

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting 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: Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location Portions of East and West Main Street, Oakford Avenue, Commercial Avenue,

Street & number: Park Place, Edgewood Avenue, Railroad Alley, and East Walnut Street

City or town: Richwood State: West Virginia County: Nicholas

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐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 x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. 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 x C D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Date State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
Signature of commenting official: Date Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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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 ☒

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Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

☐

District

☒

Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

Number of Resources within Property (ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION)

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

43

4

buildings

10

sites

structures

objects

43

14

Total

Number of Resources within Property (BOUNDARY INCREASE)

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

42

10

buildings

1

sites

1

structures

objects

42

12

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, Multiple Dwelling, Hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE: Office Building, Organizational, Financial Institution, Specialty Store, Department Store, Restaurant, Warehouse

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

GOVERNMENT: City Hall, Post Office

RELIGION: Religious Facility, Church-Related Residence

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Theatre

HEALTH CARE: Hospital, Medical

Business/Office

TRANSPORTATION: Rail-Related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, Multiple Dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: Office Building, Specialty Store, Restaurant, Warehouse

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

GOVERNMENT: Post Office

RELIGION: Religious Facility, Church-Related Residence

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Late Gothic Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Craftsman

MID-CENTURY MODERN/Ranch

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials:

CONCRETE/concrete block

STONE

BRICK

TERRA COTTA

Walls:

BRICK

ALUMINUM SIDING

VINYL

STUCCO

CONCRETE BLOCK

WOOD

METAL

Roof:

ASPHALT SHINGLES

ROLLED ROOFING

RUBBER MEMBRANE

METAL

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.)

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Summary Paragraph

This expanded Downtown Richwood Historic District includes the previously-listed historic central business district and two adjacent residential neighborhoods in this Nicholas County, West Virginia community. The previously-listed downtown district contained approximately 10 acres along East and West Main Streets, Oakford Avenue, and small sections of East Walnut Street east of Oakford Avenue, and Commercial Avenue, to which has been added approximately 13 acres along East Main Street, a small section of East Walnut Street west of Park Place, and Park Place north of East Main Street and south of Spruce Street. 111 resources are found within the expanded district; 26 are evaluated as being non-contributing to the district's character because they have been significantly altered or are fewer than 50 years of age; 9 of the 21 are vacant parcels. 57 of the 111 are found in the previously-listed Downtown Richwood Historic District (NR 2001). Richwood is located approximately 100 miles east of the state capitol at Charleston. Most of the district's buildings were erected following the community's founding in 1901 and, in the case of the business district, during the 1920s, following several catastrophic downtown fires. Most, but not all, and are primarily vernacular in character.¹

The district's streets are laid out in a grid pattern. The principal thoroughfares are East and West Main Streets (State Routes 39 and 55) at the center, which run generally from east to west and are divided at Oakford Avenue. White Avenue was opened in recent years and intersects East Main Street. Edgewood Avenue intersects Oakford Avenue south of Main Street and unnamed alleys are found north and south of Main Street. Park Place (a continuation of Routes 39 and 55 that is also known as the Highland Scenic Highway) lies east of the business district and a small section of East Walnut Street runs westward from Park Place.

The amendments to this district were brought about to revise and update the Period of Significance, to encompass several historic resources dating from after the 1950 end of the original Period of Significance, to include the two significant residential neighborhoods immediately adjacent to the historic downtown, and to account for the demolition of properties in the original district.

Narrative Description

The revised Downtown Richwood Historic District consists of a c. 23-acre historic district comprising the historic central business district (NR 2001) and immediately adjacent historic residential neighborhoods in this Nicholas County, West Virginia community. Much of the district is topographically flat and lies in a wooded valley north of Cherry River. Oakwood Avenue slopes downward south of Main Street and upward to the north; Park Place slopes gently upward as it

¹The term, "vernacular," when used in this context, conforms to the definition which appears in Ward Bucher's **Dictionary of Building Preservation**: "a building built without being designed by an architect or someone with similar formal training; often based on traditional or regional forms." The term as it is used here, is by no means a pejorative, particularly since so many more buildings built nearly everywhere during the Period of Significance of this district reflect local building traditions and the skill of local builders rather than that of formally-trained architects.

