How to Prepare National Register Nominations in West Virginia

WEST VIRGINIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
1900 Kanawha Blvd, E.
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-0220

PROGRAM INFO, INSTRUCTIONS, AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES UPDATED DECEMBER 2023
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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in nominating a West Virginia property to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is overseen by the National Park Service (NPS) and administered by historic preservation offices in every state and territory, and many tribes. The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is dedicated to helping document and protect the state’s diverse assortment of historical resources. Individuals and organizations seeking to nominate a property to the National Register will work with our office to develop a successful application.

Producing a National Register nomination is a serious undertaking and involves a substantial amount of time, research, and writing on the part of the applicant. The NPS has specific requirements that nominations must follow to be considered for approval. Applicants must present a strong argument that the property is significant enough to warrant listing on the National Register, with supporting evidence. Nonetheless, anyone willing to make the commitment can develop a nomination. This guide will explain how the National Register nomination process works; how to determine whether your property is eligible; and how to complete each section of the nomination form. This guide is directed towards nominations for individual buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Additional guidance may be needed for larger nomination projects such as historic districts and Multiple Property Documentations.

This guide is meant to supplement existing documents from the NPS, in particular National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form (NRB 16A). NRB 16A and other National Register guides can be downloaded from the NPS website at: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/publications.htm. Hard copies may be supplied by our office upon request. Use these guides in tandem with one another as you develop your nomination.

Please contact our office to discuss your potential nomination before beginning. For general questions about National Register eligibility and nomination preparation, contact:

S. Cody Straley | Cody.Straley@wv.gov | 304-558-0220 ext. 712

National Register and Architectural Survey Coordinator | WV State Historic Preservation Office

WV Department of Arts, Culture and History
Capitol Complex
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

https://wvculture.org/agencies/state-historic-preservation-office-shpo/
What is the National Register?
The National Register of Historic Places was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 in response to a growing recognition of the need to preserve and document important historical resources. The National Register is a federal list of buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects that have a recognized association with some important aspect of American history on the local, state, or national level. Regulations for the National Register (including the nomination process) are dictated by 36 CFR Part 60. The regulations can be accessed online at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/chapter-i/part-60 or our office may send a paper copy on request.

Today there are nearly 100,000 listings in the National Register, encompassing almost two million individual resources. In West Virginia there are over 1,100 listings in the National Register, totaling more than 24,000 resources. A resource can be any building, structure, object, site, feature, or landscape that has historical significance.

Listing in the National Register is primarily an honorary designation. There are many misconceptions about what listing means for one’s property. Some believe that it guarantees protection from demolition and funding for maintenance; others may be concerned that listing restricts their property rights. In most cases, neither of these are true. National Register listing does not impose any state or federal restrictions on what can be done with a property.

If a resource is located within an area of potential effects identified by a state or federally funded undertaking, the agency pursuing the project must undergo a Section 106 review. Section 106 requires the agency to consider the impact of their work upon resources that are either listed or eligible for the National Register. It cannot block the demolition of these resources, but it encourages the agency to find ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impact of their work on historic resources.
What National Register Listing Does:

● Provides recognition of a property's significance in history, architecture, archaeology, or engineering.

● Provides limited protection when a property is impacted by a state or federally funded or licensed undertaking.

● Provides the owner of a private residence or an income producing property the opportunity to apply for state and federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for certified rehabilitation work.

● Provides the owner the opportunity to apply for matching grants-in-aid for restoration/rehabilitation (when funding is available).

What National Register Listing Does Not Do:

● Does not restrict the use of the property. (For example, an owner can continue to live in a listed house; convert a listed property to another use, conduct new construction on the resource, etc.).

● Does not restrict the sale of a property, unless under the jurisdiction of a state or federal agency.

● Does not require continued maintenance of private property.

● Does not require that any specific guidelines be followed in a rehabilitation (unless the owner is using state or federal funds or receiving an Investment Tax Credit).

● Does not require the owner to give tours of the property or open it to the public.

● Does not guarantee funds for restoration.

● Does not guarantee perpetual maintenance of the property.

● Does not prevent demolition of a property.

● Does not provide a historic marker for the property.
National Register Eligibility
To qualify for the National Register, a property generally must be at least 50 years old. Age alone is not enough, however. The resource must possess some documented, recognized connection to a historic theme on the local, state, or national level. A 150-year-old family farm, for example, does not qualify simply because it is old. It may qualify because of its association with the history of agriculture in the community, or the architectural distinction of the farmhouse.

Criteria For Evaluation
To be considered eligible, a property must meet at least one of four Criteria recognized by the NPS:

**Criterion A: Event** – Properties that are associated with significant historical events, trends, or patterns. *Example: West Virginia Independence Hall qualifies for its role in the statehood movement.*

**Criterion B: Person** – Properties that are associated with the lives of historically significant persons. *Example: Memphis Tennessee Garrison House, home of the prominent educator, civil rights activist, and NAACP officer.*

**Criterion C: Design/Construction** – Properties that embody the characteristics of a distinct architectural type, time period, or construction method, or that represent the work of a master, or that have significant artistic value. *Example: Prabhupada’s Palace of Gold as a unique example of Indo-Saracenic Revival architecture constructed by untrained builders.*

**Criterion D: Information Potential** – Properties that have yielded or have the potential to yield information important to history or prehistory. This applies mainly to archaeological sites (both prehistoric and historic), whether or not they have been excavated. *Example: Grave Creek Mound for its contributions to our understanding of prehistoric Native American culture.*
Criteria Considerations
There are certain property types that, due to particular circumstances, are normally not eligible for the National Register unless they meet an additional set of requirements known as Criteria Considerations. Properties that fit one of the following Criteria Considerations must meet all the requirements of that criteria to be eligible.

**Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties** – Resources built or owned by religious institutions or used for religious services must have architectural, artistic, or non-religious historic importance.

**Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties** – A structure that has been relocated from its original location must have significant architectural value or must be the most important surviving resource connected to a historic person or event.

**Criteria Consideration C: Birthplaces or Graves** – The birthplace or gravesite of a historically significant person can be eligible if the person is of extraordinary importance and if there is no other surviving resource directly connected to their productive life.

**Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries** – Cemeteries can be eligible based on age, architecture/landscaping/artistic merit, connection to historic events, or having the graves of historically significant persons.

**Criteria Consideration E: Reconstructed Properties** – Reconstructed properties can only be eligible if they are designed to the original property’s specifications, in an appropriate environment, as part of a restoration master plan, and if no other resource with the same associations has survived. All these stipulations must be met.

**Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties** – A property created for commemorative purposes can be eligible based on design/artistic merit, age, or traditional/symbolic value that gives the property its own historical significance separate from what it commemorates.

**Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within The Last Fifty Years** – A property less than 50 years of age, on rare occasions, can be eligible if it is of the most exceptional significance.

A resource falling under one of these Criteria Considerations must meet both the requirements of that consideration as well as one of the four main Criteria. For example: A church can meet **Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties** if it is nominated under **Criterion C: Architecture** for its architectural value, rather than its religious value.
Integrity
In addition to meeting at least one of the Criteria, a property must retain a reasonable amount of its historic integrity. The NPS defines integrity as “the ability of a property to convey its significance.” While a site or structure may have historical significance, it needs to adequately resemble its original appearance or its appearance at the time that it achieved significance. Alterations to a property, such as covering wood siding with vinyl, changing the size and shape of windows, removing chimneys, enclosing porches, and constructing additions, reduce a property’s integrity. If too much integrity is lost, a resource may be ineligible for the National Register regardless of its historic significance. How much integrity needs to remain for a property to be eligible varies by situation.

The NPS typically requires a property to retain all or most of seven recognized aspects of integrity:

Location – The place where a property was constructed or the place where a historic event occurred.

Design – The planned style, form, massing, space, and structure of a property; i.e., what the builder or architect intended the property to look like.

Setting – The physical environment surrounding a property; includes topography, vegetation, the presence of other buildings or other landscape features.

Materials – The physical elements used in the construction/creation of a property.

Workmanship – Physical evidence of the crafts, skill set, or building style of a particular people or culture.

Feeling – The historic, aesthetic character of a property.

Association – The direct link between a property and a historically significant event or person.

More information on National Register Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and integrity can be found in National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.
Determining Eligibility

The first step in a National Register nomination is to determine whether the resource in question is eligible. Generally, SHPO requires the applicant to complete a Historic Property Inventory (HPI) form. This is a preliminary document that enables our office to acquire a better understanding of the property and develop an informed opinion as to whether it would qualify for the National Register. An HPI form includes the following:

- Full Address
- Property Name
- Architect/Builder (if known)
- Date of Construction
- Architectural Style
- Building Materials
- UTM Coordinates
- Map of the Property – this can be a hand drawn or computer-generated map, or you can attach a copy of a USGS Map. These can be downloaded from the United States Geological Survey website.
- Photographs – preferably more than one and taken at different angles.
- Present Owners and their Contact Information
- Description of the Setting
- Description of the Building / Site
● Description of Any Alterations or Additions

● Description of Any Outbuildings

● Statement of Significance – in at least one paragraph, describe the known history of the property and explain why it is or is not eligible for the National Register

● Bibliography of Sources Used

Images and larger maps, as well as information that cannot fit on the first two pages, may be added onto continuation sheets. There can be as many sheets as necessary.

