ordinance in 1931 designed to control land use in Charleston, South Carolina. The federal government began the preservation of Civil War battlefields in the late nineteenth century and passed the Antiquities Act in 1906. Other federal programs like the Historic American Building Survey were established during the Great Depression to document and inventory historic buildings across the country. While these efforts went a long way to preserve and document historic resources, they were the exceptions and not the norm.

Early efforts to preserve historic resources in West Virginia were, like federal efforts, very sporadic. One of the earliest state efforts to preserve and protect historic resources began in 1909 when the West Virginia legislature purchased the Grave Creek Mound in Moundsville. While the state owned the property the Mound received little attention until 1915, when the Warden of the West Virginia Penitentiary, M. Z. White, used prison labor to repair damage caused by an excavation into the mound in 1838 and years of looting and neglect. Prison labor was also used to construct a museum to house some of the mound's artifacts. Other state efforts included the development of Droop Mountain Battlefield as a state park in 1926; the creation of Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park in 1950; and the purchase and restoration of West Virginia Independence Hall in 1963.

Patriotic societies that formed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century also worked to restore and preserve structures in the state. Groups like the Blue and Gray Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames of America, and others placed historic markers across the state. Some of these groups also worked to restore historic properties. For example, the Colonial Dames of America preserved the 1834 Craik-Patton House on the Kanawha River east of Charleston and the Potomac Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in conjunction with the WPA in 1938 and 1939 restored the French and Indian War fort at Fort Ashby in Mineral County. These efforts in the state were, however, limited and a systematic look at West Virginia history did not begin until the West Virginia centennial in 1963, and the creation of the West Virginia Antiquities Commission in 1965.

On March 6, 1965, the West Virginia Legislature created the West Virginia Antiquities Commission to determine the needs and priorities for the preservation, restoration and development of sites, buildings and other objects of archaeological or historic importance. A year later events on the national stage provided more support for the Antiquities Commission. In 1966 the National Historic Preservation Act created a national historic preservation program with a strong state and federal partnership. The Antiquities Commission assumed the duties outlined in the act.

The Antiquities Commission began the first systematic program of historic preservation in the state and was very productive over its 13-year history. The Commission brought recognition and

preserved some of West Virginia's most treasured resources. Through its efforts the Grave Creek Mound in Moundsville, West Virginia Independence Hall in Wheeling, Rich Mountain Battlefield, Harpers Ferry and cultural resources on Blennerhassett Island near Parkersburg were preserved. The first statewide historic preservation plan was created by the Commission in 1970 to provide a guide to protect historic resources. All totaled 3,000 historic structures and sites were surveyed, an archive of over 7,000 images was compiled, and 150 resources were nominated and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

On May 6, 1977, the West Virginia Legislature created the West Virginia Department of Culture and History. The authorizing legislation created the Historic Preservation Section and transferred the duties of the Antiquities Commission to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), including those duties outlined by the National Historic Preservation Act. To advise the Department, the Archives and History Commission, a public advisory board, was created. Today, the SHPO remains located with the Department of Arts, Culture and History, as the department is now called, and oversees all Historic Preservation programs and administers preservation programs under the National Historic Preservation Act.

## ***Goals and Objectives***

From hundreds of comments, both in person and on surveys, the goals from the 2014-2019 plan continue to resonate with people. As seen previously, much effort has occurred to accomplish these goals during the past five years. Continued work remains toward fully realizing these goals.

The goals and objectives are not a blueprint for achievement. They act as a map that one consults and considers while taking on projects and community plans. As with a map, there is often more than one way to get to a destination. Achieving these goals and objectives will be no different. Different ideas will be implemented with different resources by the various organizations and governmental bodies in the state that connect with historic preservation.

These goals cannot be achieved without the effort of a great number of people. Preserving cultural resources is not the responsibility of one agency or the main mission of federal and state government. Successful preservation efforts are always the product of grassroots effort, local leadership, and partnerships. Combined with governmental resources, these efforts will help to accomplish the following goals.

## ***Goals and Objectives***

### **Goal 1: Education**

**West Virginians will develop and have access to information and training regarding historic preservation methods, resources, and skills.**

#### **Objectives**

- 1.1 Develop historic preservation themed programs such as workshops, conferences, day camps, one day events, and presentations for all ages.
- 1.2 Work with educators to incorporate historic preservation themes into West Virginia core curriculums and programs.
- 1.3 Identify and encourage programs that address traditional skills such as masonry, wood stabilization and plasterwork to increase the skilled workforce available in West Virginia as well as increase the knowledge of the historic property owner.
- 1.4 Establish a mentor network to offer workshops and training on historic preservation topics to assist organizations such as historic landmark commissions, Certified Local Governments, Main Street programs, individual property owners, and non-profit organizations.

## **Goal 2: Awareness**

**West Virginians will recognize and understand the value of our state’s historic resources.**

### **Objectives**

- 2.1 Identify, create, and develop various resources that highlight historic preservation efforts in West Virginia and to illustrate proper preservation techniques.
- 2.2 Continue to identify supporters within the WV Legislature and to engage and educate local and state civic leaders on the positive benefits of historic preservation in communities.
- 2.3 Use social media to promote information regarding activities, successes, and ongoing programs to reach a larger audience and foster a positive image about historic preservation.
- 2.4 Reestablish a state archaeologist position to direct efforts in education and awareness regarding the value and significance of the state’s archaeological resources and to promote the nomination of archeological sites to the National Register.
- 2.5 Identify under-represented groups, develop outreach strategies, and aid in developing preliminary historic contexts to encourage their involvement in preservation and to encourage the preparation of National Register nominations for these underrepresented groups.

## **Goal 3: Identification**

**West Virginians will identify, evaluate, and designate historic resources.**

### **Objectives**

- 3.1 Continue to survey and evaluate historic properties across the state with special focus on underrepresented counties and communities, at risk resources, and resource types identified through planning efforts and historic contexts.
- 3.2 Develop historic contexts to assist in preservation planning and the identification of resources focusing on resource types whose significance has not been comprehensively studied and evaluated. Identification efforts could include, but are not limited to, those resources constructed during the mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century and exhibit those architectural styles prevalent during that time, industrial resources that supported the predominant extraction and manufacturing industries in WV (coal, oil, natural gas, steel, and petrochemical) during the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, and resources associated with the many underrepresented ethnic groups that migrated into



West Virginia beginning in the later 19th century, most notable those African-American associated resources and LGBTQ related resources..

- 3.3 Continue to identify and nominate historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places, focusing on underrepresented resource types.

#### **Goal 4: Community and Economic Development**

**West Virginians will incorporate historic preservation planning tools into economic and community development to maintain a sense of place.**

##### **Objectives**

- 4.1 Recognize preservation's role in helping communities retain a sense of place and identity.
- 4.2 Identify and provide financial and technical assistance for programs and activities that link historic preservation with recreation and tourism.
- 4.3 Continue to provide technical and financial assistance for historic preservation projects in towns and counties identified as economically challenged.
- 4.4 Work with property owners, established non-profit organizations and government entities to protect identified threatened resources employing tools such as easements and covenants.
- 4.5 Continue to promote and encourage the use of existing incentive programs such as state and federal tax credits.

#### **Goal 5: Stewardship**

**West Virginians will safeguard and sustain historic resources in their communities and rural areas throughout the state.**

##### **Objectives**

- 5.1 Work with historic landmark commissions and local governments to implement local historic preservation ordinances, design review and planning overlay districts to protect historic resources.
- 5.2 Investigate, locate, and develop existing and new sources of funding for preservation related activities.

- 5.3 Develop and sustain a cohesive network between individuals, organizations, and agencies for historic preservation activities.
- 5.4 Incorporate historic preservation concerns into disaster planning and recovery discussions and operations at the local, regional, and state level.
- 5.5 Actively participate in local zoning and planning efforts to provide a historic preservation perspective.
- 5.6 Actively participate within the review process for projects that trigger Section 106 or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- 5.7 Develop tools for local governments to mothball, stabilize, and rehabilitate existing, abandoned or underused historic resources.

## *Creating the plan*

In developing this plan, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) contacted various stakeholders across the state to provide input. In the past, the SHPO conducted standalone public meetings to gather comments and ideas for the five year statewide historic preservation plan. In October and November of 2018, the SHPO presented information about the plan at Historic Landmark Commission/Certified Local Government meetings across the state. In this way the SHPO would maintain and strengthen contacts with these entities as well as being on the agenda of an already established meeting. 10 meetings were held in Charles Town, Huntington, Buckhannon, Morgantown, Town of Bath, Wheeling, Buffalo, Bluefield, Charleston, and Lewisburg. As part of a governmental meeting, notices were put into local papers and notice boards that stated SHPO's inclusion on the agenda. During most of our allotted time, participants engaged in discussion about the goals from the previous plan as well as identified issues, threats, and opportunities for the historic preservation community. Over 103 people attended these meetings. A broad cross section of each community attended these meetings. Attendees included mayors, council people, HLC/CLG commissioners, contractors, business owners, professional preservationists, lawyers, members of the press, retirees, and medical professionals.

A survey was developed with an online version using SurveyMonkey and a paper copy that was handed out at several SHPO events and mailed to people on the SHPO mailing list. In order to reach as many interested individuals as possible, the survey was open from September 2018 through March 2019. 224 surveys were completed, which represents a 106% increase from the 2014 planning period and included responses from 45 of West Virginia's 55 counties.

Discussions were also held with various state government agencies and officials, historic preservation organizations, and interested individuals. While smaller in number than the previous two methods of input, this group provided focus and insight that was helpful for this project.

Two main themes came from the meetings and surveys: more education was needed, and more money was needed. An overall sense from these meetings concluded that historic preservation organizations and the WV SHPO were doing a good job, but that more needed to be done. A large majority believed that the goals and objectives from the 2014 were still vital and relevant and that the historic preservation community of West Virginia needed to continue to work towards these goals.

In terms of education, respondents believed that more needed to be done in many areas. Having historic preservation taught in the schools was something mentioned in all meetings and on many surveys. It was less clear as to when (grade level) it should be taught. Most tied this to developing more educational materials that teachers could access and use. These materials would also be used to educate the public about historic preservation. While general historic preservation topics can help educate the public, most thought that regional or area specific materials would be best to create more interest.

Funding – grants, loans, direct governmental spending – was a topic discussed extensively and was one of the most frequent comments on survey forms. While the commercial tax credit increase was appreciated, many felt that individual property owners needed more financial help to undertake historic renovations and rehabilitations. “Government” was commonly listed to help with this, but the source of funding was not identified. Based on these discussion, it was thought that the historic preservation community can work together to develop additional sources of funding.

### **Planning Cycle**

This plan will be effective between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2024. Beginning in summer of 2023, arrangements will be made for public meetings to be held in either the fall of that year or in spring 2024. These meetings will assist in shaping the next plan. By fall 2023, a survey will be developed to gauge public input and opinions. In the summer of 2024, the draft of the new plan will be finished for internal review and by fall 2024 the new plan will be submitted to the National Park Service for approval.