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extends northward from East Main Street; the other streets are essentially flat. The district's architecture consists generally of one- and two-story commercial buildings built of brick and generally lacking side-lot setbacks, along with detached domestic architecture of one and two stories, primarily built of wood frame construction, with some finished in stucco, as well as two historic churches. The district includes privately-owned properties as well as locally- and -state-owned roadways, and a federally-owned post office.

The district's streets and alleys, most of which are asphalt-paved, are laid out in a grid pattern, with East and West Main Streets (State Route 39) at the center; Main Street is compass-divided at Oakford Avenue. White Avenue was opened in recent years and intersects East Main Street from the south. Edgewood Avenue is little more than an alley and intersects Oakford Avenue south of Main Street, and unnamed alleys are found north and south of Main Street. East and West Walnut Street mark the northern boundary of the district and Walnut Street (different from East and West Walnut) is little more than an alley that runs east and west immediately north of Main Street. Park Place is a street containing a residential neighborhood located at the east end of East Main Street. Vic Digregory Lane and Railroad Alley cross Oakford Avenue near the southern edge of the nominated area and Elm Street--also shown as Commercial Avenue on the district map--marks portions of the southern boundary. Concrete sidewalks are along many of the streets and portions of those on the north side of East Main Street are elevated above the cartways with cast metal fencing acting as guard rails along some of the street-side perimeters.

The architecture of the amended Downtown Richwood Historic District consists primarily of commercial buildings and domestic architecture dating from the earliest years of the twentieth century through the mid-1960s. The district's residential buildings are one and two stories in height, built of frame construction, resting on stone and concrete block foundations and capped with pitched roofs of slate, asphalt shingles, and standing-seam metal. With few exceptions, fenestration is flat-topped. Most commercial buildings (Photo Nos. 1-5; 9-12; 14-18; 25-27) are of brick, flat-roofed or have gently front-to-rear sloping shed roofs, and exhibit traditional massing, with storefronts on the first floors, mostly with display windows; some of these incorporate bulkheads beneath the windows and entryways, some of which are recessed in a traditional manner. Doorways throughout the district are typically single-leaf. The upper facades of commercial buildings are generally penetrated by windows, characteristically flat-topped, units, one-over-one lights, set on stone sills and capped with stone and brick lintels. Some commercial buildings exhibit cornices of modest corbeled brick, and a small number are more elaborate with Italianate-style brack-eting.

Yellow brick began to replace red brick as a favored building material in the early years of the twentieth century, during which time much of downtown Richwood was growing, particularly following the 1920s fires that are discussed in Section 8. The majority of the commercial buildings in this historic district are of yellow brick, in many cases ornamented with contrasting red brick giving a polychrome effect to the facades. This tradition of polychrome brick finishes may be the

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hallmark of a particular builder, J. A. Tincher, whose prolific work is documented throughout the historic district; he is discussed more fully in Section 8. Representative examples of this design preference are found all along the commercial section of East Main Street.

Few buildings of high-style design are found in this district. Among these are the Italianate-style IOOF Lodge building at 2 West Main Street (Resource No. 43; Photo No. 2) with tall, narrow window proportions and hardware merchant D. E. Snyder's building at 43 Oakford Avenue (Resource No. 52; Photo No. 3), built in two stages in 1905 and 1909, with an exterior of locally-distinctive rusticated wood blocks and a bracketed metal cornice with semi-circular pediments over each section.

The Neo-Classical Revival appears in the Richwood Banking and Trust Building (Resource No. 42; Photo No. 1) at 2 East Main Street that incorporates an arcaded first story with a rusticated brick finish, two upper stories of yellow brick penetrated by flat-topped multi-light windows, and a modest brick cornice.