For a complete HPI example, see Appendix C on Page 26.

All HPI forms must be typed on a template available on our website at https://wvculture.org/research/national-register-of-historical-places/. Copies can also be sent directly to applicants upon request. When completed, an HPI form should be submitted to SHPO's National Register and Architectural Survey Historian. Staff email addresses can be found at https://wvculture.org/contact-us/. We prefer submissions be made via email, in PDF or Word document format. We also accept printed copies sent in the mail. Handwritten submissions are discouraged.

SHPO has 30 days upon receipt of an HPI form to review it and issue a formal Determination of Eligibility (DOE) letter to the applicant. Our office may also request to conduct a site visit of the property to get a better sense of its condition, although that is not always the case. Should we determine that the property is eligible, we can provide the applicant with guides and templates for writing the National Register nomination.
Researching a Historic Resource

Writing a successful National Register nomination likely means you will have to conduct research on the history of the resource. There are a variety of places on the local, state, and national level where useful information can be found.

Materials to consult can include local history books, newspapers, maps, property deeds, wills, tax records, building permits, census records, city directories, phone books, historic photographs, aerial/satellite photos, oral history interviews, architectural drawings, letters, journals/diaries, speeches, and videos.

When conducting research, make sure to take plenty of notes and keep track of all sources. For each source you use, make sure to record the source title; author’s name; page number(s), collection name or box number; publication date; and location.

In-Person Sources

- Local historical societies, museums, and libraries—These small community organizations often have a collection of materials on the history of local people and places.
- County courthouses – Here you can find deeds, wills, tax assessments, and other property records. Some counties have records available online as well.
- College Archives – Many college libraries have repositories for state and local historical materials. These include the West Virginia and Regional History Center at WVU, and the Marshall University Special Collections.
- West Virginia State Archives – Located in the Culture Center in Charleston, many state, county, and local documents are stored here.

Online Sources

- WV SHPO GIS Map – Our website has a free, interactive map that contains digitized copies of many of our files, including HPI forms, National Register nominations, and survey reports. There may be materials about your resource or the surrounding neighborhood. You can access the map at https://mapwv.gov/shpo/viewer/index.html.
- West Virginia Property Viewer – This website shows tax parcels and can provide information about property ownership, acreage, and construction dates. It can be accessed at https://www.mapwv.gov/parcel/.
- Library of Congress – Their website has a large collection of Sanborn Map Company maps ranging from the late 1800s to mid-1900s. These maps can reveal a building’s use, construction materials, number of floors, roof type, and window openings. It can be accessed at https://www.loc.gov/.
- Chronicling America – This free database, also on the Library of Congress website, provides digital copies of various newspapers from the late 1700s to the 1940s. It can be accessed at https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/.
Completing the Registration Form: Step-by-Step

The key to nominating a resource to the National Register is the submission of a National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. Copies of the form are provided by our office upon request. All content must be typed onto the form. Handwritten submissions will not be accepted.

The Registration Form is divided into 11 sections. Each section must be completed for our office to accept the submission. More extensive directions for completing each section can be found in National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form.

Section 1: Name of Property

- State the name or names of this resource. Under “Historic Name,” put the name most traditionally associated with the resource. Place any alternate or modern names under “Other names/site number.”

- For a house associated with a significant person (ex: the John Smith House), put the surname first and style the title as follows: “Smith, John House.”

Section 2: Location

- Enter the full street address of the property. If no address exists, name the closest roads, and describe the resource’s distance from them. Example: “2 miles east of junction WV 75 and Docks Creek Rd.”

- If the resource is located outside of city limits, mark “X” in the “Vicinity” box. The “Not for Publication” box is typically reserved for sensitive resources such as archaeological sites, to protect them from vandalism or looting.

Sections 3-4: State/Federal Agency Certification and National Park Service Certification

- Leave these sections blank. They will be filled by state and federal officials once the nomination is submitted.

Section 5: Classification

- Select the appropriate Ownership boxes.

- Pick a Category that most closely describes the resource being nominated:
  - Building: Anything created to shelter any human activity. Examples: houses, churches, stores, hospitals, hotels, jails, government facilities, offices, etc.
  - Site: The location of a significant event, activity, or structure or building, or a location that itself holds significance. Examples: Cemeteries, archaeological sites, etc.
natural formations, battlefields, farms, gardens, ruins, trails, designed landscapes, campsites, hunting or fishing grounds, etc.

- **Structure** - Something designed with a functional purpose other than sheltering human activity. *Examples: tunnels, bridges, dams, power plants, silos, windmills, mounds, boats, trains, aircraft, roads, etc.*

- **Object** - Something primarily artistic in nature. *Examples: monuments, sculptures, boundary markers, fountains, etc.*

- **District** - A concentrated group of buildings, structures, sites, or objects connected historically by planning or physical development. *Examples: business districts, industrial complexes, small towns and villages, residential neighborhoods, college campuses, large farms, etc.*

- **List the number of Contributing and Noncontributing resources in the nomination.** Every resource located within the identified boundaries of the nomination must be counted. 

  **Contributing resources** are those that are associated with the property’s historic significance. On a historic farm, for example, contributing resources would include the original farmhouse, barn, springhouse, and crop fields. 

  **Noncontributing resources** are those that are not associated with a property’s historic significance, either due to age or irrelevancy. On a historic farm, noncontributing resources would include modern metal storage sheds, a new house, swimming pool, etc.

**Section 6: Function or Use**

- Write the historic use or purpose of the nominated resource, and its current use. Choose only from the list of approved categories in NRB 16A (Pages 18-23).
Section 7: Description

- In this section, you discuss the physical appearance and condition of the resources being nominated. It is important to have as thorough and accurate a description as possible because the National Register eligibility of a resource depends heavily on its present condition and the amount of physical integrity it still retains.

- Architectural Classification
  - List the appropriate architectural style for the nominated resource. If the nomination includes more than one resource, and they are different styles, you may include more than one style. A list of architectural styles recognized by the National Park Service is included on Pages 25-26 of NRB 16A. If the architectural style of the resource is not included in the list, write “Other” and a term physically describing the resource (in 28 characters or less). For example, a plain log cabin with no architectural style could be listed as “Other: split-log cabin.” For resources with no discernable style that can be described, write “No Style.” If the nominated resource does not have any buildings or structures, write “N/A.”

- Materials
  - List the known materials used in the construction of the resource exterior. Materials should include those used to build the walls, roof, and foundation. An approved list of materials is included on Page 27 of NRB 16A.

- Narrative Description Summary Paragraph
  - In a single paragraph, briefly describe the nominated resource(s)’s appearance, architecture (if applicable) and the surrounding landscape. The Narrative Description following the summary should be much more thorough.

Summary Paragraph
The James Osbourn Farm is located at 1901 Trough Road, about three miles southeast of Shepherdstown, West Virginia (Fig. 1). The historic appearance of the 120.63-acre property was one of cleared fields and vistas, a farmhouse, bank barn, and haystacks (Figs. 5, 6). The house is late Colonial/Georgian in style, brick, built about 1848, with a brick addition built about 1856. Just north of the house is a wood corncrib/shed built about 1950, and to the north of it is a bank barn that dates from pre-1862. Finally, a modern all-metal building lies to the north of the bank barn and other buildings. Despite the modern metal utility building, the relative isolation of the farmhouse and dependencies help ensure the site’s historic integrity.
● **Narrative Description**

- Write a multi-paragraph narrative describing the nominated resource(s) and its surroundings. It is important to be as detailed as possible. A good rule of thumb is to pretend that the reader has no access to photos of the resource and must rely on the Narrative Description to form an idea of what it looks like.

- Start by describing the resource’s surrounding environment. Is it in a rural area? A suburban neighborhood? A downtown commercial district? Then describe the property itself—its size, boundaries, age, architectural style, building materials, and any noteworthy physical/architectural features. Characteristics worth noting include the front façade, windows, roof shape, dormers, and any exterior ornamentation. If the nomination is for a single building, describe the interior as well (explain the rooms, floorplan, etc.). If the nomination includes multiple buildings, just an exterior description for each will be fine. Every resource, both contributing and non-contributing, needs to be identified and described.

- Finally, the Narrative Description should compare the current physical condition of the resource to its original appearance. Note any deterioration as well as any alterations, such as replacement materials, additions, removals, etc. Using the discussion of its condition, explain why the resource(s) retains enough integrity to be eligible for the National Register.
Section 8: Statement of Significance

- The Statement of Significance is arguably the most important component of the nomination form. This is where you make the argument for why a resource is eligible for the National Register and under what Criteria. No National Register nomination can succeed without a well-developed Statement of Significance.

- Select which of the National Register Criteria (A, B, C, D) the property qualifies under. Also select any Criteria Considerations that the property may be required to fulfill.

![Image of Statement of Significance section]

- **Areas of Significance**
  - An Area of Significance is a historic theme associated with the nominated resource. These categories can be fairly broad, and include topics such as Social History, Commerce, Transportation, Education, Architecture, Politics/Government, Community Planning and Development, and more. An approved list of Areas is available on Pages 40-41 of NRB 16A; an updated list from 2021 is also available on the NPS website at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/Areas-of-Significance-categories-and-subcategories-MAY-2021-REV-508.pdf. Every nomination must include at least one Area of Significance from the list; multiple ones may be chosen as well.