### **Survey Highlights**

The biggest threats to archaeological, historic, and cultural resources in the state and in local communities were identified as demolition, neglect, or abandonment. Based upon the public meetings and other discussions, these issues seemed to be a high priority throughout the state. Out of town and out of state owners of neglected or abandoned properties were identified as the biggest culprits; communities struggle with how to either get these owners to take care of their properties or figure out ways local governments can take control of the properties.

In determining what historic resources are the most threatened in communities and which resources are most important to protect, the top three answers to both questions were Main Street/downtown commercial districts, cemeteries, and homes. Many see the successes across the county of other communities’ efforts to restore and rehabilitate their downtowns as motivation to improve their own downtown/Main Street. Over the next five years it is important that civic leaders and interested individuals identify other towns and cities that have been able to transform themselves and find ways to replicate those methods in their own locality.

Determining what efforts are likely to be the most effective in their area was the next topic discussed. Survey respondents believed that establishing additional local designations of landmarks and districts to be the best way to make the general public more aware of historic preservation and give them more reason to be interested in preservation. Increasing public education and information was second in this category and could work with the establishment of more local landmarks and historic districts. Remaining consistent with the answers to the previous questions, heritage tourism came in third.

Next, the survey showed that respondents overwhelmingly agreed that the preservation of local historic districts is an important way to guide downtown and neighborhood development. Respondents also mostly agreed that local leaders in their communities believe in the benefits of historic preservation. Of all the questions, however, this was one of the questions that was

skipped the most. When asked if current state and local preservation programs effectively protect West Virginia’s archaeological, historic, and cultural resources the majority agreed with the statement however a fairly large number of respondents disagreed. Once again funding and education were cited as not being sufficiently developed.

### **Survey Specifics**

Demolition by neglect was regarded as the biggest threats to historic resources in the state and in their communities. It was listed among the top five responses on most survey forms and gathered over 400 points on both questions (5 pts for first, 4 points for second, etc.). Lack of interest by the public was in second place with approximately 300 points for each question. Other top responses were lack of economic incentives, lack of interest by government officials, and inadequate/lack of public historic preservation education.

Respondents believed that the resources that are most threatened in their communities and are the most important to protect were nearly identical. “ Main Street”/downtown areas were first for both questions followed by cemeteries, individual homes, and residential areas. These responses far outpaced other resource types listed.

When asked what tools or activities would be most effective for preserving historic resources in their communities, the most popular answer was adding additional local designations of local landmarks and districts. People also believed that increasing historic preservation education at all levels and places to receive information on historic preservation activities were needed. Finally, respondents believed that heritage tourism would be a way to add financial resources in their areas.

Three questions were asked with responses ranging between strongly agree and strongly disagree. For the question as to whether local leaders in their communities believe in the benefits of historic preservation, 60% responded with either strongly agree or agree somewhat and 19% responded with either disagree somewhat or strongly disagree. As to whether historic preservation local districts are an important way to guide downtown and neighborhood development, 93% either strongly agreed or agreed somewhat. When asked if the current state and local preservation programs were effectively protecting West Virginia’s archaeological, historic, and cultural resources, 53% strongly or somewhat agreed with another 31% strongly or somewhat disagreed with the statement.

## **Historic Preservation Issues in West Virginia**

### **Demographic Challenges**

West Virginia has many demographic challenges heading into the future. Since 2000, West Virginia has experienced a population drop of nearly 3,000 people. US News and World Report estimates that the population will continue to drop around 0.4% for the next few years. Planners worry that while West Virginia is the 37<sup>th</sup> largest state (by population) in the nation, its population has the 4<sup>th</sup> oldest median age. (US Census Bureau American Community Survey

2017). While reviewing the US Census Bureau statistics, 24/7 Wall Street (USA Today) found that West Virginia's median household income of \$43,469 was the worst in the nation (2017). These statistics all point a gloomy picture for the state and for historic preservation within the state. There are, however, bright spots emerging. The eastern panhandle has been seeing an explosion in growth as people move further from Washington DC/northern Virginia. As the lack of affordable housing in the Capitol Region continues to worsen, the eastern panhandle can become a greater economic driver for the state. A recent 2019 report from the US Department of Commerce found that West Virginia was first in the nation for gross domestic product growth (GDP) in the first quarter. The state also finished the 2019 budget year with a several million-dollar surplus. If the state continues to find ways of diversifying its economy and in improving its infrastructure, West Virginia can start to reverse the trends in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### **Education/Awareness**

The lack of awareness about historic preservation by the general public and by elected officials was one of the most frequent comments by survey respondents and by people attending public meetings. Adding to this were the misconceptions that people believed were prevalent in their communities. Attitudes such as “historic preservation tells you what you can and can't do with your property” were heard and seem to be prevalent and hard to overcome. Respondents and commenters expressed the belief that increased education and awareness campaigns in communities were ways to tackle these ideas. Historic home tours and walking tours, many stated, were ways to get the message about historic preservation out to the community in a fun and lowkey way. Examples of these can be seen in Wheeling, Hinton, and Beverly among others. Other respondents believed that formal training/education programs for historic preservation should be developed for all new local and state leaders. With many competing priorities, historic preservation should strive to be heard along with these other priorities. Nearly all respondents expressed the desire that historic preservation ideas should be taught in schools. Many said their schools had local history projects and lessons that touched on historic preservation topics. However, these respondents also believed that more could be done to bring home the importance of historic preservation to students.

### **Funding**

As stated above under Demographic Challenges, West Virginia's declining population and small personal incomes makes it difficult for governments to fund all their priorities. The opioid crisis, roads and bridges, and education are some of the high priority items for local and state budgets. Other priorities vie for support and government dollars. With the state tax credit and state preservation grant, historic preservation does have support within the legislature. Funding at the local level tends to be more problematic as many areas have dwindling tax bases. Other governmental organizations, non-profits, and private groups are stepping up to do more historic preservation work. In order to try to increase funding, highlighting the benefits of historic preservation through positive impacts on educational outcomes and economic development will be key to gaining support.

### **Neglect, Abandonment, and Demolition**

The neglect, abandonment, and demolition of historic resources is one of the issues that is most evident in areas and causes the most contention within communities. Everyone can see the problems, however, how to tackle this issue becomes problematic when citizens, civic groups, and politicians all have differing ideas. Even when everyone is agreement, getting property owners to comply with the community's wishes can be a long and costly process. Better educating the community about historic preservation is one method to help reduce the instances of neglected and abandoned buildings. Another is streamlining laws and creating more expensive penalties for violating zoning laws.

## ***THEMES IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY***

Currently, there are over 1,000 National Register of Historic Places listings from West Virginia. These listings include individually nominated buildings, structures, objects, sites and over 170 historic districts consisting of groups of resources. Sixteen of the state's historic resources have been identified as National Historic Landmarks, the highest designation for a historic property in the United States. All totaled over 20,000 resources representing a wide range of resources and time periods in West Virginia history have been listed. These resources help preserve, document, and tell the story of the state.

### **Prehistoric Archaeological Resources**

#### ***The Paleoindian Period (ca. 9500 - 8000 B.C.)***

North America is thought to have been inhabited before 8,000 B.C. during what is called the Paleoindian Period. Evidence of Paleoindian occupation in West Virginia is scarce. Data from elsewhere in the northeast suggests that, in areas that were mostly a tundra environment, people were focused on hunting caribou rather than mammoth or mastodon. In other places like the Chesapeake Bay area, where a mixed deciduous forest was in place by 9,000 B.C., Paleoindian peoples likely hunted and gathered a more diverse range of foods. Within our region, Paleoindian sites have been found in association with high quality flint and chert outcrops near major river systems. Most recognizable from this period are large fluted projectile points. Archaeologists have broken these down into different types that are thought to correspond to different times within the period. In West Virginia, fluted points have been found along the Kanawha and Ohio rivers and in select upland locations in the Potomac River Valley. Some of these points appear to resemble the earliest variety found in the eastern United States (known as the Shoop-Debert/Gainey type). However, details about the lives of Paleoindian peoples in West Virginia are not known and will have to come from future research.

#### ***The Archaic Period (ca. 8000 - 1000 B.C.)***

Modern deciduous forests are thought to have reached areas south and east of the Allegheny Front by ca. 7800 B.C. Some archaeologists think that early in the period people simply continued the same basic subsistence and habitation practices as they did during the Paleoindian Period. Early Archaic projectile points indicate that deer were being hunted and have been found throughout West Virginia. Carbonized nut hulls from the St. Albans Site in Kanawha County date to ca. 7000 B.C show an increasing variety of food in people's diets.

Throughout the Archaic Period, populations continue to increase, and archaeologists find sites in more diverse areas. Use of plant processing tools like adzes and celts continues to increase so that by the Late Archaic Period, a distinctive way of living has emerged. Settlements have become focused on river valleys, while more marginal areas are used seasonally to extract specific resources. In the Ohio River Valley, shell midden sites, such as West Virginia's East Steubenville



Sites indicate that people are exploiting riverine food sources for the first time. Also, for the first time, people began trading for and using steatite or soapstone. Steatite fragments have been recovered from sites all over West Virginia.

### ***The Woodland Period (ca. 1000 B.C. - A.D. 1000)***

The Woodland Period is characterized by the emergence and spread of ceramics. The use of pottery is seen as evidence for an increasingly sedentary way of life. Having base camps increased the reliance on the use of plants or early farming methods. Large extended family and multi-family settlements appear, and many become increasingly larger during this period. However, smaller semi-permanent habitations and short-term camps likely used to gather resources have also been identified.

In general, evidence for horticulture appears in sites as carbonized seeds. Domesticated varieties of marshelder, recovered from the Fairchance Village Site, as well as maygrass and goosefoot from the Childers Site indicate that Native Americans in the mid-Ohio River valley were moving toward agriculture. Carbonized squash seeds and rind fragments have also been recovered from many sites during this period. Hunting/gathering and fishing, however, continued to comprise the essential part of their diets. While horticultural practices were certainly in place elsewhere in West Virginia, direct evidence of this is scarce or non-existent. The appearance of deep storage/refuse pits in settlements and the introduction of the bow and arrow provide indirect evidence of an increase of agricultural activity. By about A.D. 800 maize horticulture was firmly in place as shown at the Woods Site and the Corey Site. Again however, solid evidence for crop cultivation outside of the Ohio and Kanawha River valleys does not appear until much later.

Burial mounds and other earthworks are the most evident remains from this period. Along terraces of the Ohio, Kanawha and other western rivers in West Virginia, the mounds tend to be earth constructions often containing multiple burials. In the eastern part of the state, especially along the Cheat and South Branch of the Potomac Rivers, Native Americans covered their dead with stone mounds. Whether of stone or earth, burial mounds are often interpreted as evidence of some sort of social hierarchy. The largest extant burial mounds in West Virginia can be found in Moundsville and South Charleston.