The Late Gothic Revival style, employing the lancet-arched window forms of its stylistic predecessors, is represented in the substantial 1922 First United Methodist Church (Resource No. 10; Photo No. 13) at the top of the hill at 50 Oakwood Avenue. It is built of buff-colored brick and is the work of Huntington architect Levi Dean, who is discussed in more detail in Section 8. Lancet-arched fenestration also appears in the Richwood Presbyterian Church at 64 East Main Street (1909 with a 1924 addition; Resource No. 87; Photo No. 21).

The Colonial Revival style was born of the fervor of patriotism following the 1876 American Centennial and appeared in a variety of building types over the next century. The best example of this style in the commercial section of the district is the 1936-1937 U. S. Post Office at 22 East Main Street (Resource No. 36; Photo No. 7), built during the W. P. A., with a symmetrical five-bay façade, a side-gable roof and multi-sided cupola, along with a segmental-arched entry en-framed within a frontispiece with Doric pilasters. It was built under the U. S. Treasury's Supervising Architect Louis A. Simon. Interestingly, it is nearly identical to the 1939 Post Office in Mullins, South Carolina, also the work of Simon; both are examples of the Treasury Department's "standard plan" for post offices. Domestic architecture executed in the Colonial Revival style include several properties along Park Place, noted in more detail in the Resource Inventory accompanying this nomination.

The Craftsman style appears in several homes along East Main Street as well as along Park Place, including 1½-story classic Bungalows, typically side-gable-roofed, with roofs that extend beyond the plane of the building to shield a recessed front porch and are capped with dormers.

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Some demolition has occurred within nominated area, for the most part leaving grassy empty tracts. Exceptions to this are Resource Numbers 26 and 51. Resource No. 51, Helios Park, at 45 Oakford Avenue replaced the 1920s Sokos Building, and was dedicated in 2019. Resource No. 26 is at 33 East Main Street (Photo No. 24), and contains the Sterling Spencer Memorial Sculpture Garden, a pocket park that in 1999 replaced the Northern Hotel that was demolished in 1990.

Several buildings within the business district have local-history-oriented murals painted onto their exposed sides, focused upon aspects such as mining and timbering.

RESOURCE INVENTORY

The following properties are found within the amended/expanded boundaries of the Downtown Richwood Historic District. The numbering corresponds to the two sectioned historic district maps prepared in conjunction with this nomination document. Contributing buildings retain integrity in most or all of its composite qualities of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and date from within the Period of Significance; most of the resources listed below are considered to be contributing to the character of the district other than those that are fewer than 50 years of age, have been altered significantly, or are vacant parcels of land formerly occupied by historic buildings and labeled “non-contributing.” Those followed by an **O** are within the original district, while those followed by **BI** are within the boundary increase area.

1. 27 West Main Street: This is a single-story front-gable-roofed office building with a three-bay façade and a centered entry featuring a single-leaf door flanked on either side by three-part flat-topped windows; similar windows are on the side elevations. The building is built of smooth dressed concrete block, and the façade is finished in a simulated stone. The pediment of the gable on the façade is finished in what appears to be board-and-batten vinyl siding. (Contributing; 1966) **O**
2. 25 West Main Street: This 2-story commercial building is built of concrete block with an entire façade of red brick. The façade is penetrated by single-leaf doors on the outer portions. The upper sections of the side elevations are penetrated by sliding glass windows. (Strickler Building; contributing; c. 1950) **O**