![Image of Areas of Significance list]
● **Period of Significance**

  ○ The Period of Significance is the span of time during which a resource became associated with whatever it was that makes it historically significant. The Period must have a precise start date and end date. For example, suppose you are nominating a building for its history as a general store. The store first opened in 1910 and then closed in 1954. While the building still exists today and is used for other purposes, it no longer functions as a general store. The Period of Significance for that nomination would be 1910-1954.

  ○ With rare exceptions, a Period of Significance cannot start or end earlier than 50 years from the current year. If you are nominating a resource that is still fulfilling the role that made it historically significant, the Period can be cut off at the 50-year mark. For example, suppose in 2023 you are nominating a historic school building (with Education as the Area of Significance) which was built in 1930 but is still a functioning school as of 2023. The Period of Significance would be 1930-1973.

  ○ If you are nominating a resource using Architecture, Art, or Engineering as the only Area of Significance, then the Period would simply be the year it was constructed. i.e., for a Queen Anne house built in 1894 the Period of Significance would just be 1894.

● **Significant Dates**

  ○ Enter a year or years that any major event, construction, or alteration occurred to the resource being nominated. The year(s) entered must be within the Period of Significance. If there are no known significant dates, leave this section blank.
● **Significant Person**
  ○ If the resource is being nominated for Criterion B, enter the name of the person associated with the resource. Start with the last name first. *Example: Smith, John.* Leave blank if Criterion B is not selected.

● **Cultural Affiliation**
  ○ Leave blank unless Criterion D is selected. Here you list the name of any cultural, ethnic, or prehistoric group associated with the nominated resource.

● **Architect/Builder**
  ○ Enter the name of the person or people who designed and built the structure(s). If the architect and builder are not known, write “Unknown.” If the nominated resource does not include any constructed resources, write “N/A.”

● **Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**
  ○ In one brief paragraph, outline your case for why this resource is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Save specific details for the Narrative Statement of Significance. The summary paragraph must state every National Register Criteria, Criteria Consideration, Area of Significance, Period of Significance, and Level of Significance (Local, State, or National) selected for the nomination.

● **Narrative Statement of Significance**
  ○ Here you will fully explain the nominated resource’s historical significance and eligibility for the National Register. Think of it as a persuasive essay to convince the reader of the property’s importance.

  ○ Begin with writing some background history. This will help show what makes the nominated resource significant in the first place. For example, let’s say you are nominating a former African American schoolhouse in a small town. The Statement of Significance should include a brief history of the town, the African American community in that town, education in that town/county, and race relations and school segregation in West Virginia. The background histories do not have to be too long and detailed, but they should give the reader a strong understanding of the context in which the nominated resource was created.

  ○ Next, write as complete and detailed a history of the nominated resource as possible. Explain how, when, where, and why it was constructed. However, avoid tangents that provide unnecessary information. Keep to your specific argument. State who built it, if known. Discuss how the resource was used; the activities
and any major events that occurred here, especially during the Period of Significance. What was the resource’s purpose?

○ Finally, explain why the resource qualifies to be listed on the National Register. This will require stating which Criteria and Areas of Significance the property is associated with. A historic school, for example, should qualify at least under Criterion A: Education and possibly Criterion C: Architecture. The NPS requires that there be at least one full paragraph for each Area of Significance. For a school nominated under Education and Architecture therefore, you should have at least one paragraph explaining how the school is significant to the history of education, and another explaining how the school is an important example of a historic architectural style.

○ Be sure to include footnotes throughout the Statement of Significance citing the sources where you found information for your narrative. Do not rely on specific quotes only, but provide your own argument.

Section 9: Major Bibliographical References

● Here you will list all the sources consulted when writing the nomination. Sources can include books, newspapers, scholarly articles, government records, deeds and maps, oral histories, interviews, videos, archival collections, etc. Nominations will not be accepted without a Bibliography.

● WV SHPO does not have a preferred format for citations. Common formats include Chicago/Turabian, MLA, and APA. No matter which style you choose, each source must state at least the title, author (if known), and date of publication. Sources found online must include URLs.

● Leave the “Previous documentation on file (NPS)” section blank.

● Fill in the “Primary location of additional data” section if you know of any institutions that contain additional records/information about the nominated property.

9. Major Bibliographical References


“Local Church in New Home; Founded in 1874.” Wayne County News. February 11, 1926.

Section 10: Geographical Data

- This section is for identifying the precise location of the nominated resource and defining the legal boundaries of the nomination.

- State the acreage of the nominated resource.

- Enter either the Latitude/Longitude coordinates or the UTM references. It is not necessary to include both. WV SHPO prefers that you use UTM references because that data is used to mark resource on its GIS map. This geographic data can be found through various sources online, and also through WV SHPO’s online interactive GIS map, which can be accessed on our website.

- **Verbal Boundary Description**
  - Provide a written description of the precise boundaries of the nominated resource. Alternatively, you can name the parcel number. *Example: “The boundary coincides with Clay County Parcel 731, in Deed Book 104, Page 96.”*

- **Boundary Justification**
  - Explain why the boundaries were chosen.

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

From the northwest corner of Old Railroad Road and Dunlow Hill Road, extending 200 feet south along Old Railroad Road, then 60 feet east, then 200 feet north to Dunlow Hill Road, then 60 feet west back to the corner of Old Railroad Road and Dunlow Hill Road. Listed as Parcel 6 on Map 16A, Deed Book 727, Page 538.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the property owner’s entire parcel and includes the depot as well as the sites of the now-demolished outbuildings.
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Section 11: Form Prepared By

- Enter the names and information of all people who worked to complete the nomination form.
Additional Documentation

- In this section you will attach all maps, drawings, figures, and photographs for the nomination. These materials are essential for presenting the resource’s location and condition at the time of listing.

- Figures

  - Any illustration that is not a contemporary photo should be classified as a Figure. This includes the following:

  - Maps- A USGS map or an equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) is required. Historic and modern maps can be downloaded for free from the USGS website via their topoView platform. You can either attach a full-size map to the nomination, or you can crop it to a portion small enough to fit inside an 8.5 x 11 page of the nomination template. Indicate the location of the nominated resource on the map. The USGS map must state the quadrangle name. Other maps, such as historic maps, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, and satellite imagery, may be included in addition to the USGS map.
- **Sketch Map or Site Plan** - This should depict the nominated resource and its surroundings. It can be either hand-drawn (neatly and clearly) or generated on a computer. If they are not drawn to scale, label the plan “Not to Scale.” The nomination boundary lines and all resources located within them must be included. All resources and roads should be labeled. Include an arrow pointing north. If the nomination is for a single building, there should also be floor plans for each floor. Follow the same requirements as for the sketch map/site plan.
- Photographs should be keyed onto these sketch maps, site plans, and floor plans. Insert a symbol (can be an arrow, a circle, etc.) noting the location of the photographer and the direction they were aiming as they took each picture. Each symbol must be labeled with the number of the corresponding picture.

- **Historic Images** - While not required, it is helpful to include historical photographs of the nominated resource. These pictures can provide insight into how the resources have changed or not changed over the years.

- Our office prefers that the nomination include a “Figure Log,” a list numbering and describing each figure. Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.
● **Photographs**

- Every nomination must include current photographs that adequately depict the resource's present condition. There is no minimum or maximum number of pictures needed, but generally there should be enough to provide a full sense of the resource's appearance, setting, and significant features. Try to include photos at different angles of the resource. If the nomination includes only one or two buildings, interior photos must be taken as well. You may embed photos onto the document, but this is optional. Either way, copies of all images must be submitted separately (See Page 22).

- A Photo Log must be included. Write the name of the photographer and the date(s) the photos were taken. Then write a list assigning a number and description to each photo. The Photo Log should appear as follows:

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**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Waiteville School/Waiteville Community Center