### ***The Late Prehistoric and Protohistoric Periods (ca. A.D. 1000 - 1690)***

In the western part of West Virginia, the Late Prehistoric Period is defined by the emergence of what is known as the Fort Ancient and Monongahela cultures. Geographically, Fort Ancient sites are located in the Middle Ohio and Kanawha River Valleys, while Monongahela sites occur along the Upper Ohio and Monongahela Rivers. Despite cultural differences, Fort Ancient and the Monongahela sites share common attributes that include terrace and flood plain village settings, maize-based agriculture and shell-tempered pottery. Additionally, many of the petroglyphs found across the state, like the National Register-listed Wildcat Branch Petroglyphs in Wayne County, are attributed to these Late Prehistoric cultures.

European incursion into the area that became West Virginia began in the late 1600s. Those sites designated as Protohistoric are Late Prehistoric sites that have produced European trade goods such as glass beads, axes, knives, and chisels. Important sites associated with the Fort Ancient culture during this time period can be found in Cabell, Putnam, Mason, Logan, and Mason counties. By 1700, however, it is thought that these groups depopulated the Ohio Valley. Some archaeologists suggest that pressure from the powerful Iroquois nation to the north could have played a role along with European settlement in the region, but this notion is subject to debate.

Differences between Monongahela and Fort Ancient sites are exhibited primarily in pottery styles and settlement patterns. In addition to stylistic variety, Monongahela pottery types exhibit a gradual increase in shell temper through time. This is different than Fort Ancient pottery styles, in which a shift to the sole use of shell temper seems to have occurred suddenly. Ceramic pipes have also been recorded at Monongahela sites, including cord-impressed types. Monongahela villages tended to be more circular in shape with circular houses, versus Fort Ancient's sub-rectangular houses in more oval shaped villages.

In the eastern part of West Virginia, the Late Prehistoric Period is not differentiated from the earlier Woodland Period. However, post A.D. 1000, trends in subsistence and settlement practices in this region parallel those occurring at Fort Ancient and Monongahela sites. In eastern West Virginia, people appear to be interacting more with groups to the north and south, from south-central New York to North Carolina. Whereas in the western part of the state, there are clear ties with groups further west. Protohistoric sites in eastern West Virginia are also marked by the presence of European trade goods. In addition, sites such as the Mouth of the Seneca and Pancake Island have produced evidence of Susquehannock movement into and habitation in the region.

### ***Historical Archaeological Resources***

The Historic Period in West Virginia begins in the early 1700s when settlers first moved into the Shenandoah Valley from eastern Virginia and Pennsylvania. Historic archaeological sites document the evolution of West Virginia history from the frontier settlements to the modern urban landscape. Historical archaeology combines the material culture of a society with the written documentary record to present a more complete picture of the past by shedding light on common everyday life of a society's members including individuals such as slaves, indentured servants, factory workers, miners, and tenant or small subsistent farmers, who were sparsely covered in the written record. Through the study of West Virginia's historical archaeological resources, we can better understand settlement patterns including changes in land use over time, industrialization and its effect on working conditions, diet, health and sanitation, gender roles, and the influence of consumer goods, which have occurred throughout the state. Historical archaeological resources include but are not limited to foundations, wells, privies, cisterns, trash pits, post holes, fence lines, builder's trenches, cellars, standing structures, outbuildings including barns, smokehouses, detached kitchens, graves, mill races, walkways, gardens, orchards, mine shafts, and quarry pits.

### *Frontier Forts*

The earliest historical archaeological sites in West Virginia are related to the settlement era. These sites include sparsely settled communities, isolated farmsteads, and frontier forts. Frontier forts were part of a defensive system that made settlement of the hostile frontier possible by not only serving as operational bases for scouts and militia but also as a place of refuge for the settlers. Frontier forts can generally be divided into three categories: the blockhouse, the stockade, and the fort.

### *Civil War Battlefields and Landscapes*

Renewed interest in the Civil War has brought attention to West Virginia's Civil War battlefields, skirmish sites, camps, entrenchments/earthworks, and cultural landscapes. Archaeological investigations have taken place at Rich Mountain Battlefield, Carnifex Ferry Battlefield, Droop Mountain Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Camp Bartow, and Fort Marrow (Camp Elkwater complex) all of which have been identified, nominated, and listed in the National Register. Other sites across the state have yet to be identified and investigated. While the new interest has had a positive impact on the study of Civil War sites, it has also put many of these sites at risk of looting. The rapid increase in development especially in the Eastern Panhandle has also put these sites at risk.

### *Industrial Sites*

Industrial development plays a key role to the history of West Virginia. Archaeological investigations at West Virginia's industrial sites have not only documented technological processes and industrial advancements but have also provided an insight into the lives of the workers and their communities. West Virginia's industrial sites range from small grist mills to large scale factories and mining complexes. The early manufacturing of salt along the Kanawha "Salines" was a key impetus for settlement along the Kanawha River just outside Charleston. The first salt furnace was constructed in 1797 and by 1815 there were 52 salt furnaces in production along the Kanawha River. Excavations conducted at Burning Spring Branch site, reveal the material culture and the organization of a nineteenth century industrial plantation.

A federal armory was established at Harpers Ferry in 1794 with production beginning in 1801. By the 1850s, Harpers Ferry was a sprawling industrial town that not only contained the United States Armory and Arsenal but also a private manufacturing center located on Virginus Island which produced flour, lumber, cast iron items, machinery parts, and cotton. A majority of these manufacturing sites were driven by waterpower systems. Excavations at Flowing Springs Mill, located north of Charles Town in the Harpers Ferry District of Jefferson County, has provided information significant to the overall understanding of grist mills and their part in the industrialization of American society.

The introduction of railroads resulted in the expansion in both size and scope of industrial sites across the state. For example, the Dry Creek Brick Factory located south of White Sulphur Springs in Greenbrier County is reported to have provided brick used to face the Allegheny and White Sulphur Springs tunnels of the Covington and Ohio Railroad. Excavations at this site revealed that

two brick burning methods and kiln types were utilized to produce handmade bricks and that no mechanized equipment was used in the brick production process. The largest kiln (Kiln #5) at the site, an up draft permanent kiln, had the capacity to burn approximately 1,120,000 bricks at one time.

Coal mine sites from the turn of the century have yielded information regarding the coal industry, its day-to-day operations, and life in the coal towns. At Nuttallburg in Fayette County, most of the equipment dating to the tenure of ownership by Henry Ford remains in place. Its steel mine conveyor system demonstrates the “rope and button” technology that was developed to decrease fragmentation and increase conveyor efficiency. Only foundations remain within the Nuttallburg Community. Coke ovens such as those at Bretz in Preston County and at Coketon in Tucker County have been recorded prior to reclamation. These excavations document the use of these structures in the coal refining process.

### *Domestic sites*

Excavated in both rural and urban settings, these sites have provided information regarding various domestic activities and distinctions of social class. The “Wilcox-Bradford” summer kitchen located at Cedar Hill Plantation, residence of a wealthy slaveholder named Luke Wilcox (1795-1854) was excavated and determined to be constructed of log with a block foundation and a dirt floor. Insight into the lives of the African American slaves, who worked in the Kanawha Valley’s salt industry, was provided through the excavations that occurred at the Willow Bluff site. Pierced silver coins retrieved from excavations are thought to represent details of religious beliefs. Domestic materials such as ceramics and glass were also found.

Excavations at the Reed Farmstead in Hardy County occurred in advance of Corridor H highway construction. Various ceramics, glass, farming tools, and other artifacts provide details of personal life and agricultural activity that began in the early 1800s and extended to the 1880s. These items provide physical evidence in support of the written record, which includes the estate inventories of William Reed and Andrew Garrett, property owners.

Prior to 1840, the armory workers at Harpers Ferry were allowed to build their own houses anywhere outside of the armory complex. Excavations have illustrated how the workers expressed their individuality in terms of building materials used and architectural style executed for their dwellings. In the 1840s, existing armory buildings were torn down and rebuilt in a uniform style.

Archaeological evidence has shown that prior to the construction of the railroad and the C&O canal that the citizens residing at Harpers Ferry relied heavily on surrounding farms, local industry, and home production for everyday commodities. However, the arrival of the railroad and the construction of the canal enabled residents to import mass-produced fashionable goods, materials, and foods at a relatively cheap cost.

In comparison, excavations at High Street in Shepherdstown, an agriculturally based community, revealed that marked differences in class and race as illustrated through material culture was not evident in the neighborhood. The archaeological record also indicates that the inhabitants of

Shepherdstown had a more diverse diet, which continued to increase over time, than residents in Harpers Ferry.

The diet and material goods of seven middle class families from ca. 1848 through 1938 residing on Chapline Street in Wheeling were revealed through the excavation of five privies that were situated in the backyards of three former residences. Artifacts such as ceramics, glass and personal items such as porcelain dolls, early toothbrushes, and buttons were retrieved. Bone and botanical remains provided information regarding the diet of the residents.

### *Underwater Resources*

Few underwater resources in West Virginia have been documented. Underwater resources that can be expected to exist within the state's waterways include bridge piers, dams, wing-dams, submerged vessels, ferry landings, wharves, submerged timbers used for lock and/or canal walls, and foundation walls. Surveys have been conducted by the Army Corp of Engineers that have identified numerous sunken barges along the state's major rivers. A National Register listed archaeological district is situated along the Coal, Big Coal, and Little Coal Rivers. The district is comprised of a series of nine locks and dams that were built between 1855 and 1859, two log booms comprised of 25 timber-crib piers, and a lockkeeper's house. The dams were constructed out of stone-filled timber cribs resting on wooden piles and/or bedrock, whereas the locks were constructed of timber cribs. A later constructed grist mill dam is situated at the former location of the navigational dam at Upper Falls (Lock #3) along the Coal River.

**Historic Buildings, Structures, and Sites** – *taken from Historic West Virginia: The National Register of Historic Places. WV SHPO, Charleston, WV, 2018.*

***African American Resources***

African Americans have played an important role in West Virginia's history. Prior to West Virginia's statehood, African Americans contributed to the success of western Virginian farms and plantations as slave labor, but more important, their story includes emancipation, segregation and the civil rights response.

Early plantation farms such as Altona Farm in Jefferson County relied on an African American workforce. Two white clapboard over log buildings were used as slave quarters.

The history of segregation in West Virginia is represented by schools throughout the state. Jefferson County's Halltown Colored Free School was built in 1870 to educate the community's African American children; it functioned as a school until 1929. Located next to the Halltown Union Colored Sunday School, the building became a private residence after it closed its doors as a school. Dunbar School in Marion County was built in 1928 as a part of the city's initiative to create new school buildings. Dunbar's student body quickly diminished after the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, and by 1956, the students and faculty from the Dunbar School had been integrated into other local schools.