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3. 21 West Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular residence of wood construction, with a hipped roof and an offset shallow-pitched gable on the east side of the façade. Fenestration is flat topped, 1/1. The originally open front porch has been enclosed and now exhibits a 5-bay massing with 4 windows and a single-leaf entry door; also, the window in the pediment of the gable is covered over. (contributing; c. 1920) **O**
4. 19 West Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building with a façade of yellow brick that exhibits distinctive red brick polychrome geometric ornamentation. The façade retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, with a centered entrance, brick bulkheads, and a transom that has been covered. A single leaf on the east side of the façade accesses the second story. The upper story is 3-bays in width, penetrated by flat topped steel frame multi-light windows. Side elevations exhibit flat-topped windows lacking notable detailing. (O'Dell Building; contributing; c. 1920) **O**
5. 17 West Main Street: This is a single-story mobile home that is fewer than 50 years of age and post-dates the Period of Significance. (c. 1970; non-contributing) **O**
6. 15 West Main Street: This is a non-historic house of wood construction with a side-gable roof, paired undersized windows and a single-leaf front door. (c. 1970; non-contributing) **O**
7. This is a grassy vacant parcel, formerly occupied by a commercial building (non-contributing) **O**
8. 9-11 West Main Street: This is a 3-story vernacular commercial building with a yellow brick façade and quoins of tile. The first story of the façade contains two storefronts and a centered single-leaf entry accessing the upper stories. The storefronts have been somewhat altered, although generally retain traditional window-to-wall ratios, with transoms, brick bulkheads, and display windows. The 4-bay second-story façade is penetrated by flat-topped windows and has two single-leaf doors in the center which open onto small pressed-metal balconies. The third story is of 3 bays and has a door at the center and a small balcony. The exposed eastern elevation is parged, and the western elevation retains the scars from an adjoining building that was removed. (DiGregorio Building; contributing; c. 1920)
9. 1 West Main Street: This is a flat-roofed gasoline station/convenience store of concrete block construction with display windows and a single-leaf front door. Pump islands are shielded by an overpoweringly large metal canopy. A shorter shed-roofed addition of wood construction, finished in T-111, is built on the east elevation. It has been significantly altered and has forfeited integrity (1949; non-contributing) **O**

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10. 50 Oakford Avenue: This is the First United Methodist Church, an irregularly-massed Late Gothic Revival-style brick church with an intersecting gable roof and a crenellated tower on the northeast corner whose openings appear to be in-filled with non-historic materials. Characteristic of the style, most fenestration is flat topped, multi-light, and is glazed with religious art glass. Bay spacing on the side walls is defined by buttresses, Double-leaf entry doors access the interior from the front and sides. The secondary elevations are less elaborately ornamented than are the Oakford Avenue and Walnut Avenue sides. (1922; contributing; Levi J. Dean, architect) **O**
11. 2 East Walnut Street: The Parsonage associated with the First Methodist Church, this is an irregularly-massed residential building of buff-colored brick, with an intersecting gable roof and a distinctive open wrap-around porch on the façade and a portion of the east elevation. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with some windows set singly, some in pairs, and in groups of three. A wood bay window is on the façade, shielded by the porch. (1922; contributing; Levi J. Dean, architect) **O**
12. 1 East Main Street: This 2-story painted brick commercial building incorporates a storefront on the first story that has been altered but retains traditional window-to-wall ratio. The upper façade is 3 bays in width, with flat-topped windows, somewhat altered from the original. Soldier course brick beltcourses embellish the upper façade which is capped with a stepped parapet. Early tenants included James Fisher who operated the Boston Candy Kitchen in the 1920s. (contributing; c. 1922) **O**
13. 3 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular building with a painted brick façade, and a storefront that has been remodeled, but retains traditional window-to wall-ratio, including a recessed centered entry. To the right of the storefront is a single-leaf entry door, somewhat altered, accessing the second story. The upper façade is penetrated by 3 bays, each containing paired flat-topped 1 / 1 windows. The façade is capped with a stepped parapet gable. (contributing; c. 1922) **O**
14. 5 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular building with a façade of red brick, and a storefront that retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, with display windows, a recessed entry, and an oversized signband. To the left of the storefront is a single-leaf entry door accessing the second story. The upper façade is penetrated by 3 bays, each containing 3 flat-topped 3/1 windows, and is capped with a stepped parapet. (contributing; 1921) **O**
15. 7 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular building with a façade of red brick, and an altered storefront that nonetheless retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, with display windows and an oversized signband. To the left of the storefront is a single-leaf entry door accessing the second story. The upper façade is penetrated by 3 bays, each containing altered windows, and the upper façade is capped with a stepped parapet. (contributing; 1921) **O**