City or Vicinity: Waiteville

County: Monroe                      State: West Virginia

Photographer: Sandra Scaffidi

Date Photographed: August 12, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 18: North and east elevations, photographer facing southwest
Photo 2 of 18: South elevation, photographer facing north
Photo 3 of 18: West elevation, photographer facing east
Photo 4 of 18: North elevation, photographer facing south
Photo 5 of 18: Detail of the façade, photographer facing southwest
Photo 6 of 18: Interior, central hallway, photographer facing east
Photo 7 of 18: Detail of typical classroom, photographer facing northwest
Photo 8 of 18: Detail of typical classroom, photographer facing northeast
Photo 9 of 18: Detail of former classroom transformed into community kitchen, photographer facing northeast
Photo 10 of 18: Detail of former classroom, photographer facing northwest
Photo 11 of 18: Auditorium/classroom, photographer facing west
Photo 12 of 18: Auditorium/classroom, photographer facing east
Photo 13 of 18: Detail of child-size urinal, photographer facing northeast
Photo 14 of 18: Lower-level kitchen and cafeteria, photographer facing west
Photo 15 of 18: Image of former coal furnace, photographer facing southwest
Photo 16 of 18: Non-Contributing outbuilding, photographer facing southwest
Photo 17 of 18: Modern playground, located south of the school, photographer facing south
```
Photo Requirements

In addition to the National Register nomination form, the NPS also requires the submission of high-quality images. Pictures may be taken either on a digital camera or a smartphone if the resolution is at least two megapixels (1200 x 1600 pixels).

All images must be in TIFF or RAW format. Some digital cameras can shoot images in those formats. There are also various websites online that convert JPEGs and other file formats into TIFF.

Image files must be given a standard naming format as follows:

**State_county_property name_0001**

*Example: WV_KanawhaCo_TiskelwahSchool_0001*

The number of each image must correspond to their numbering in the nomination form’s Photo Log. For example, Photo 13 of 15 in the Photo Log should be named _0013 in its TIFF file.

TIFF files should be ready to submit by the time the final draft of the nomination is complete. TIFF files may be emailed to the National Register Coordinator with the nomination, or they may be mailed on a CD or flash drive.
**Nomination Submission**

Once you have completed a draft of the National Register nomination, it can be submitted to our office. Please email the nomination to the National Register Coordinator. Staff email addresses can be found at [https://wvculture.org/contact-us/](https://wvculture.org/contact-us/). Alternatively, you can mail the nomination file on a CD or flash drive. The document should be in either PDF, Microsoft Word, or Google Docs format. This makes it easier for our staff to review the materials, make corrections, and add comments, if necessary.

Draft nominations can be submitted at any time year-round. Our office has up to 60 days upon receipt of a nomination draft to review it and issue a response. We proofread the document to make sure every section has been entered correctly, that the narratives are sufficient, and the argument for eligibility is strong and coherent. If there are minor mistakes (formatting, grammar, punctuation, etc.) we correct them in-house. At the end of our review, we will send comments to the applicant. It is not uncommon for us to request that revisions be made. Perhaps Section 7 needs a better description, or Section 8 doesn’t use the right Areas of Significance. Staff will point out what issues are present and suggest ways for them to be fixed. Once the applicant has made revisions, they can submit the new draft to our office and the review process starts all over again.

Once we believe a nomination is good enough to receive approval to be on the National Register, we will schedule it for presentation at a meeting of the West Virginia Archives & History Commission (AHC). The AHC is an advisory board of experts in the history field from across the state. They are tasked with reviewing and endorsing certain historic preservation projects, namely grant applications and National Register nominations. The AHC meets three times a year, generally in February, June, and October, and in a different city each time.

The property owner(s) of the nominated resource(s) and local elected officials must be notified, in writing, of the pending nomination no less than 30 days prior to the AHC meeting. This is so that they have the opportunity to submit comments or make arrangements to attend the meeting if they wish. SHPO will prepare the notifications, but you are encouraged to send us the names and mailing addresses of these people. Local elected officials include the state senators, state delegate, and the mayor, if the resource is in an incorporated community, or the county commission, if in an unincorporated community.
Nomination Presentation and Approval

The writer of the National Register nomination or a designated representative is required to attend the AHC meeting in-person to present the nomination. They must use a slideshow and spend around five minutes giving their “pitch” for why the property is eligible for the National Register.

- Slideshow presentations (PowerPoint, Google Slides, etc.) must be created and sent to the National Register Coordinator at least two weeks prior to the AHC meeting.
- By the time of the presentation, AHC members will have already read the nomination. Therefore, the presenter should give only a brief history of the resource and a summary of the Criteria under which it is eligible. All other information, such as preservation efforts and information not related to the resource’s significance should not be included. Such information can be provided if asked by a Commission member following your presentation.
- If text is used in the presentation, it should be limited to the name of the property, Criteria, and area(s), period(s), and level(s) of significance.
- The most important images to include are current, clear, color photos. Historic images should be limited.
- Do not include floor plans, site plans, etc.
- Only one speaker is permitted. Other guests may be in attendance but must not speak out unless called upon by a member of the AHC.
- Please limit the slideshow to five slides for individual nominations and ten for historic district nominations. More than one photo can be included on a slide.

Once the speaker has concluded their presentation, the AHC will have the opportunity to ask questions. After any discussion, they will vote whether to recommend the nomination, reject it, or request revisions.

Final Approval

Once a nomination has been approved by the AHC, our office has up to 90 days to forward the nomination to the NPS. Once received, the NPS has up to 45 days to review the nomination and approve it, reject it, or request revisions. Our office works to ensure that nominations have the highest possible chance of success before they make it to the NPS. The NPS posts approved nominations each week on the Federal Register. Once this posting is made, the property is officially considered listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

When a nomination is approved by the NPS, our office notifies the property owner, the nomination writer, and local officials in a timely manner. The property owner may also receive a signed certificate confirming the National Register designation. The SHPO does not provide plaques or markers.
Recap: National Register Nomination Timeline

1.) Complete a West Virginia Historic Property Inventory (HPI) form.

2.) Return the HPI form to SHPO.

3.) The SHPO will review the form to determine if the resource is potentially eligible for listing. Staff may request to conduct a site visit before making a final determination.

4.) If determined to be potentially eligible, the SHPO will provide the property owner or nomination preparer with a nomination form and directions to help them prepare a National Register nomination.

5.) Once received, the SHPO has 60 days to review each draft nomination. Staff will provide comments to the preparer. Nominations are considered complete when SHPO staff has approved content and received all necessary attachments.

6.) After the nomination is complete, staff will schedule it for presentation to the WV Archives and History Commission at the earliest possible meeting. The Commission meets three times per year.

7.) If approved by the Commission, the SHPO will forward the nomination to the National Park Service within 90 days of their approval.

8.) After receipt, the National Park Service has 45 days to list the resource in the National Register, return the nomination for changes, or determine that the resource is not eligible for listing.
Appendix A: National Register Bulletins

The following guides are available to view or download on the NPS website at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/publications.htm. Our office can also mail hard copies upon request.

- NRB 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation
- NRB 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form
- NRB 16B: How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form
- NRB 39: Researching a Historic Property
- NRB 36: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archaeological Properties
- NRB 43: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Historic Aviation Properties
- NRB 34: Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Aids to Navigation
- NRB 40: Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields
- NRB 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places
- NRB 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes
- NRB 42: Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating and Registering Historic Mining Properties
- NRB 22: Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years
- NRB 13: How to Apply National Register Criteria to Post Offices
- NRB 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes
- NRB 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons
- NRB 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties
- NRB 20: Nominating Vessels and Shipwrecks to the National Register of Historic Places
- NRB 21 & 12: Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties (with Appendix, Definition of National Register Boundaries for Archeological Properties)
- NRB 28: Using the UTM Grid System to Record Historic Sites
Appendix B: Suggested Reading

- *America’s Religious Architecture: Sacred Places for Every Community* by Marilyn Chiat

- *Buildings of West Virginia* by S. Allen Chambers


- *A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia Savage McAlester

- *Historic West Virginia: The National Register of Historic Places* by West Virginia Division of Culture and History, State Historic Preservation Office


- *West Virginia: A Guide to the Mountain State* by WPA

## Appendix C: Historic Property Inventory Form Example

**West Virginia Historic Property Inventory Form**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>Common/Historic Name/Both</th>
<th>Field Survey #</th>
<th>Site # (SHPO Only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>149 N. Amelia St</td>
<td>Paw Paw Old Black School</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town or Community</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Negative No.</th>
<th>NR Listed Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paw Paw</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architect/Builder</th>
<th>Date of Construction</th>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Key features: Flat roof; long and narrow symmetrical form; dark brick with white stone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Simplified Collegiate Tudor Gothic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exterior Siding/Materials</th>
<th>Roofing Material</th>
<th>Foundation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Brick with later infill of fenestration with vinyl siding and vinyl windows</td>
<td>Original: Built up hot tar/asphalt</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Use or Function</th>
<th>UTM#</th>
<th>Quadrangle Name</th>