Segregation's legacy can also be seen at Douglass Junior and Senior High School in Cabell County. Built in 1924 for the city's African American population, it is a three-story red brick and terra cotta building. The school produced notable alumni Hal Greer and Carter G. Woodson. Its official capacity as a school ended in 1981, and the building is now a community center.

The story of African American civil rights is also found in Harpers Ferry. At Storer College, Harpers Ferry delegates convened for the second meeting of the Niagara Movement in 1906 walking out to John Brown's Fort then located on Murphy's Farm outside of town.

By the mid-twentieth century, individuals such as Elizabeth Harden Gilmore in Charleston and Memphis Tennessee Garrison in Huntington were vocal advocates of the civil rights movement. Gilmore's Girl Scout troop was the first African American troop to be admitted to Camp Anne Bailey and she led the first sit-in at the Diamond Department Store in Charleston to open the lunch counter to African Americans. Raised in Gary, McDowell County, Garrison successfully established the first southern West Virginia National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) chapter in Gary. After moving to Huntington, she organized the Freedom Fund Dinner in 1958, a fundraiser for the NAACP. She advocated for the desegregation of Cabell County schools and assisted in other civil rights efforts such as President Johnson's National Citizens Committee on Community Relations in 1964.

## ***Bridges***

From our earliest bridges to our most recent, West Virginians have demonstrated ingenuity and innovation to span our mountains and rivers. Although portions of western Virginia were easily accessible, the lack of transportation facilities through the region was problematic due to the terrain. Bridges solved many of the challenges posed by the topography. Stone arch bridges were among the earliest constructed, including the Elm Grove Stone Arch Bridge for the National Road in Wheeling and the Van Metre Stone Arch Bridge in Berkeley County. The state also features two suspension bridges: the Wheeling Suspension Bridge in Ohio County and the Duck Run Cable Suspension Bridge in Gilmer County.

The Philippi Covered Bridge in Barbour County may be the most recognized of West Virginia's covered bridges, sixteen others are listed in the National Register. Staats Mill Covered Bridge in Jackson County, built in 1887, was originally located adjacent to the Staats Family mill and store. Spanning nearly 100 feet, the bridge was moved in 1983 to nearby Cedar Lakes Conference Center for use as a pedestrian bridge.

The variety of truss systems developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century have also facilitated travel through the state. These bridges vary in size, design, and materials, but each has contributed to the state's transportation history.

The South Branch Bridge, known as the Capon Lake Whipple Truss Bridge, in Hampshire County, is an early example of metal bridge truss technology of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Built in 1874 on U.S. Route 50, it is the state's oldest example of the metal truss design. The design allowed for bridges to be constructed faster than stone bridges, span longer distances than had been previously possible, and made bridges more durable than the wooden designs that pre-dated them. Metal truss bridges were advertised as moveable structures that could be disassembled and relocated elsewhere; the Capon Truss Bridge took advantage of this innovation and was moved to the Cacapon River in 1938.

Opened in 1955, the Winfield Toll Bridge in Putnam County was the first connection between the towns of Winfield and Red House. Prior to its construction, the only way to cross the Kanawha River between Nitro and Point Pleasant was by ferry. The new bridge allowed Winfield to become more accessible, as well as economically important. The bridge is an excellent local example of the cantilever truss design, which allowed bridges to span a greater distance. In West Virginia, there are only seven extant cantilever truss bridges including the Winfield Toll.

The New River Gorge Bridge signaled the beginning of a new era for southern West Virginia. The Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 identified the need for an interstate highway system including six in West Virginia. As part of this system, Corridor L was begun and the bridge to cross the New River Gorge became its hallmark. Completed in 1977, this steel arch bridge was the longest of its type until 2003. It used COR-TEN B steel which oxidizes and weathers to form its own protective coating. Today, the bridge hosts the annual Bridge Day event and represented our state on the commemorative quarter in 2005.

### ***Cemetery Resources***

As collective burial places, cemeteries are the focus of many individual expressions commemorating family members and spiritual beliefs. In and of itself, this characteristic does not qualify a burial place for listing in the National Register. For a cemetery to be listed, it must meet one of the four main criteria, as well as Criterion Consideration D. In many cases, cemeteries are listed for their architectural elements, funerary art, design, and commemoration, or because they house the graves of persons of transcendent importance. Below are four examples of cemeteries that have been listed in the National Register, as well as an explanation of their significance.

Mount Woods Cemetery in Ohio County dates to the late 1700s, as many of Wheeling’s founding families began burying their loved ones in a designated area. The Woods Family was the first to use the cemetery; however, the cemetery expanded with several local families using the burial ground. The cemetery has a vast collection of Victorian and Classical gravestones, as well as hand-carved markers. More active as a Jewish cemetery in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Art Deco monuments occupy a prominent space on the grounds.

Spencer Cemetery in Marshall County is a local, distinctive example of a family cemetery gravesite monument. The Spencer grave marker, built in 1914, is in a small family cemetery, located on the family farm, rather than in an organized cemetery. The marker is in the shape of two tree trunks with entwined branches, sometimes called “treestones.” These markers, popular during the Victorian period (1860-1900), celebrated nature.

The Woodlawn Cemetery in Marion County was listed in the National Register in 2004 as a historic district. Over time, the cemetery has evolved from an informal, family burial plot to a planned, high-style cemetery featuring design hallmarks such as a curvilinear street plan, sweeping vistas, ornate entrance gates, and Neo-Classical and Art Deco monuments and mausoleum. Not only is Woodlawn significant for its art, architecture, and design, but it is also the final resting place for Francis H. Pierpont, “The Father of West Virginia,” and his wife, Julia. According to many historians, Julia Pierpont decorated the graves of Civil War veterans – regardless of their allegiance – giving rise to “Decoration Day,” now known as Memorial Day.

Lastly, the Confederate Cemetery in Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, is uniquely configured. The cemetery is a three-foot high mound in the shape of a cross serving as a mass burial site. One of the only Confederate cemeteries in the state, it serves as a physical reminder of the Battle of Lewisburg.

### ***Civil War Resources***

No other event has shaped the nation’s history like the American Civil War. Raging on for four years (1861-1865), and costing 700,000 lives, the war secured the nation’s future, but it also redefined the nation’s identity. West Virginia’s connection to the Civil War is undeniably strong, as the war was the impetus for the state’s creation. Reminders and remnants of the war between the North and South can be found all over the Mountain State.

The Fort Mill Ridge Civil War Trenches, located in Hampshire County, were built by Confederate troops between 1861 and 1862. The nearby town of Romney was coveted because of its proximity



to two major transportation hubs – the Northwestern Turnpike (present-day US Route 50) and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Hoping to control crucial supply lines, Union and Confederate troops exchanged control of Romney 56 times throughout the war. Realizing the criticality of defensive measures, Confederate troops began building earthen work fortifications for a much-needed advantage in the western Virginia mountains.

Fort Marrow in Randolph County is part of a larger fortification complex, which includes earthen works, tent sites, and the other defensive systems. The fort was constructed by the Union Army in the late summer of 1861 to protect the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as part of the larger Camp Elkwater complex. Overlooking the Tygart River Valley, the fort is a seven-sided earthen redoubt, an enclosed earthwork designed to repel attacks from all sides. It played a pivotal role in the defeat of Robert E. Lee’s army during the Battle of Cheat Mountain. At its peak, the camp was occupied by more than 4,000 soldiers from Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, including future United States Presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley.

The summit of Allegheny Mountain provided the Confederates with a strategic location to guard the Staunton to Parkersburg Turnpike and monitor Union troops camped on Cheat Mountain. On December 13, 1861, Federal forces staged a two-prong attack which was held off by the Confederates who remained at the camp through the winter until joining Stonewall Jackson’s Shenandoah Valley Campaign.

No discussion of the Civil War in West Virginia would be complete without mention of West Virginia Independence Hall in Wheeling. Completed in 1859 under the supervision of architect Ammi B. Young, its original purpose was as a federal custom house. It housed the Wheeling Convention as well as the West Virginia Constitutional Convention which led to eventual statehood for West Virginia in 1863.

### ***Coal Heritage Resources***

Perhaps no industry is identified more with West Virginia than the coal industry. The state lies on some of the most plentiful stores of coal in the United States, which drew the attention of many industrialists in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A vast network of coal mining operations migrated into West Virginia, giving birth to the state’s most prominent export. With coal companies moving into the region, “company” homes, stores, and complexes were built throughout the state, leaving an indelible mark on the state’s population, landscape, and identity. Recognizing the crucial contribution that coal has made to the state’s history and economy, many coal mining facilities and towns are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Located on the north side of the New River Gorge, the Nuttallburg Mine Complex was opened in 1873 by John Nuttall, a Pennsylvania industrialist. The mine was eventually leased to famed automaker Henry Ford. While Ford operated the mine, the Headhouse Retarding Conveyor was constructed, which was the longest of its kind. The mine was sold to the Maryland New River Coal Company in the 1920s, and then briefly owned by the Garnet Coal Company, which ceased all operations in 1958. Like many coal company towns throughout the state, the residences have disappeared over time. Today the National Park Service cares for and interprets the remaining structures.

One of the lasting images of coal mining is the company store. Itmann Company Store in Wyoming County was designed by Bluefield-based architect Alex B. Mahood and built between 1923 and 1925. The Classical Revival building is constructed with native sandstone. Company stores, such as Itmann, were in most coal communities in Southern West Virginia, as seen in the multiple property listing of Coal Company Stores in McDowell County.

Constructed in 1917, the New River Company General Office Building is a two-story, U-shaped, commercial-style building. As the company's operations were scattered among many different offices throughout the area, construction of the new building consolidated the company into one central office. During World War II, the New River Company actively participated in the Victory Garden Movement, contributing 8,000,000 tons of food to the national food supply.

The original Bramwell Historic District and the Additions Historic District in Mercer County includes 178 buildings and nine structures, most of which pre-date the 1920s. Designed as a coal company town, Bramwell was home to many of the elite coal mine operators, and the houses in the downtown reflect their wealth and status. However, Bramwell was also the home of miners and their families. The far side of the Bluestone River was tied to the coal camp, Freeman, an African American community prior to the buyout by the Flat Top Coal Land Association. These homes are relatively simple with common company home designs.

### ***Downtowns***

Downtown commercial districts often shape and define local history. They provide us with memories of watching holiday parades, visiting Santa Claus in the local department store, dates at the movie theatres, and lunch at family-owned restaurants. Local businesses and offices were found on the main street of each community across West Virginia. Today, many downtowns are being invigorated with new locally owned small businesses and activities that celebrate regional culture. They continue to play a critical role in a community's livelihood.