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16. 9 East Main Street: A vacant lot formerly occupied by the Deitz-Spencer Building, which was demolished in July 2026.
This was a 1-story elongated vernacular building with a façade of painted yellow brick, with 4 storefronts, each of which had traditional window-to-wall ratios, with display windows and recessed entry doors. The upper façade was unadorned and solid. Deitz-Spencer was a local department store that anchored downtown Richwood for many decades before closing in 1990s. Headed by Bob Spencer, the store featured East Coast-quality clothing and their display windows were always among the community's finest. (non-contributing) **O**
17. 13 East Main Street: A vacant lot formerly occupied by a storefront connected to the Deitz-Spencer Building, which was demolished in July 2026
This was a 1-story vernacular building with a façade of yellow brick and a single storefront with a recessed entry and display window. The upper facade had part of a longitudinal band of red brick, suggesting that it was likely originally part of the Deitz-Spencer Building which adjoins it the east. (non-contributing) **O**
18. 15 East Main Street: This is a vacant parcel, formerly occupied by a mid-block building (non-contributing;) **O**
19. 15½ East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular brick building with a flat roof and a storefront that generally retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, with display windows and a single-leaf entry door as well as a single-leaf door accessing the upper floor. The upper façade is four bays in width, with flat topped 1/1 windows, above which is an elongated corbeled brick panel. (contributing; c. 1922) **O**
20. 17 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular building with a flat roof and a single storefront that incorporates a traditional window-to wall-ratio with a centered entrance and a single-leaf entry door. To the right of the storefront is a single-leaf door with a transom accessing the second story. The upper façade is penetrated by 3 bays, the two outermost containing two flat-topped 1/1 windows and the center bay containing a single flat-topped 1/1 window. A modest corbeled brick cornice is present below a flat parapet. (contributing; 1922) **O**
21. 21-23 East Main Street: This is a 1-story vernacular brick building with a flat roof and 3 storefronts, all of which have been altered from the original, with centered entries and residential-scale windows. The upper façade incorporates corbeled brick trim and is otherwise unornamented. (contributing; 1922) **O**
22. 25 East Main Street: This is a 1-story vernacular red brick building with a flat roof and a single storefront with traditional window-to-wall ratio, a centered single-leaf recessed entry door, a transom panel, and brick bulkheads. A flat marquee canopy extends across the façade. (contributing; 1922) **O**

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23. 27 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building of brick, with blonde brick façade, a storefront retaining traditional window-to-wall ratio with a recessed center entry and a transom (partly infilled), and a single-leaf entry door accessing the upper story. The second story is 4 bays in width, penetrated by flat-topped 1/1 windows and some alteration has occurred to the uppermost portion of the upper façade, with several courses of a different colored brick. (contributing; 1922) **O**
24. 29 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building of brick, built of structural tile, with a blonde brick façade, a storefront retaining traditional window-to-wall ratio with a flush-set center entry and a transom (partly infilled), and a single-leaf entry door accessing the upper story. A flat metal marquee awning extends across the façade, and the second story is 4 bays in width, penetrated by flat-topped 1/1 windows set on header brick sills. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**
25. 31 East Main Street: This is a 1-story vernacular commercial building of brick, with a blonde brick 3-bay symmetrical façade, with a centered single-leaf entry door with a 4-light transom, flanked by larger flat-topped fixed windows with matching 4-light transoms. Extending across façade is a stylized wood cornice supported by brackets, with a centered pediment. The upper façade is penetrated by a series of elongated vent openings and is capped with a stepped parapet. A modern mural has been painted on the exposed eastern elevation. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**
26. 33 East Main Street: This is a public park formerly occupied by the Northern Hotel (demolished c. 1990) with paved hardscape and a stone memorial. A plaque states, "The arts and nature join in this space in memory of one of Richwood's treasured individuals." (Sterling Spencer Memorial Sculpture Garden; 1997; non-contributing) **O**
27. 35 East Main Street: This is a 1-story vernacular commercial building of painted brick, with a storefront that has been altered and a single-leaf entry door to the right, retaining its original transom. The upper façade is penetrated by a series of elongated vent openings and is capped with a flat parapet with tile coping. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**
28. 37 East Main Street: This is a 1-story vernacular commercial building finished in yellow brick, with two storefronts that have been altered, each with single-leaf entry door; glazed enamel panels have replaced the original display windows. The upper façade is unaltered and retains its historic locally-distinctive yellow brick finish, trimmed with polychrome red brick with a longitudinal panel extending across the upper façade. The façade terminates in a flat parapet. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**