<th>Part of What Survey/FR#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>17N: (39.53289 N, 78.45998 W)</td>
<td>Paw Paw, WV</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>NAD 83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Survey Organization & Date**

Cacapon Preservation Solutions, LLC

28 March 2023

**Sketch Map of Property**

Or Attach Copy of USGS Map

---
Present Owners  
John & Gloria Pritchard  
Phone # 304-947-7477

Owners Mailing Address  
PO Box 204  
Paw Paw, WV 25434

Describe Setting  
This building is situated on a quiet residential street several blocks up from the Potomac River. Originally the property behind the school, facing on Winchester St, was the white elementary school and the two schools shared a playground.

0.19 Acres  
No Archaeological Artifacts Present

Description of Building or Site (Original and Present)  
1 Stories  
N/A Front Bays

The building sits above street level with a concrete retaining wall along a portion of the front of the property and is reached by a series of steps. The building is one story in height and is constructed of red brick in a running bond pattern on a raised concrete foundation. The front façade faces west and is divided into equal wings with a protruding arched entry vestibule at the center serving both classrooms. (continued)

Alterations  

Yes  
No  
If yes, describe  
Original large front double hung windows (five per side 6 over 6) removed and infilled with vinyl siding and standard residential vinyl windows. Original entry doors replaced.

Additions  

Yes  
No  
If yes, describe

Describe All Outbuildings

Small shed in the back northeast corner of the property dates to outside the period of significance. Location roughly where a coal shed originally stood.

Statement of Significance

Paw Paw is a small town in Morgan County in the eastern panhandle of WV situated on the Potomac River. The town was established (incorporated) in 1891. At the end of the Civil War there were 75 slaves in Morgan County, but none in Paw Paw. African Americans did reside in Paw Paw and worked as servants for several landowners for 48 cents a week. (continued)

Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

Form Prepared By:  
David Abruzzi, RA  
Date: 28 March 2023

Name/Organization:  
Cacapon Preservation Solutions, LLC  
Address:  
18534 Cacapon Rd  
Great Cacapon WV, 25422  
Phone #: 304-947-7465

This program receives Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibit exclusion of any person, on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37122, Washington, DC 20013-7122.
WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME: Paw Paw Old Black School

Description of Building or Site (Original and Present) continued

There is modest ornamentation on the façade in the form of decorative cast concrete “stone” blocks on the entry vestibule, as well as a simple rectangle design done in brick above the arched entry. The parapet walls are capped in cast concrete and have two “crenelations” on the front façade of each wing.

Each wing (classroom) originally had a large area of fenestration comprised of five double hung windows in a six over six arrangement. As some point those windows degraded to the point they had to be removed and the areas were framed in and enclosed with vinyl siding and standard residential double hung vinyl windows.

At the rear of the building is a bumpout that served as the washrooms and closets.

Statement of Significance continued

The Paw Paw Colored School opened in 1876, later known as the Negro School, and finally the Paw Paw Black School before closing in 1955. The brick one-story, two-room school building opened in 1928 after a fire destroyed the existing Paw Paw African-American school, a one-room wooden structure that had previously served white children. Unlike many schools for African-Americans at the time, which were often relegated to abandoned schools for white children, or poorly constructed buildings, the two-room brick Paw Paw Black School was well constructed and was considered to be superior to other African-American schools in the state.

In 1954 the Paw Paw Black School (K thru eighth grade) was noted for its excellence in education and earned a “Model School rating” under Dr. Randolph E. Spencer, PhD who was the principal from 1938 until 1954. The rating was the highest classification at the time and was only the second school in Morgan County to ever obtain the rating. It was also most likely the first black school to have received such distinction. During Dr. Spencer’s tenure as principal the school added ninth grade high school level courses in algebra, biology, English, chemistry, and social studies to the eighth-grade curriculum. In addition to being the school principal Dr. Spencer was an assistant pastor of the Methodist Church, director of religious education and recreation, and a church trustee. He was also the organizer and conductor of the Paw Paw School Band and Society which presented local and area concerts and was a member of the Paw Paw Concert Band. Dr. Spencer was a former student of the Paw Paw Black School and went on to receive a doctorate degree in biology.

The school closed in 1955 following the 1954 US Supreme Court case Brown vs the Board of Education; however, since the Black School and the white elementary school backed up to each other and shared a playground desegregation and integration was accomplished more easily than in many cases.

This building is recommended eligible under Criterion C for its 1920s educational type architecture and Criterion A for its important place in WV African-American education, as well as its strong ties to life-long educator Dr. Randolph Spencer, PhD (1911-1993). Although the windows have been partially filled in the building continues to convey its importance to the history of African-American segregated education and the Town of Paw Paw.
Bibliographic References continued

Evans, Kate. “Paw Paw Black School was a Historic School of Excellence”. The Morgan Messenger, 13 August 2014, pg. 14.


https://www.journal-news.net/journal-news/local-black-historians-should-be-recognized/article_8bd75d6b-d7b7-5f3a-9104-2a8c148f07b4.html

Morgan County School History, (1987). Published by Morgan County Historical & Genealogical Society.

Spencer, Randolph E. Paw Paw to PhD. ESPress, 1 January 1977.
THIS IS THE NEW (1928) BRICK TWO ROOM PAW PAW SCHOOL FOR BLACKS erected by the Cacapon District Board of Education during the tenure of Carroll L. Dennis as teacher who was elevated to principal of a two room school. This was a departure of the normal practice in West Virginia (almost nationwide) of having Black Schools in abandoned White Schools or shacks of inferior construction. The Cacapon Board and later the Morgan County Administrators of schools continued to provide this school with facilities and teachers of high quality. This certainly met the separate and equal schools as provided in the West Virginia State Law. This is attested to by Dr. Randolph Spencer, former pupil and later principal of this school who went on to get a Ph.D. in biology and became a well-known educator and author. This week we are dealing with preparatory material about the conditions of Black Education in West Virginia and in Paw Paw and next week the history of the operation of the school. It is respect between the people that made transition from separate and equal to integrated schools in Paw Paw without the trauma experienced in so many places.
Appendix D: National Register Nomination Examples

The following excerpts from select National Register nominations highlight the information required in the nomination form.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or re-nominating determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Paw Paw Old Mayor's Office and Jail
   Other names/site number: N/A
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   Street & number: 93 Lee Street
   City or town: Paw Paw State: WV
   County: Morgan
   Not For Publication: 
   Vicinity: 

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets
   the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
   Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
   recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

   __national  __statewide  X__local
   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   X__A  __B  __C  __D

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Signature of certifying official: Date: 
West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Arts, Culture and History

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official: Date:

Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Sections 1-6 page 1
4. National Park Service Certification
I hereby certify that this property is:
   ___ entered in the National Register
   ___ determined eligible for the National Register
   ___ determined not eligible for the National Register
   ___ removed from the National Register
   ___ other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper __________________________   Date of Action ____________

5. Classification
Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)
   Private:       
   Public – Local
   Public – State
   Public – Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)
   Building(s)
   District
   Site
   Structure
   Object

Sections 1-6 page 2
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form  
NPS Form 10-900  
OMB Control No. 1024-3018

Paw Paw Mayor’s Office & Jail  
Morgan, WV

Name of Property  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

---

6. **Function or Use**  

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)  
Government/Town Hall

---

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)  
Vacant/Not in use

---

Sections 1-6 page 3
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Late Victorian
Other: Folk Victorian

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

This Norfolk & Western Railway Depot is located in the geographical heart of Dunlow, indicating its important former role in the development of the community. The depot was constructed in late 1891 and served as Dunlow’s transportation hub for four decades. It sits beside what was once the N&W’s Twelvepole Line; the tracks were removed in 1933 and the path is now a road for automobile traffic. Described by one surveyor as “Victorian Folk” in design, the depot is a modest, single-story, board and batten structure, one of dozens of similar depots constructed by the N&W throughout southern West Virginia.1 The exterior retains a great deal of physical integrity, with original wood siding, doors, windows, and chimney. The interior is fairly intact as well, with original floorplan, wood trim, doors, ceiling, and hardwood flooring. A prime example of early railroad architecture in southern West Virginia, the depot possesses a high degree of each of the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

---
Narrative Description

The small community of Huntersville is located approximately six miles east of Marlinton in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. The quiet settlement consists primarily of residences, farm buildings, and churches, with very little economic activity. Many structures date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Huntersville was established in 1821 as the county seat and enjoyed decades of prosperity, but the removal of the county court to Marlinton in 1891 stifled further development. The main thoroughfare is West Virginia Route 39, which bisects the community.

The Huntersville Old County Jail site occupies a roughly one acre field in the northwestern part of Huntersville. The parcel is bounded on the west by a wooden fence, the south by Barlow Lane Road, a vacant residence on the east, and a grove of trees on the north. It is surrounded entirely by homes, farmland, and trees. The field is referred to by locals as “Courthouse Square.” It was where the first Pocahontas County Courthouse was constructed in the 1820s. Today, two structures are located on the property: the jail building and the “Old Clerk’s Office.”

Resource 1. Old County Jail (1882-1884), contributing building