The Union Historic District in Monroe County includes 174 buildings and was a vital component to the area's growth. The district is linked to the major turnpikes and roadways of the time, as well as being an epicenter for trade because of its proximity to the surrounding farms. Its vernacular architecture can be seen in houses dating from 1783 through the 1940s. Prominent buildings within the district include the Monroe County Courthouse, Union High School, and Monroe Department Store.

Clarksburg Downtown Historic District, located in Harrison County, is comprised of 199 buildings and features a wide range of architectural styles, such as Renaissance Revival and Italianate. With an area that covers sixteen city blocks, the district is one of the most well-preserved downtowns in the state. The city's infrastructure and commercial potency allowed it to weather the Great Depression much better than other West Virginia towns. With the route of the interstate system going right through Clarksburg, it continues to be one of the largest and most important cities in the state.

Cabell County’s Downtown Huntington Historic District is centrally located in the city. Covering six city blocks, the district features more than 112 buildings, many of which are Huntington landmarks. In 2007, the district’s boundaries were increased, encompassing more of the commercial, municipal, and government buildings which grew out of the town’s railroad roots. Within the district are Huntington’s most recognizable buildings, such as the County Courthouse, Keith Albee Theater, the Carnegie Public Library, and the Campbell-Hicks House. Architectural styles in the district range from Gothic Revival to Art Deco, symbolizing the district’s long and important history to the town.

The Downtown Martinsburg Historic District in Berkley County is the largest and most comprehensive district in Martinsburg. Like many downtowns, the district is within the heart of the city, encompassing most of the government, commercial, and industrial buildings. There are structures within its boundaries that pre-date the Civil War, as well as a variety of architectural styles, such as Romanesque Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Neo-Classical Revival, French Second Empire, and Queen Anne. With buildings representing more than two hundred years of history, the Downtown Martinsburg Historic District gives the best representation of Martinsburg’s commercial and cultural history.

### ***Ethnic Heritage Resources***

West Virginia’s success owes a great deal to the variety of ethnic groups who call the state home. The state saw an influx of immigrants throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century from all over Europe to farm and to work in extractive industries such as timber and coal. These ethnic groups brought their distinct cultural traditions to the region.

The Pitsenbarger Farm, located in Pendleton County, is a 130-acre property that was owned by three successive families of German descent. German settlers relied on one another in the area, and as such, many of the German traditions and customs were kept alive. Insisting on using “Old World” building techniques and tools, the Pitsenbargers built their homes with wooden hinges, and continued to use horse-drawn sleds rather than tractors. Neighbors from the surrounding town would often congregate on the Pitsenbarger Farm for musical gatherings, accompanied by traditional foods. The Farm was given the nickname “Loafer’s Glory” because of the accommodating nature of its owners.

The northern region of our state has a deep Italian heritage, which can be seen in the Glen Elk Historic District in Clarksburg. Comprised of 131 resources, the district saw prominence in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as a railroad hub, bringing a variety of shops, hotels, and businesses to the area. As coal mining began to grow in the county, many Italian immigrants settled in or around Clarksburg, bringing with them their customs, language, culture, and skilled labor. Working in many marble and glass manufacturing plants, Italian heritage and craftsmanship can be seen throughout the district.

German and Swiss settlers arrived in 1868 and formed a small community in Helvetia, Randolph County. By 1871, there were 32 settlers living in buildings constructed of hewn logs. The Community Hall, Star Band Hall as well as a Log Cabin Museum attract visitors annually for traditional events and celebrations.

### ***Farms and Barns***

Many family farms in West Virginia are tributes to the state's agrarian culture. Families raised their own livestock, grew their own produce, and lived as self-sufficiently as possible. As the West Virginia landscape became dominated by farming homesteads, barns were built to house animals and store supplies. Some of these early barns not only remain standing, but they remain in use today. And, many family farms owned by descendants of early settlers remain active today.

At the Ripon Lodge Farm in Jefferson County, an open-foray barn was built in 1833 with hand-hewn logs and pegged joints. The barn is a subtype of the standard Pennsylvania bank barn and continues to house hay and its original granaries and livestock shelters.

Measuring 22' x 22', the Faber Barn in Jackson County is an excellent example of a side-gabled barn. Built around 1859, it is a rare surviving example of the double-crib log barn design. The Faber Family has owned the farm on which the barn sits since 1843, and the barn has been in continuous use since its construction. Constructed with a common roof, two cribs face a central passageway, a design that gave rise to the dog-trot house.

While some barns are listed individually in the National Register, most are recognized as contributing resources associated with the entire farm property. On the Altona Farm property in Jefferson County there is a 198-foot-long bank barn. Sitting on a locally sourced limestone foundation and covered in weatherboard, the barn has had an addition, but the original brick gable can be seen in the barn's interior.

Another bank barn can be found at Fort Hill Farm, a historic Federal-style plantation house located in Mineral County. Built in 1873, the L-shaped barn is clad in red clapboard with brick on its lower level. This barn and a later barn from the 1950s support the farming begun more than a century ago by the Hannah family and continued today by descendants.

On the Edgefield property in Greenbrier County, a 60' x 80' barn was constructed in 1911, with a milking section added to the structure in 1957. According to the National Register nomination, the cows were brought into the barn on an elevated concrete deck, which let the farm operators milk the cows without bending over. This innovation was the idea of Floy Whiting Whorrell, the widowed farm owner and local dairy farming pioneer.

Though barns were plentiful in West Virginia during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, their existence today is rare, as many have been replaced by modern barns. However, those that remain remind West Virginians of the state's agricultural roots.

### ***Herstory (Women's Resources)***

Women have played a significant role in West Virginia's story. National Register nominations which focus on women are often listed for association with a specific woman and her contribution to her community according to Criterion B. These historic resources are also listed for contributions to specific patterns or events in our history.

Several nominations in West Virginia relate to individuals. Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton is likely the most famous as the location of the first Mother's Day service on May 8, 1907. The Anna Jarvis family home is also listed. The Elizabeth Harden Gilmore House in Charleston is recognized for Ms. Gilmore's efforts in the Civil Rights movement. Similarly, the Memphis Tennessee Garrison House in Huntington is associated with Ms. Garrison, a teacher and civil rights advocate first in Gary, McDowell County, then in Huntington as well as across the country as a national board member of the NAACP.

Collectively, women have also contributed through civic organizations such as woman's clubs or the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA.) The women's clubs of Fairmont, Charleston, Parkersburg and St. Albans are listed in the National Register. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) focused on providing education to and improving the health condition of women at its Community Building in Morgantown. The WCTU provided English classes for immigrants and encouraged the prohibition of alcohol during the 1920s.

The Women's Chapter of the American Association of University Women advocated for the construction of a physical education building at West Virginia University so that women could meet the two-year physical education requirement. The building was named after Elizabeth Moore, principal of the Woodburn Female Seminary from 1865-1866 and vocal advocate of women's education. Ms. Moore pursued these interests as a founder and president of the WCTU.

West Virginia Wesleyan's campus in Buckhannon also saw the construction of a dormitory for women. Agnes Howard Hall was built in memory of a young female student who died during her attendance at the college. Constructed in 1895 with an addition in 1929, "Aggie" housed 77 bedrooms in its early history.

Women have been successful in agriculture. The Sloan Sisters administered Fort Hill Farm in Mineral County in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. After the death of their father James Sloan, Jr, Jane Pierce, Magdalene Arnold and Helen Mary oversaw the farm with their grandfather and continued to do so after his death employing cousins to assist in running the farm. Known for its Aberdeen Angus cattle since 1882, the current herd descends from stock purchased in 1927.

George W. Whiting purchased approximately 97 acres in 1897 outside Falling Spring in Greenbrier County. While he expanded, and improved the farm, his daughter, Floy Whiting Whorrell, developed the property into a successful dairy farm as a widow during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Floy managed Edgefield, the family farm, introducing farm improvements including surge milkers and elevated milking stations.

### ***Industrial Resources***

By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, while timber and coal remained vital components to the state's economy, other businesses began to emerge.

The Chrystal Water and Power Company, also known as the Spencer Water and Ice Company, in Roane County, is locally significant for its contributions to the town of Spencer, as the first utility

plant to bring water and power to the area. Founded in 1903, the company's goal of bringing these utilities to the area led to an increase in real estate value and several new neighborhoods developed as a result. Spencer's expansion and success were directly tied to the Chrystal Water and Power Company, which remained the region's only utility plant until 1935, when it merged with Monongahela West Penn Public Service Company.

Another example of a property listed in the National Register for its contributions to the state's industry may be a surprising one: Organ Cave in Greenbrier County. The cave remains one of the country's best-preserved industrial sites from the early-to-mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Hopper Room in the cave represents a 19<sup>th</sup> century saltpeter facility. The room, constructed by Confederate soldiers during the Civil War, was the perfect arid, stable climate to produce the saltpeter needed for gunpowder manufacturing. Wooden vats, called hoppers, were constructed to hold saltpeter rich cave soil during the saltpeter refinement process. Of those original 52 hoppers, 37 remain in very good condition. The lime and potash harvested within a "groundhog" kiln at the cave was used in farming as an insecticide, as well as in treatment of animal hides and in ceramic and brick production.

The town of Cass in Pocahontas County represents West Virginia's timbering industry. Founded in 1901 and named for Joseph Kerr Cass, vice president and co-founder of West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, the town arose as a company town for the nearby logging operation at Cheat Mountain. The railroad used to transport the logs is now a popular tourist attraction that carries visitors into the Monongahela National Forest. Steam-powered Shay Engines continue to pull the rail cars to the top of Bald Knob.

Outside downtown Martinsburg, the Continental Clay Brick Plant was constructed in 1917. This complex of beehive kilns represents a late example of the 19<sup>th</sup> century brick industry. Originally fired by coal, the kilns were later converted to gas before the beehive method was replaced by the modern continuous production line.

### *Mills*

Because of the Mountain State's deep ties to the agricultural industry, mills were often the center of rural communities. Many extant mills are listed in the National Register for their contributions to West Virginia's economy and for their engineering and design.

Yellow Spring Mill in Hampshire County played an integral role in the town's grain and corn processing. Owned first by Abraham Secrist, the mill was sold to Asa Cline in 1882. In 1888, it burned and was rebuilt by Cline and his son-in-law according to the "Hungarian plan" using rollers to mill flour. With the mill's success, a general store was built adjacent to the property which also served as the local post office. Destroyed again by a fire in 1895, it was rebuilt by 1899. Originally water powered, it was converted to gas power in 1940 and then to electric in 1951. Commercial mills and increased competition caused the Yellow Spring Mill to close in 1990, but the property has been preserved and is an excellent example of a local mill operation.

French's Mill, also in Hampshire County, significantly influenced the milling industry in the town of Augusta. Rebuilt in 1911, after a devastating fire, the mill was part of a robust catalog of mills

in the county. The townspeople and local farmers banded together to create the Augusta Milling Company. Unlike the Yellow Spring Mill, French's Mill used a burr stone to grind grain, rather than the roller method, which had become popular in the region. Whereas other mills usually relied on hydropower, the Augusta Milling Company was powered by a wood-burning steam boiler, then by automobile battery, and lastly electricity.