The Old County Jail sits at the northern corner of the property and faces southwest. The jail is a two-story, square, 27’ by 23’ structure built primarily with white Medina sandstone. The front third is made with stuccoed bricks. Interestingly for a jailhouse, this building exhibits several aspects of Italianate style architecture. This includes its cubic form, a low-pitched hipped roof with two brick corbelled chimneys, and an overhanging eave with decorative brackets. There are six, six-over-six wood sash windows; two on the front (southwest) side, two on the back (northeast) side, and one each on the remaining sides. Each window is shielded with external metal grills for security. The sole entrance and exit is a thick, crisscrossed, timber door, studded with hand-cut nails for enhanced security. A transom window (also with a metal grill) sits above the door. The window trim, door, brackets, and eave are all painted red.

The interior contains four jail cells, two on each floor, with a foyer on each floor. It has hardwood flooring, with brick walls and a wood ceiling both covered in plaster. The cells are partitioned from one another with plastered stacked lumber walls. A dog-leg wood staircase with iron handrails leads to the second story. Each cell is accessed through a thick wood door. One cell on the first floor contains a wooden toilet. Both cells on the second story feature a shackle ring bolted into the center of the floors, to chain higher security prisoners. Graffiti is scrawled over much of the plaster walls on the second floor. They consist mainly of names and dates, but also include drawings of people, animals, a hand, and a house. Visible dates on the graffiti range from the 1890s to 1915.

The jail building appears to be in good shape structurally, but signs of deterioration are evident. Small portions of stucco have chipped away on the front exterior, exposing the brickwork. Much of the interior plasterwork has been lost due to deterioration, vandalism, and botched repair attempts. A seam metal replacement roof was installed sometime in the 1960s or 1970s. Locals
involved with overseeing the jail state that the wood sash windows are replacements, albeit visually similar to the original. Despite minor deterioration, the metal roof, and replacement windows, the jail retains a good deal of integrity and is able to fully convey its historic association.

**Resource 2. Old Clerk’s Office (date unknown), contributing building**

The Old Clerk’s Office is a small, shed-like, single-room structure at the south central part of the property, facing southeast. The southwest and northwest walls are made with common bond brick, while the northeast and southeast walls are made with vertical weatherboards. The front (southeast) side is covered with a faux red brick veneer. The building appears to rest on a sandstone foundation. The low pitched gable roof is clad in ribbed sheet metal. The southwest wall has two windows, each boarded up. The northwest wall has a single, wood sash window. While significantly deteriorated, it appears to be a transom window over a nine-pane window. The southeast side has a distinct, wood sash, three-over-three arched window. A red wooden door on the southeast side is the only entrance.

Local residents maintain that this structure served as a county clerk’s office in the 1800s. Written histories of Pocahontas County indicate that a separate structure for clerk’s offices was constructed either in 1822 or 1852, and that it stood near the rear portico of the courthouse. It is unclear whether the two wooden walls were part of the building’s original design or if they were constructed later to replace bricks matching the other two walls.

In contrast to the jail building, the clerk’s office is in an advanced state of deterioration. Many bricks are loose. Much of the northwest corner is parged with cement. The northeast wood wall is rotting and collapsing. The faux brick veneer is peeling on the southeast side. No glass is extant in any of the windows. The metal roof is rusted and warped. Despite these structural threats, the building generally maintains its form and massing.

---

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
Calhoun County High School
Name of Property

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance
1920-1973

Significant Dates
1920-1923
1942
1955

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Ford, Stephen Wardner (Ford, S.W.) (Architect)
Holmes, William (Construction foreman)
Shrake, P.Q. (Brick mason and Contractor)
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School in Calhoun County, West Virginia is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Education. Calhoun County High School as an excellent example of an early 20th-century high school that reflected the changing architectural style and emphasis on educational buildings in the United States during the first half of the 20th century. The design and construction of the high school property also reflects the prevailing trends in early 20th-century institutional architecture. Calhoun County High School also is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Designed by Clarksburg, West Virginia architect S.W. Ford in the Collegiate Gothic style, the Calhoun County High School is a rare surviving example in west-central West Virginia of this popular style that was used nationally from the late 19th to the mid-20th century in collegiate and other institutional-type buildings. The 1920-1923 building and a contributing 1953 gymnasium are the only two resources on the nominated two-acre parcel and are from the period of significance. The Calhoun County High School is eligible on a local level with a Period of Significance extending from 1920, the beginning of construction, to 1973, the 50-year mark for a building that had continued to function in its original capacity and retains its architectural and historical significance into the recent past.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Justification of Criteria

Criterion A: Education

The Calhoun County High School is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Education for its important role in the early development of formal education in a remote portion of west-central West Virginia. After years of feuding between northern and southern Calhoun County on where the school should be built, court battles on why it should be built, and outright opposition to its creation, the approval of the location and building of a county high school finally succeeded in 1916. The school opened in 1923 in the county seat of Grantsville as the first and only high school in Calhoun County. Constructed by local "Calhouners," the large stone building has beamed as a source of pride for Calhoun County its entire lifespan. Although, after peaking in the 1940s and 1950s, the Calhoun County population has continued to decline. And even though the high school continued to be well attended, maintained, and updated over the years, it could not keep up with mandatory regulations. With the opening of a new consolidated middle and high school nearby, the high school permanently closed in 1998, leaving Calhoun County with a total of four schools, including a career center.
Criterion C: Architecture
The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an intact, two-story Collegiate Gothic style solid stone structure built with irregular-coursed, rock-faced ashlars. The formation sandstone designed by architect S.W. Ford (1875-1944) of Clarksburg, West Virginia. The Collegiate Gothic style is a sub-genre of the Gothic Revival style that was popular on college and high school campuses during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The beginning of Collegiate Gothic style in North America dates to the 1894 construction of Pembroke Hall on the campus of Bryn Mawr College, in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The college had previously hired the Philadelphia architectural firm of Cope and Stewardson in 1887 for other commissions, and for Pembroke Hall dormitory, they based their design on the Gothic architecture of Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Many other commissions soon followed for Cope and Stewardson, and the Collegiate Gothic movement transformed many college campuses nationwide, becoming the prevailing architectural style across campuses for decades. The main defining characteristics of the Collegiate Gothic style are its use of a rectangular plan, arched and recessed entryways, and spaced or stepped parapet roofs, all of which are captured in the high school building, which is further accentuated by the vertical lines of the twin entrance towers and the rock-faced texture of the facade stone and pointed mortar lines. The Calhoun County High School is well-preserved, although the interior, roof, and windows were gutted by fire in 1942 and were rebuilt in 1943. The 1943 fabric, including the current 6/1 wood sash windows, remains markedly intact. There have been no additions to the school, nor any new buildings constructed on the property. The setting remains intact with a 1920s-30s neighborhood behind the school and the Little Kanawha River and downtown Grantsville towards the front. Built by skilled "Calhouners" with locally sourced lumber, labor, brick, and stone in one of the poorest and most remote regions of West Virginia, the high school remains one of the best designed and most striking extant buildings in the environs of Calhoun County, West Virginia.

Historical Background
Calhoun County was created by an act of the Virginia General Assembly on March 5, 1856, from Gilmer County, at which time, the county had less than 2,500 residents. Calhoun County was named for John Caldwell Calhoun (1782-1850), a South Carolina statesman who championed state's rights. His political career spanned from 1808 to 1850 when he served as a Senator, Secretary of War, and as Vice-President under two different administrations.

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Early Inhabitants and Settlement
The first native people in central West Virginia were the Mound Builders, also known as the Adena people. During the late 1500s and early 1600s, several thousand Hurons which had occupied present-day West Virginia were driven from the state by the Iroquois Confederacy. And by the early 1700s, the Shawnee, Mingo, Delaware, and other Indian tribes were also present. But by mid-century, after numerous wars, escalations, and treaties, the Iroquois Confederacy and the Cherokee relinquished their claims on the territory between the Ohio River and the Alleghenies to the British. And at the end of the American Revolutionary War (1776-1783), the Mingo and Shawnee retreated to their homeland in Ohio, and as the number of settlers in the region grew, they moved further inland, leaving western Virginia to the white settlers.9

Early accounts of English settlers, Native Americans hunters, and explorers along the rivers in present-day Calhoun County were first recorded in the 1770s and 1780s. Abraham Thomas was perhaps the first permanent settler in present-day Calhoun County. In 1774, he was granted 400 acres and built a cabin along the Little Kanawha River. Other early settlers included Michael Stump (1804), Phillip Starcher, Sr. (1810), and James Mayse (1814).10

During the Civil War, the county was evenly divided; however, many prominent citizens and office holders sided with the Confederacy. When Union forces entered the county in 1861, many of the residents joined the Moccasin Rangers, a para-military organization led by several men and a notorious spy named Nancy Hart, the "Lady Guerilla." The Rangers engaged in several skirmishes with the Union forces, including battles in 1861 and 1862 in the northern part of the county and on May 6, 1862, at Arnoldsburg, south of what would become Grantsville.11

Grantsville - Calhoun County Seat
The creation and location of the county seat was entangled, contentious, and hard fought from the start to the bitter end. Although Calhoun County was created in March 1856, by that summer, the first members of the court had created two separate factions: one met in the current site of Brooksville, known as the Little Kanawha faction, and the other in Arnoldsburg, the Arnoldsburg faction. By September 1857, a unified county court had been established at Brooksville, and a frame courthouse constructed. However, the following year, the county seat was moved back to Arnoldsburg, and a one-story frame courthouse was constructed there. During the Civil War, the county government ceased to function, and records were hidden by the Arnoldsburg faction.12