Elkins Milling Company in Randolph County was listed in the National Register for its contributions to the local industry, architecture, and for its connections to local businessman Ralph Darden. Known in the area as "Darden's Mill," the mill was built in 1902 and served central West Virginia farmers, shipping finished products across the state. Ralph Darden, the founding officer of Elkins Milling Company, was one of the town's leading employers, while investing in other grain and milling businesses. The mill's post and beam/timber frame construction is one of the few industrial buildings of its kind in the state.

From the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, until it ceased operations in 1966, Boggs Mill met the needs of Pendleton County residents who brought their grain to the mill to be ground into flour or animal feed. As was the case in many early milling operations, Boggs Mill was powered by water, and remains one of the few early examples of a "water mill" in the area. While in operation, the mill served as a grain mill, a retail store, and a common place for the community to gather. Like many mills in the state, increased competition and advances in milling techniques caused Boggs Mill to cease operation after 136 years of operation.

### *New Deal Resources*

In 1933, the Civil Conservation Corps (CCC) and other Federal programs were formed under President Franklin D. Roosevelt to alleviate unemployment while developing long-term natural resources and recreational opportunities for the American public. Hundreds of young men employed by New Deal relief programs were put to work in West Virginia's parks and forest. Most worked for the CCC while the Works Progress Administration (WPA) also provided job opportunities.

The CCC assisted in the construction of buildings and structures in the state parks. Under the supervision of the National Park Service, an approach to simple rustic architecture was developed. The style of the buildings was harmonious with the natural setting. Guidebooks for construction of resources included overnight facilities, administrative and service buildings, fireplaces and brick and stone work. The Multiple Property Documentation Form for New Deal Resources in West Virginia's State Parks and Forests identified sixteen parks and forests that represent this mid-20<sup>th</sup> century program. Portions of Hawk's Nest, Lost River, Watoga and Holly River State Parks are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Work is underway to list New Deal resources at the Cacapon Resort State Park, Greenbrier Forest, Kumbrabow State Forest, Babcock State Park, and Seneca State Forest.

Other camps and complexes were established or expanded due to the involvement of federal relief programs. Camp Caesar in Webster County benefited from the construction of a swimming pool using Reconstruction Finance Corporation labor in 1933. Water and sewage systems were installed for the camp. WPA projects included the construction of two stone cottages and one two-

story log house. A National Youth Administration Resident Center was established by 1941 to assist in projects at the camp.

Camp Washington Carver was established in Fayette County as a 4-H Camp for African Americans. It was constructed by local manpower of the WPA from timber, stone and other materials acquired and produced exclusively at the building site. The Assembly and Dining Hall were constructed of native chestnut timber. The work required the skilled labor of three stonemasons and seven carpenters. It was completed by the spring of 1942.

The Homestead program aided those most impacted by the Great Depression. Championed by Eleanor Roosevelt, Arthurdale in Preston County and the Tygart Valley in Randolph County were established to provide a new start for unemployed miners and their families. (The third community, Eleanor in Putnam County, is not listed.) Families in the distressed community of Scotts Run in Monongalia County moved to Arthurdale. In the Tygart Valley, three neighborhoods made up the resettlement community: Valley Bend, East Daily and Daily. Homes in Tygart Valley followed two basic forms: a barn house or an A-frame. Community buildings were also established.

The programs of the New Deal were established throughout West Virginia in its parks, camps and communities. These resources reflect an important part of our mid-20<sup>th</sup> history.

### ***Railroad Resources***

The development of West Virginia is tied directly to railroads. Battles during the Civil War were fought to control essential railways traveling through the state. The coal and timber industries relied on rail to move their products to consumer markets around the country. Recognizing this significant impact, several railroad-related properties in West Virginia are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Located in Ritchie County, the Pennsboro B&O Railroad Depot served as a hub for commerce and communication. Many Ritchie County histories state that the town of Pennsboro began with the arrival of the railroad in 1858. As the Parkersburg Branch of the B&O Railroad relied on the Pennsboro station, Ritchie County saw an economic boom, as produce, livestock, U.S. mail, and passenger traffic traveled through the area. By 1911, Pennsboro had become the largest town in the county and a center for most of the early business enterprises. Like many railroad towns, the advent of the highway system led to the decline of Pennsboro, but its rich heritage and contributions to the commerce of Ritchie County are a vital component of that area's history.

Another B&O Railroad Depot, the Duffields Depot in Jefferson County, was built in 1839. During the Civil War, the depot served as a supply station for Union forces between Harpers Ferry and Martinsburg. The Depot was no longer used after 1884, replaced by a station nearby.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Martinsburg Shops in Berkley County was listed as a National Historic Landmark in 2003, for their engineering and industrial architecture designed by Albert Fink, as well as their role in the Great Railroad Strike of 1877. In support of a strike in Baltimore to fight against low wages for industrial workers, employees at the Martinsburg complex went on



strike, leading to a conflict in which Governor Henry Matthews sent in the state militia, who refused to fire on the strikers. Soon Governor Matthews asked President Rutherford B. Hayes to send in federal troops to break-up the strike and restore train service. One railroad striker was killed during the ensuing skirmish.

The National Register also recognizes structures as well as buildings; therefore, railroad stock can be listed. The Chesapeake and Ohio 2755 Steam Locomotive in Logan County pulled countless tons of coal on the C&O Railroad throughout the late 1940s and 1950s. The locomotive is also significant because of its engineering, symbolizing the final generation of American steam engines that were eventually replaced by their diesel successors. Another locomotive, the Shay Engine at Cass in Pocahontas County, is the oldest of its kind still in use. Brought to West Virginia 1905 as a part of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company's operation, Locomotive No. 5 still runs on its original tracks, carrying visitors and tourists.

### *Religious Sites*

In order for a religious property to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it must derive its significance from its architectural, artistic, or historical importance. Because of West Virginia's rural landscape, churches often serve as community meeting places as well as houses of worship.

The Bethel Presbyterian Church, built in 1904, is found in rural Wood County. The Late Gothic Revival style church is adorned with pointed arches, steeply pitched roofs, and crenellation, resembling the medieval churches of Europe. All but two of the rural churches in Wood County are simple, front gable buildings, with a steeple located on the front of the church. Bethel's churchyard cemetery is only one of nine church cemeteries in rural Wood County, and still allows for new interments today.

Hebron Church in Hampshire County is a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Lutheran church in the Cacapon River Valley. Built in a Vernacular Greek Revival style in 1849, the church replaced the original log structure that first housed in the congregation in the late 1700s. The church continues to be used by the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Lewisburg's Old Stone Church, erected in 1796, is the oldest church in continuous use west of the Allegheny Mountains in the region. Rectangular in shape and built with native limestone, the church is two stories tall and its architecture is common to Virginia during that time.

Wyco Church in Wyoming County, built in 1917, is a rectangular frame building with a front-gable roof and lancet windows designed in Late Gothic Revival style. The church was constructed by coal baron Major W.T. Tam's carpenters for the families of coal miners in the Wyco coal town community.

Ohev Sholom Temple was designed by Charleston architectural firm Meanor and Handloser and built in 1925-26 for Congregation Ohev Shalom which was founded in 1887 by Samuel Gideon and Emanuel Biern. In 1891, the congregation adopted the Reform Jewish ritual. The temple is now home to B'Nai Sholom Congregation which includes the original congregation and B'Nai

Israel, an Orthodox synagogue, founded in 1910. The building has an eclectic architectural design with Romanesque Revival elements, such as the rounded arch entrances, but also features the Byzantine-style of centralized, vertical extensions and a terra cotta squared dome. The Blenko Glass Company provided 16 stained glass windows to the temple. The temple continues to serve the Jewish community of Huntington.

### ***Residential Districts***

The National Register recognizes not only individual historic resources, but also districts of individual historic resources when linked together by common history, visual character, function or another characteristic. According to the National Register guidelines, the identity of a district results from the interrelationship of its resources, which convey a visual sense of the overall historic environment or be an arrangement of historically or functionally related properties. The two most common districts are found in commercial areas and residential neighborhoods. This section focuses on residential areas.

The Buckhannon Central Residential Historic District in Upshur County encompasses over 350 buildings. The district is associated with local architect Draper Camden Hughes, who developed more accessible, simpler designs of high-style architecture. The architectural styles range from Greek Revival to Colonial Revival to Craftsman, all of which were popular in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Flanking the West Virginia State Capitol and to the north of the Kanawha River, the East End Historic District in Kanawha County also achieved its primary significance during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. As urbanization and industrialization caused West Virginians to move into cities, the East End expanded dramatically. Many architectural styles, such as Greek Revival, Victorian, Richardsonian Romanesque, and Neo-Classical, can be seen within the district's boundaries. Works by prominent local architects such as Fred Crowther, H. Rus Warne, and Walter F. Martens contributed to the East End, and revitalization projects continue to draw residents to this historic neighborhood.

Doddridge County's West Union Residential Historic District contains homes dating from the 1850s to the early 1940s, demonstrating the use of popular architectural styles from the time period, such as Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman. As was the case with most of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century residential districts, the shift from an agricultural-driven economy to the industrial economy led to the area's rise. After U.S. Route 50 replaced the Northwestern Turnpike, bypassing West Union, the town's industrial significance declined. Even so, the West Union Residential District's excellent integrity gives a glimpse into its history.

### ***Schools***

Because of West Virginia's terrain, many of the early schools in the state were simple, whitewashed frame buildings, usually attended by those who could walk to them. The rural schoolhouses often housed all the grades together, sometimes in just one room, like the Windy Run Grade School in Braxton County. As West Virginia's cities and communities grew, the one room schools were replaced by elementary, junior and senior high schools.

Built in 1889, Windy Run Grade School only measures 24 feet wide by 28 feet deep. Ending its function as a school in 1963, it is a typical example of what rural schools looked like for the time period. There are some examples, however, of schools being built in a high style in rural communities. The Whitesville School in Boone County is an example of this transition.

The Whitesville School is located in Sherman and was built in 1931. Prior to the construction of the current school building, Whitesville students attended school in a small wood-frame building, which was destroyed in a fire in 1929. When new plans for the school were being proposed, the school district had only one major request: that the new building needed to be up to the current safety standards in every detail, including fireproofing. The building is an excellent local example of the Art Deco style, featuring vertical bands of windows, entrance “towers,” and low-relief deco-style brickwork.

The 1990s Coal Heritage Survey documented 76 schools in Boone County. Within the county, the Whitesville School’s Art Deco architecture stood-out among the rural schools, most of which were completed in a simple, vernacular style. While other schools exemplified the traditionally academic Neoclassical or Collegiate Gothic high style, the Art Deco Whitesville School conveyed a modern, streamlined design.