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9 Dr. Robert Jay Dilger.
10 Ibid.
11 Personal correspondence from Robert G. Bonar.
12 Dilger, Personal correspondence from Robert Bonar.
In June 1865, county officials voted to move the county seat to the Simon Stump farm (now Grantsville), and in August 1866, county officials purchased a 3½ acre site from Simon Stump for $100, and construction of the new Grantsville frame courthouse began. But the citizens of Arnoldsburg demanded that the county seat be returned to them, and after their appeal failed, a mysterious fire in 1867 destroyed the Grantsville courthouse that was under construction. Soon after, the state legislature ordered the county to move the county seat back to Arnoldsburg. After the county court had moved back and forth between Arnoldsburg and Grantsville, an election was finally held in October 1869 to settle the issue. Grantsville was selected as the county seat, but the leading citizens of Arnoldsburg contested the election, which failed. Holding on to bitter and divisive feelings nearly 30 years later, in 1898, the citizens of Arnoldsburg claimed that the now third and brick-constructed courthouse at Grantsville was unsafe and attempted to move the county seat again. Another election was held, and by a slim margin of 935-925, the county's voters kept the county seat in Grantsville. The town was incorporated in 1896.\(^\text{13}\)

The main building in downtown Grantsville is the ca. 1940 Calhoun County Courthouse poised high on the courthouse square. Being the county’s fourth courthouse, it was constructed with the same Arnoldsburg Formation Sandstone as the high school. The raised two-story building overlooks a row of 1920s two-and-three-story commercial block buildings along Main Street, with other stone and brick commercial and governmental buildings anchored by a ca. 1930 brick corner gas station with original canopy. Fires, floods, and the relocation of WV-16 have resulted in the alteration and loss of some buildings in downtown Grantsville.

**Early Education in West Virginia and Calhoun County**

Prior to any laws regarding education in either Virginia or West Virginia, there were no legal provisions made for schools. The first organized schools were known as Common Primary Schools where respective communities erected schoolhouses at their own expense and employed teachers. Schools were open to all children of all parents who were able to pay tuition. Thousands of these schools were established and continued under the name of “Old Field Schools.”\(^\text{14}\) School terms lasted about two months, and tuition ranged from $2.00-3.00 per pupil per term. Some teachers were very competent while others were barely literate. Although records were not kept, it is estimated that perhaps half the children in West Virginia attended these schools.\(^\text{15}\) It was not until the Virginia School Law in 1846, that the General Assembly created an act establishing a primary school system. Counties were to divide into districts and appoint school commissioners with the creation of a Board of School Commissioners. Schools were for children between the ages of five and sixteen years.\(^\text{16}\)

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\(^\text{13}\) Dilger, Personal correspondence from Robert Bonar.  
\(^\text{14}\) Clendenin Historic Narrative, p. 17.  
\(^\text{16}\) Clendenin Historic Narrative, p. 17.
West Virginia was delineated from the Commonwealth of Virginia and admitted to the Union on June 20, 1863. The Senate Committee on Education wrote the first school law of the State in 1863, entitled “An Act providing for the Establishment of a System of Free Schools,” which provided for the election of a State Superintendent. Changes in education occurred rapidly in West Virginia between 1872 and World War I. The responsibility of the schools was placed with the governor, superintendent of schools, school boards, auditor, and treasurer. County sheriffs were required to collect all levies and make annual settlements to the counties. The school year was kept to a minimum four-month term, and frame school buildings began to shift from one- and two-room structures to larger, more centralized, multi-room facilities. The 1872 constitution clarified that “White and colored persons shall not be taught in the same school.”

The black population, or any other minority of Calhoun County, has always been low. The 1860 census of Calhoun County’s black population noted three households of nine slaves and one free black, while the 1920 census noted four households of 35 black, and one mulatto for the county. The former Sherman School District (Calhoun County) Board of Education Minutes revealed that in 1891 there were a total of 647 students, including 24 “colored,” and that in 1894-95 there were 16 white schools and one colored school.

In 1929, the State Board of Education recommended the appointment of a school superintendent for each county, and the creation of county school boards that would follow the “county unit” for purposes of taxation and administration. The “county unit plan” consolidated hundreds of small school districts into 55 county systems. Supported by Governor Kump, in 1934, the law abolished 398 school districts and created one school district per county. This consolidation caused the closure of many smaller schools.

Calhoun County High School
In the early 20th century, the concept of creating high schools became popular nationally. But for the students in Calhoun County who wanted to continue their education past the 8th grade, they had to travel to adjoining counties or to the Glenville State Normal School in adjacent Gilmer County. But similar to choosing the courthouse site earlier, the decision to build a county high school and where to locate it proved equally contentious and lengthy. While some proponents favored a secondary school to keep the students within the county, others, many who were poor, were opposed to having their taxes pay for a high school that they thought unnecessary.

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18 Clendenin, pp. 19-20.
19 Don McRother, from “Inland Retreat”, the Story of Calhoun County, no page given, provided by the owner.
Despite the political battle within Calhoun County, downright opposition, and "a campaign of dirtiness...", on June 10, 1915, a vast majority of voters (599-300) approved a bill to levy a new high school. Grantsville Attorney Bruce Ferrell wrote the bill and Delegate Howard Waldo got legislative approval for the incorporation of Calhoun County High School. But a month later, an injunction was filed against the Board ceasing all activities until the legal matter was settled. The circuit court dissolved the injunction on March 22, 1916, and planning began again. The first High School Board of Directors included J.M. Hamilton, William Webb, G.W. Hardman, C.M. Eisman, and W.J. Sharps. In August 1916, the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County High School agreed to a proposed levying of an additional property tax of 15 cents per $100.00 of property for the current fiscal year. This tax was to be applied as part payment for the site and building of the school, which was then estimated to be $40,000. The actual cost was $150,000.

Once the decision was made to build the new school, the choice of locating it in either Mt. Zion, Arnoldsburg, or Grantsville had to be made. Once again contentions arose, and each locality fought over whose was best for the new school. Mainly because most students had to provide their own transportation and most of them lived in Grantsville, the county seat was selected. Over the next two years several sites in Grantsville were considered and even bought and sold before the Board of Education purchased a seven-acre tract from Florence Pell and her husband J.W. along the Little Kanawha River at the mouth of Phillips Run. This tract was taken from their 53-acre parcel, and included a small house known as the "Ball log cabin." Most likely vacant at the time, the house stood near the floodplain of the river.

The original owners of the 53-acres were McFarland and Ann Ball who sold "the old John Ball home place" to Lemuel Stump on February 18, 1880 (CCDB:5/254). On May 26, 1880, Lemuel Stump conveyed the 53 acres to Florence Pell for $1.00 (CCDB:5/289). Neither Ball nor Stump lived on the farm as they both resided in Gilmer County. Florence Pell continued to live on the farm and later married. The deed noted that "Florence Pell & Husband" sold "the seven acre and 81.48 square rods parcel" to the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County High School for $2,377.38 (CCDB:207/23). The purchase of the school property occurred on June 15, 1918, notably after the Board of Education had already hired an architect to design the school.

21 Don McGlothin, from "Inland Retreat," the Story of Calhoun County.
23 Calhoun County Courthouse, Clerk of the Court, Grantsville, WV. July 15, 2022.
Architect S.W. Ford of Clarksburg, West Virginia was hired in 1917. Based on a subgenre of Gothic Revival architecture, the Collegiate Gothic style, which Ford used, was popular on North American college campuses during the first half of the 20th century. Stephen Wardner Ford (1875-1944) was a self-taught architect from Harrison County in north central West Virginia. In 1900, he married Ima Vista Heavener in Lewis County, West Virginia, and practiced in the City of Salem (Harrison County). The family permanently settled in the City of Clarksburg, the county seat of Harrison County in 1908, where Ford practiced architecture out of the Harrison Building for his entire career until his unexpected death in 1944. He left behind six living children and his widow Ima, who lived to be 92.

Ford designed many distinguished residences, municipal buildings, and some churches in north central West Virginia. Ford mostly called for frame or brick, or a combination thereof; for his designs, but stone construction was not mentioned. Perhaps the use of Arnoldsburg Sandstone on the high school was the town’s preference over the more commonly used brick since they had also used it on the town’s Masonic Lodge, that faces towards the courthouse on a corner lot. The Eureka Lodge No. 40 (dating to 1882) was constructed in 1921 and used the same method of construction with the sandstone as with the school, suggesting a connection between the two.

In February 1920, Ford presented his plans for the new school, and on June 20, 1920, Scott Peninger, one of the county’s pioneering educators, broke ground. However, World War I may have delayed supplies as the Calhoun Chronicle noted on April 21, 1921, that “…of last week, active work of the big building on the South Side was commenced.” The 1923 building was typical of high schools built during that time, with classrooms, offices, and hallways surrounding a central core with the gym in the basement, and the auditorium on the second floor.

Construction stayed on schedule, and an all-day event was held for the laying of the cornerstone on Monday, July 4, 1921. With over 3,500 attendees throughout the day, the celebration began with speeches on the lawn of the courthouse in the morning and a delegation of the West Virginia Grand Lodge of Masons leading the procession to the school site in the afternoon. After more fanfare, the President of the High School Board, Gay Stalnaker, invited the Grand Master to lay the cornerstone, which was laid according to the ritualistic ceremony of the Masons.

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Construction of the high school used Arroldsburg Formation Sandstone, a high-quality building stone that was quarried at various sites in the county for the exterior walls. The interior was brick and plaster, and M.A.C. Board provided 100,000 feet of framing lumber from his local mill. In 1921, the School Board of Directors employed William Holmes from Xenia, Ohio to be construction foreman. Most of the workers were proud “Calhouners.” It was also noted that “P.Q. Shrafe, who was in charge of the work last year, will bring the machinery for moulding and burning brick here and set up on the high school grounds for the manufacture of brick for the high school...” And that the brick would be considered for the construction of the upper two floors instead of stone as was planned. Fortunately, it was not.