Many communities continue to support their local schools. Parkersburg High School has been at its current location for 100 years; it hosts an annual Football Ice Cream Social, parades, concerts and of course, alumni reunions. Schools such as First Ward in Elkins and Clendenin Middle have been converted to provide apartment housing for their communities. Garnet High School in Charleston is a career center for adult education.

## **CONCLUSION**

West Virginia contains a wide array of historic resources. However, they are not fully safe from threat. Financial resources, good community planning as well as personal and public commitment are key ingredients needed to maintain and protect our historic resources. While many understand the value of our historic resources, preserving our resources does not come without effort and energy. Sharing the stories of these resources and demonstrating the value of investment in them will bring success.

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Editor's Note: National Register nominations were consulted during the writing of this plan. In addition, the National Park Service website was a resource for information regarding parks, programs and other activities. Unless noted, photos are courtesy of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and its staff.

## **Accomplishments since the 2014 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan**

Since the release of *The Past (Still) Matters* in 2014, much work and effort has been done across the state relating to historic preservation. From national heritage areas, statewide groups, regional organizations; to the dozens of HLC/CLGs (Historic Landmark Commissions/Certified Local Governments) and planning commissions; and to local heritage and historical societies to individual property owners and interested individuals, historic preservation activities large and small took up the spirit of the goals and objectives from the 2014 plan. This was clearly shown in the comments at the meetings and in the returned surveys that form the basis for this plan. The enthusiasm and dedication from countless individuals towards preserving historic resources show that the past five years have been well spent. The following is an overview of significant accomplishments of West Virginia's historic preservation partners.

### **Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area**

(AFNHA) consists of 16 West Virginia and 2 Maryland counties. AFNHA explores forest heritage through conservation, forestry, cultural heritage, asset-based tourism, and community development.

AFNHA AmeriCorps program consists of 40 members deployed across its WV service area. These members provide support for heritage tourism, conservation, and historic preservation programs and activities. Each year AFNHA selects 2-4 of its AmeriCorps members to be part of its Hands-On team. These members spend their year of service providing hands on historic preservation support on behalf of non-profits and governmental entities across the state.

Since 2015 the Hands-On team has rehabilitated hundreds of windows on over a dozen historic structures. Other activities include rehabilitation projects in such places as Arthurdale, Bartow, Beverly, Philippi, and Elkins. These projects consisted of masonry repair, rehabilitation of porches and soffits, plaster repair, painting, grounds work, and interior demolition and rehabilitation to original configurations.

### **Educational Activities:**

Dozens of cities, towns, and local areas conduct historic walking or driving tours that highlight the architecture and history of the area. Historic homes, districts and societies have many successful programs that highlight history and historic preservation topics. State parks and forests have programming that focuses on history themes along with the WV tourism board that promotes heritage tourism. WV SHPO is part of the Department of Arts, Culture and History which also contains the WV Museum and the WV Archives and History section, both of which promote and seeks to preserve West Virginia history across the state.

The WV SHPO conducts many types of educational activities and outreach. One of the largest outreach efforts by the SHPO are its yearly calendars. Each year a theme is chosen, text is developed along with pictures of National Register properties that are appropriate for the theme and text. During the past five years the following calendars have been distributed to 10,000 or more people each year – 2014 “Historic Recreation”, 2015 “Celebrating our Freedom” (African American and other ethnic resources), 2016 “Celebrating 50 years of the National Historic Preservation Act”, 2017 “Celebrating West Virginia Historic Districts”, 2018 “The Poetry of



Historic Places” and 2019 “Literature of Historic Places”. SHPO Staff travel throughout the state conducting training sessions for various HLC/CLG’s, state agencies, and other groups such as realtors and contractors. Trainings were held on basic CLG commissioners training, Section 106 training, Disaster Preparedness workshops, Grant and tax credit training, Realtor trainings for how to market and sell historic properties, First Aid, basic “Get to know the WV SHPO” sessions, and LEED.

### **Friends of Wheeling and Wheeling Heritage**

Wheeling is fortunate to have two active groups that support historic preservation projects. The Friends of Wheeling was founded in 1970 by local citizens who believed in the preservation of Wheeling’s architectural and cultural heritage. Wheeling National Heritage Area was designated by Congress in 1994 and highlights Wheeling as an early industrial hub along the Ohio River. As a National Heritage Area, the organization sought to preserve and conserve the historic and natural resources of the area as well as finding ways to share the stories of Wheeling’s past. In 2016 Reinvent Wheeling, the city’s Main Street program, merged with the organization and the combined entity became known as Wheeling Heritage.

Both the Friends of Wheeling and Wheeling Heritage do historic preservation projects throughout Ohio County singularly and jointly. Yearly the groups host a Preservation Dinner and Awards Program where local places and individuals are honored for their preservation work. Additionally, the groups have combined to host preservation workshops on preservation techniques for various projects to maintain and preserve elements of a property.

Separately, since 2014, Wheeling Heritage has assisted in the restoration of three properties and one monument. Other projects have been the stabilization of the Wheeling Island Flood Wall, two historic district surveys, the Mt. Wood Cemetery Restoration, several different walking tours of historic districts, workshops on various topics of interest for historical preservationists, and technical preservation assistance for historic property owners.

Friends of Wheeling has sponsored various walking tours of historic areas and cemeteries. The Friends of Wheeling has also sponsored speakers and has recently created a publishing loan fund to assist authors of books of local interest.

The Friends of Wheeling have begun their own loan program to benefit historic preservation. The Preservation Loan Guarantee Fund provides owners of historic properties collateral for preservation work, up to \$25,000. This collateral allows the owners to receive lower interest rates on their loans from banks. Between 2015 and 2018 the guarantee fund helped 7 owners secure funding for their projects and saved these owners a total of \$26,000 in interest costs. Three additional properties were added to the program in 2018.

These commissions review certificates of appropriateness submitted by property owners. Using the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation, commission members work with owners to protect the character defining features of the contributing buildings in locally designated historic districts.

### **Historic Landmark Commissions and Certified Local Government Program**

Most historic preservation work is accomplished at the local level. There are 54 HLC/CLGs in West Virginia. Using Survey and Planning Grant funds, West Virginia's HLC/CLGs have conducted historic surveys, developed National Register nominations, prepared historic building commission assessments and other predevelopment and education activities. West Virginia currently has ten historic design review commissions with other localities expressing interest in creating a design review process.

### **Preservation Alliance of West Virginia (PAWV)**

West Virginia's statewide, grassroots, nonprofit organization is dedicated to historic preservation in our Mountain State. Their mission is met primarily through specialized outreach programs focused on advancing the historic preservation activities of our public and private partners such as Preserve WV AmeriCorps, an annual West Virginia Historic Preservation Conference, and the West Virginia Endangered Properties Program.

The Preserve WV AmeriCorps program is a statewide service initiative where AmeriCorps members help main streets thrive, capture local history, and preserve beloved historical landmarks. From 2014-2018, approximately 100 Preserve WV AmeriCorps service members were deployed around the state at public agencies and nonprofit organizations to carry out historic preservation, revitalization, heritage tourism, and capacity building service activities at their local sites. During this same period, AmeriCorps members engaged over 2,000 local volunteers at their project sites.

PAWV also partnered with local historic landmarks commissions and certified local governments to organize three historic preservation conferences at different locations around the state: Huntington (2014), Beverly (2016), and Parkersburg (2018). Approximately 400 people attended the three events collectively where they participated in the annual historic preservation awards banquet, attended educational sessions, and learned hands-on preservation techniques.

PAWV began building a historic preservation loan program during this time. Funding provided by the 1772 Foundation helped PAWV to understand the funding needs for private and public partners in our state and build a microloan program that is being officially launched in 2019. This funding will be available to West Virginia Endangered Properties, a formally nominated, promoted collection of historic assets that are in danger of being lost. From 2014-2018, PAWV assisted 13 endangered properties and worked with historic preservation experts to provide technical assistance to property stewards.

### **National Coal Heritage Area**

In 1996 thirteen counties in southern West Virginia were designated as the National Coal Heritage Area (NCHA). This designation recognizes the southern West Virginia coalfields as a treasure of national importance and the NCHA is tasked with preserving this part of American history through revitalization projects that stress local partnerships. The National Coal Heritage Area has led efforts to restore the Houston Company Store, the former Patterson-Deering

Building (Mount Hope, now the Coal Heritage Discovery Center), and the White Oak Depot since 2014. Additionally, the NCHA has awarded 12 education and interpretation grants that furthered historic preservation goals, helped develop 5 interpretative signage projects, and helped develop the Historic Mount Hope Walking Tour since the last statewide plan.

### **Tax Credit Increase**

On the state level, one of the most exciting changes to occur was the West Virginia legislature's 2018 increase in the state historic rehabilitation tax credit for commercial income producing properties from 10% to 25%. This amendment was a grass roots effort. Many individuals, along with groups interested in historic preservation called, wrote, emailed and met with their legislators. In securing passage for this change, PAWV advocated for it by contacting many legislators to inform them of the benefits of the tax credit and the possible extra benefits of a larger increase. PAWV also alerted supporters and members of the public about the possible change and encouraged them to contact their representatives. SHPO staff testified before legislative committees about the success of the existing program and possible benefits of the increase. After the change in January 2018, 12 new projects were submitted for review that represented a tax credit request of around \$12.8 million. This equates to over \$50 million in new private investment within West Virginia for 2018. Since 2014, nearly \$28 million of rehabilitation investment had completed the three-step certification process to qualify for the tax credits.

### **WV State Historic Preservation Office**

The WV SHPO continued to identify historic resources throughout the Mountain State through survey activities conducted by the office or administered by local historic landmark commissions through the Survey and Planning Grant program. Reconnaissance surveys were completed for Brooke, Marshall, Wetzel, Jackson, Mason, Wayne, Lincoln, Taylor, Preston, Grant Counties during the last five years. Between 2014 and 2018, the WV SHPO processed 6083 Historic Preservation Fund HPI forms covering 65,015 acres. During this same period 6266 HPI forms came into the office through other means and they covered 263,794 acres. 1181 archaeological forms were processed by the WV SHPO between 2014 and 2018 covering 103,042 acres. Over the past five years, 22 listings were approved by the West Virginia Archives and History Commission and then by the National Park Service. Information about our state's historic resources can be found online at [www.wvculture.org/shpo](http://www.wvculture.org/shpo) and <https://www.mapwv.gov/shpo/>. A brief description of all the nearly 1100 National Register listings can also be found in the 2018 updated publication of *Historic West Virginia: The National Register of Historic Places*.

West Virginia's historic resources also benefited from the SHPO's two state-wide matching grant programs; the WV state development grant and the annual survey and planning grant. 80 projects were awarded development grants since 2014 totaling \$2,054,000. 45 survey and planning grants were awarded in the same period totaling almost \$409,000.

Similarly, the WV SHPO participated in the Section 106 review process mandated by the National Historic Preservation Act and its regulations 36 CFR 800. Between 2014 and 2018 the WV SHPO review and compliance staff reviewed 8081 projects. During this planning cycle, the

SHPO consulted with various federal and state agencies; most notably with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding 2016 flood recovery efforts. The SHPO and the Federal Highways Administration executed a Programmatic Agreement regarding bridge replacement and road improvement projects. Various proposed natural gas pipelines were also reviewed.

## Appendix A – 2019 WV SHPO Survey Questionnaire

The WV SHPO conducted the survey via paper copies and through Survey Monkey. The link to the survey was publicized in a press release for the state plan process, on the WV SHPO website, and via e-mail blasts.

- 1) **Do these goals still represent the areas where the historic preservation community should focus their attention?** - Y – N
- 2) **Do you believe there should be other goals added to the list? What are they?**
- 3) **Goals that aren't necessary?**
- 4) **What do you think are the biggest threats to archaeological, historic, and cultural resources in West Virginia?**

Growth and urban sprawl  
Demolition, neglect, or abandonment  
Natural disasters/processes  
Vandalism or looting  
Inadequate/lack of local historic preservation laws  
Insufficient federal/state funding  
Inadequate/lack of public historic preservation education  
Lack of interest by public  
Lack of interest by government officials and agencies  
Lack of economic incentives/money  
Misinformation or lack of survey  
Improper rehabilitation or conservation of historic and cultural resources  
Other

- 5) **What do you think are the biggest threats to archaeological, historic, and cultural resources in your community?**

Growth and urban sprawl  
Demolition, neglect, or abandonment  
Natural disasters/processes  
Vandalism or looting  
Inadequate/lack of local historic preservation laws  
Insufficient federal/state funding  
Inadequate/lack of public historic preservation education  
Lack of interest by public  
Lack of interest by government officials and agencies  
Lack of economic incentives/money  
Misinformation or lack of survey  
Improper rehabilitation or conservation of historic and cultural resources  
Other

6) **What resources in your community are most threatened?**

Homes  
Residential Neighborhoods  
Commercial Neighborhoods  
Main Street/downtown  
Public Buildings  
Churches  
Cemeteries  
Schools  
Industrial sites  
Battlefields  
Landscapes/farms  
Parks or urban open spaces  
Archaeological sites  
Other

7) **What resources in your community are most important to protect?**

Homes  
Residential Neighborhoods  
Commercial Neighborhoods  
Main Street/downtown  
Public Buildings  
Churches  
Cemeteries  
Schools  
Industrial sites  
Battlefields  
Landscapes/farms  
Parks or urban open spaces  
Archaeological sites  
Other

8) **Have you used the following SHPO services?**

Section 106 (federal or state activity in your area)  
Archaeology or Architectural Survey  
Historic Landmark Commission  
Residential and Commercial Tax Credits  
Grants – Survey/Planning  
Grants – Development  
Completion of Survey Form  
WV Resource GIS on our website ([www.wvculture.org](http://www.wvculture.org))  
National Register  
Advice for building repairs

9) **Local leaders in my community believe in the benefits of HP.**

Strongly agree  
Agree somewhat  
N/O  
Disagree somewhat  
Strongly disagree

10) **HP local districts are important to guide downtown and neighborhood development.**

Strongly agree  
Agree somewhat  
N/O  
Disagree somewhat  
Strongly disagree

11) **Do you think that current state and local preservation programs effectively protect WV's archaeological, historic, and cultural resources?**

Strongly agree  
Agree somewhat  
N/O  
Disagree somewhat  
Strongly disagree

12) **What tools or activities would be most effective in your community for preserving historic resources over the next five years?**

Additional local designation of  
local landmarks and districts  
Adoption of local historic preservation  
ordinances/create local hp commissions  
Increased public education and info.  
Public funding assistance/grants for  
Heritage tourism  
Archaeology resource surveys  
Covenants, easements, and transferred  
Rehabilitation tax credits  
Historic resource surveys  
Restoration/preservation workshops  
National Register listing  
Publications about historic resources

Review of state/federal projects for  
impact on historic resources  
Technical assistance from the WV SHPO  
Technical assistance from other  
organizations other than WV SHPO  
Other

- 13) Do you own a National Register listed resource
- 14) Are you a members of a historic landmark commission
- 15) Are you a member of a local historical society
- 16) Are you a member of state government
- 17) Are you a member of local government
  
- 18) Which county do you reside in WV? (If you live out of state, answer N/A)
  
- 19) What has been your most significant accomplishment in the last five years, as either a private property owner or as an organization?
  
- 20) What has been your most significant historic preservation disappointment?
  
- 21) What has been the greatest difficulty to overcome?



**Appendix B – HLCs and CLGs in West Virginia**

<b>Commission</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>CityStateZip</b>
Alderson HLC, Greenbrier County	P.O. Box 146	Alderson, WV 24910
Bath, HLC, Morgan County	167 Wilkes Street	Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
Beckley HLC, Raleigh County	P.O. Drawer AJ	Beckley, WV 25802-2832
Belington HLC, Barbour	505 Crim Avenue	Belington, WV 26250
Berkeley County HLC, Berkeley County	136 E. Race Street	Martinsburg, WV 25401
Beverly HLC, Randolph County	P.O. Box 227	Beverly, WV 26253-0227
Bluefield HLC, Mercer County	P.O. Box 4100	Bluefield, WV 24701
Bramwell HLC, Mercer County	P.O. Box 37	Bramwell, WV 24715
Buckhannon HLC, Upshur County	70 East Main Street	Buckhannon, WV 26201
Buffalo HLC, Putnam County	P.O. Box 307	Buffalo, WV 25033
Cabell County HLC, Cabell County	Ste. 300, 750 Fifth Ave.	Huntington, WV 25701
Cameron HLC, Marshall County	44 Main Street	Cameron, WV 26033
Charles Town HLC, Jefferson County	27-T Wiltshire Road	Kearneysville, WV 25430
Charleston HLC, Kanawha County	915 Quarrier Street	Charleston, WV 25302
Elkins HLC, Randolph County	PO Box 1863	Elkins, WV 26241
Fairmont HLC, Marion County	200 Locust Avenue	Fairmont, WV 26554
Fayette County HLC, Fayette County	218 Woods Avenue	Oak Hill, WV 25901-2120
Gilmer County CLG, Gilmer County	P.O. Box 91	Glenville, WV 26351
Grafton HLC, Taylor County	1 West Main Street	Grafton, WV 26354
Greenbrier County	200 North Court Street	Lewisburg, WV 24901
Hampshire County HLC, Hampshire County	P.O. Box 883	Romney, WV 26757
Harpers Ferry HLC, Jefferson County	P.O. Box 217	Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
Harrison County HLC, Harrison County	301 W. Main Street	Clarksburg, WV 26301
Hinton HLC, Summers County	P.O. Box 477	Hinton, WV 25951
Huntington HLC, Cabell County	P.O. Box 1659	Huntington, WV 25717
Jefferson County HLC, Jefferson County	P.O. Box 23	Charles Town, WV 25414
Lewisburg HLC, Greenbrier County	119 W Washington Street	Lewisburg, WV 24901
Logan County HLC, Logan County	General Delivery	Sarah Ann, WV 25644
Mannington HLC, Marion County	203 Market Street	Mannington, WV 26582
Martinsburg CLG, Berkeley County	232 North Queen Street	Martinsburg, WV 25401
Mingo County HLC	P.O. Box 1476	Gilbert, WV 25621
Monroe County HLC, Monroe County	P.O. Box 193	Union, WV 24983
Moorefield HLC, Hardy County	206 Winchester Ave	Moorefield, WV 26836
Morgantown CLG, Monongalia County	389 Spruce Street	Morgantown, WV 26505
Moundsville HLC, Marshall County	516 9th Street	Moundsville, WV 26041

Mountain State Legacy 2020-2024

Mt. Hope HLC, Fayette County	321 Montana Street	Mt. Hope, WV 25880
Mullens HLC, Wyoming County	316 Moran Avenue	Mullens, WV 25882
Nicholas County HLC, Nicholas County	717 Main Street, Suite 204	Summersville, WV 26651
Philippi HLC, Barbour County	P.O. Box 460	Philippi, WV 26416
Point Pleasant HLC, Mason County	902 Main Street	Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
Putnam County HLC, Putnam County	3389 Winfield Road	Winfield, WV 25213
Ravenswood HLC, Jackson County	City Hall, 212 Walnut Street	Ravenswood, WV 26164
Ritchie County HLC, Ritchie County	115 East Main Street, Room 201	Harrisville, WV 26362
Ronceverte HLC, Greenbrier County	P.O. Box 417	Ronceverte, WV 24970
Shepherdstown HLC, Jefferson County	P.O. Box 1786	Shepherdstown, WV 25443
South Charleston HLC, Kanawha County	P.O. Box 8597	So. Charleston, WV 25303
Summers County HLC, Summers County	201 Temple Street	Hinton, WV 25951
Tucker Co. HLC, Tucker County	215 First Street	Parsons, WV 26287
Weirton HLC, Hancock County	3632 Collins Way	Weirton, WV 26062
Weston HLC, Lewis County	102 W. 2nd Street	Weston, WV 26452
Wheeling HLC, Ohio County	P.O. Box 350	Wheeling, WV 26003
White Sulphur Springs HLC, Greenbrier County	34 W. Main Street	White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986
Wirt County Landmarks Commission, Wirt County	PO Box 773	Elizabeth, WV 26143
Wood County HLC, Wood County	#1 Court Street	Parkersburg, WV 26101

## **Appendix C – Programs of the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)**

The mission of the SHPO is to encourage, inform, support, and participate in the efforts of the people of West Virginia to identify, recognize, preserve and protect West Virginia’s prehistoric and historic structures, objects and site.

The State Historic Preservation Office administers the State Historic Preservation Program that includes the following:

- The maintenance of an inventory of historic properties in cooperation with public agencies , private organizations and individuals.
- The processing of nominations for properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- The preparation and implementation of a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan.
- The administration of the Certified Local Government program to provide direct funding to local governments through their established historic landmark commissions.
- Technical assistance, education and training related to historic property surveys, tax credits, National Register nominations, archaeology and historic preservation relation topics.
- The review of Federal Historic Preservation Certification Applications for tax credits on revenue producing properties and state Historic Residential Rehabilitation Tax Credit Applications for historic residences.
- The promotion of the Secretary of the Interior’s standards and guidelines established for archaeology, rehabilitation and historic preservation.
- Consultation with state agencies, federal departments and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, interested persons and other consulting parties during the Section 106 review process of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**Appendix D – WV SHPO Staff List**

**State Historic Preservation Office**  
**Staff and Programs List – Updated February 2019**  
 304.558.0240

For information on specific West Virginia SHPO programs, contact the following staff below.

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