The school opened its doors on Monday September 17, 1923, and Marvin Cooper was hired as the principal with over 100 students enrolled. A graduate of the Glenville State Normal School (in Gilbert County), Cooper was described as a “forty-five-year-old, firm, energetic...thickset firmly built man...with a driving personality...that left no room for a student to talk back.” During his tenure that lasted until 1930, he was responsible for much orderliness and progress, including helping the student body create a school paper, “Who’s Who and What’s What in Calhoun County High School.” A news column from it was published each week in The Calhoun Chronicle and The Grantsville News. Cooper was also known for his successful coaching of the football team that he created in the fall of 1923 (with baseball started that spring). Sports remained popular at the school, and the teams' name, The Red Devils, continues today with the new school in Mitzon.

The first class of 19 students graduated in the spring of 1925. The following year, 1925-26, enrollment jumped to 127 students. Typical classes included Civics, English, Latin, History, Math, Geography, Science, Commerce, Sociology, Chemistry, and Agriculture. And that same year, Home Economics, Business, Music, and Normal classes were added. The 1928-29 academic year had 173 enrolled students. By the 1929-30 academic year, the first yearbook was published, “The Calhounian.” Band classes had been added, and enrollment had more than doubled from the opening of the school to 200. In 1930, Cooper was followed by D.M. McKown, “an eccentric professor” from Marshall College who only lasted one year but was remembered for introducing bus service for out-of-town students.  

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29 Calhoun Chronicle newspaper article “Fine High School in Progress” and “III. Calhoun High Under Marvin Cooper,” dated 10/12/1922 provided by the owner.
30 Calhoun Chronicle newspaper article “III. Calhoun High Under Marvin Cooper” and “IV. McKown and High School Bus Service,” dated 10/12/1922 provided by the owner.

Section 8 page 18
Before 1930, there had not been any publicly supported transportation for the students and most of them walked in from the surrounding areas. Others boarded during the week with friends or relatives or stayed at one of several apartments or rooming houses near the school. The school had used a REO Speed Wagon, and later a Dodge bus, to pick up local students.\textsuperscript{32} But the population of Grantsville had more than doubled from 450 in 1920 to over 1,000 in 1930. By 1932, a record number of students had enrolled in the school, 410, of these, 298 were rural students who were transported in by four new buses along State Routes 16 and 33/119. By 1940, enrollment had soared to almost 600 students and overcrowding became an issue.\textsuperscript{33}

1942 Fire
At 12:30 a.m. Sunday morning, January 21, 1942, a fire that started in the basement electrical control room spread throughout the building and destroyed everything except the stone-and-brick lined exterior walls and the steel I-beams that held them up. The town did not have a fire department or trained firefighters, and the hoses that were used that night had frozen after being put away wet earlier. Classes for the 500 students resumed within a week and met at various churches and civic locations. When the school was being rebuilt in 1942, overcrowding was addressed, and the gym and auditorium were replaced with seven classrooms and a boiler room. The school reopened on January 18, 1943, just 11 months after the fire.\textsuperscript{34}

Mid-Century to Present
With the passage of Brown vs Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas in 1954, the citizens of West Virginia accepted the new standard of desegregation in public schools. However, there never was a large black population in the state.\textsuperscript{35} Robert Bonar, former Calhoun County High School Principal from the 1970s into the 1990s, stated that there were black students, and at least a dozen Hispanics and Asian students, but there never was an issue with racism.\textsuperscript{36}

During the early 1950s, the School Board made major building improvements county-wide, and Calhoun County had enough funding, among other projects, to build a new auditorium and gymnastics at the high school. The 1953 building was a combination gym and auditorium called a "gymatorium." Its side wings held a kitchen/café, a music room, and Home Economic classes, and were popular gathering places for students. Also in 1953, the high school received a first-class rating from the Department of Education for the first time.

\textsuperscript{32} Lines and Links, Spring 2022. "Calhoun County High School Centennial," p. 10
\textsuperscript{33} Unnamed article from the Calhoun Chronicle provided by the owner, no date or author given.
\textsuperscript{36} Personal Interview with Robert G. Bonar, July 15, 2022.
With federal and state funding in 1972, the Board of Education planned many new improvements in Grantsville, including renovations for the high school. But the voters defeated the proposal in 1975. Although the high school continued to be improved and updated in the 1980s and 1990s, it could not keep up with mandatory regulations such as handicap accessibility. With the opening of the new Calhoun County Middle/High School in Mt. Zion in the mid-1990s, the last class graduated from Calhoun County High School in 1998.\textsuperscript{37} In 1948, Calhoun County had 73 elementary schools, with only two existing today, Arnoldsburg and Pleasant Hill.\textsuperscript{38}  

During a 2002 tour of the school, alumni Bob Weaver (Class of 1958) summed up his school experience this way: “Calhoun High was the center of the universe for most Calhoun kids before television came to the county in the 1950s and the ownership of cars to drive to more exciting activities... It was a time of connection between students, teachers, and the structure itself.”\textsuperscript{39} After the closing of the school, its ownership changed several times, until August 2021, when a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, The 1982 Foundation, purchased the high school and gymnasium (CCDB:292-417) with plans to convert them into the future Calhoun County Community Center. When completed, the center will offer retail and office space as well as Airbnb rentals for travelers. Built with Calhoun pride, the stone high school building will serve Calhoun County once again with a renewed source of hope for the county and the surrounding west-central region of West Virginia.

\textsuperscript{37} History of Calhoun County High School Presentation, October 2021, provided by the owner.
\textsuperscript{38} https://www.univstats.com/k-12/west-virginia/mt-zion/calhoun-middle-high-school/.
\textsuperscript{39} Bob Weaver, The Hur Herald. The Ghosts of Calhoun High – “It was the Center of the Universe.” Reprinted 6/22/2021.
9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)


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Hanson, Syd. Interview with Cody Straley. November 18, 2022.


“Stark Rites Saturday At Church In Ceredo.” Huntington Herald-Dispatch. February 1, 1968.


Thomson, C. W. History of Ceredo and Kenova. N.d.


Mount Zion Baptist Church  Marion County, WV
Name of Property  County and State

Primary location of additional data:
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
  Name of repository: ____________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): MA-0738

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.06
Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84: ___________ (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)
1. Latitude: ___________ Longitude: ___________
2. Latitude: ___________ Longitude: ___________
3. Latitude: ___________ Longitude: ___________
4. Latitude: ___________ Longitude: ___________

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):
☐ NAD 1927  or  ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 17N  Easting: 573304  Northing: 4371095
2. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
3. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
4. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary associated with the Mount Zion Baptist Church is listed as tax parcel id: 24-03-0027-0007 with a legal boundary description of Lot 4, Cleveland Avenue. A more detailed description can be found in Marion County Deed Book 1221, Page 287.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the property that was historically related to the Mount Zion Baptist Church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sandra Seafftidi, Architectural Historian and John Pitman, Preservation Associate
organization: Practical Preservation
street & number: 1 Avalon Road
city or town: Fairmont state: WV zip code: 26554
e-mail: sandra@practical-preservation.com; john@practical-preservation.com
telephone: 304-314-3773
date: April 1, 2023

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5- or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.

• Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

• Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
Photographs
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn’t need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Mount Zion Baptist Church

City or Vicinity: Fairmont

County: Marion State: West Virginia

Photographer: Sandra Scaife (and Jalon Staples as noted)

Date Photographed: March 20, 2023 or as noted.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 15. Mount Zion Baptist Church, facing southwest. Photo taken April 15, 2023.
Photo 2 of 15. Mount Zion Baptist Church, facing southwest.
Photo 3 of 15. South elevation. Facing northwest.
Photo 6 of 15. Cornerstone, facing west.
Photo 7 of 15. Entry into Narthex from vestibule, facing north.
Photo 8 of 15. Narthex, facing north. Note two restrooms at center of photo; stained glass windows at right.
Photo 9 of 15. Interior of the church, facing west.
Photo 10 of 15. Interior of church, facing balcony and entry, facing east.
Photo 11 of 15. Tiered balcony, facing northwest.
Photo 12 of 15. Balcony, facing north.
Photo 15 of 15. Typical window detail, facing east.
Mount Zion Baptist Church

Marion County, WV

Name of Property

County and State

Photo 1. Mount Zion Baptist Church, facing southwest (Photo taken April 15, 2023).
Mount Zion Baptist Church
Name of Property

Marion County, WV
County and State

Photo 2. Mount Zion Baptist Church, facing southwest.

Photo 3. Facing northwest.

Photograph Page 2 of 11
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
MPS Form 16-900
OMB Control No. 1024-0018

Dunbar Recreation Center
Name of Property

Hancock, West Virginia
County and State

Dunbar Recreation Center Sketch Map
300 Kessel Street, Weirton, Hancock County WV 26062

☐ National Register Boundaries
☐ Photo Vantage Points

Note: not to scale

Figure 1: Site Plan with Photo Key

Sections 9-end page 22
Dunbar Recreation Center

Hancock, West Virginia

Legend

☐ National Register Boundaries

Parcel ID: 15-06-W43E-0061-000

Address: 300 Kessel Street, Weirton WV 26062

Legal Description: 6 W 4th ADN

Map courtesy of WV Property Viewer at mapwv.gov/property

Figure 2: Parcel Map

Sections 9-end page 23
Figure 3: USGS Topographical Locational Map
Figure 4: Floor Plan with Photo Key, Main Floor
Figure 5: Floor Plan with Photo Key, Basement

Sections 9-end page 26
Jim Justice  
Governor

Randall Reid-Smith  
Curator / State Historic Preservation Officer  
West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

Susan Pierce  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

The Culture Center  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Charleston, WV 25305

Phone: 304-558-0220  
TDD: 304-558-3562  
Fax: 304-558-2779

wvculture.org/agencies/state-historic-preservation-office-shpo/

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