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29. 39 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building with an altered storefront that nonetheless retains traditional window-to-wall ratio. The upper façade is penetrated by two pairs of flat-topped sliding glass windows. (contributing; c.1926) **O**
30. 41 East Main Street: This is a two-story vernacular commercial building with a red brick façade and a storefront retaining traditional window-to-wall ratio with display windows and brick bulkheads. On the right side of the façade is a single-leaf entry door with a transom, accessing the second story. The upper facade is penetrated by a band of eight 1/1 flat-topped windows set on a continuous lug sill, above which is an elongated rectangular band of multicolored brick. (contributing; c. 1925) **O**
31. 38 East Main Street: This is a formerly mid-block commercial building, vernacular in character, with a baked enamel storefront with a deeply recessed entry flanked by display windows resting on simulated stone bulkheads. To the left of the storefront is a single-leaf entry door that access the second story. The upper facade is penetrated by two sets of paired 6/1 flat-topped windows, and the facade is capped with a flat parapet with tile coping. The adjoining building to the east was demolished post-1991 and a mural based on Richwood's history has been painted onto the now-exposed east wall. (contributing; c. 1940) **O**
32. 36 East Main Street: This 2-story vernacular building incorporates a painted brick façade with a storefront with display windows and a recessed, single-leaf entry doors accessing the interior and the second story. The upper façade is penetrated by 2 pairs of flat-topped windows, each set on continuous lug sills, above which are paired louvered vents, and the roofline is capped with a flat parapet finished with concrete coping. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**
33. 32-34 East Main Street: This 1-story commercial building has a façade completely clad in aluminum siding. Two storefronts are present, one of which is shielded by an awning. The parapet is slightly stepped on the east side, suggesting that the cladding may obscure two separate buildings. (c. 1930; non-contributing) **O**
34. 28 East Main Street: This 2-story brick commercial building has a remodeled storefront on the first story, with a traditional window-to-wall ratio including display windows set on bulkheads, a transom, a recessed entry, and two single leaf doors accessing the upper stories. The upper façade is penetrated by two small sliding glass windows and terminates in a flat parapet with masonry coping. (contributing; c. 1928) **O**
35. 24-26 East Main Street: This is an elongated vacant parcel, formerly occupied by two mid-block buildings (non-contributing) **O**

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36. 22 East Main Street: This is a single-story Colonial Revival-style Post Office with a side-gable roof capped with a louvered cupola of wood construction, and semi-circular multi-light oculi in the pediments of the gable ends. The façade is 5 bays in width, with a centered entry, incorporating double-leaf entry doors set within a segmental-arched opening with sidelights. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with 12/12 windows. Windows are set on extended lug sills and lack lintels. (1936-1937; contributing; Louis A. Simon architect) **O**
37. 16-18 East Main Street: This 1-story vernacular commercial building is finished in polychrome brick, with two storefronts, one larger than the other, and each capped with Luxfer glass prism glass transoms. The larger storefront incorporates display windows and a recessed single-leaf entry door, while the smaller storefront incorporates a single display window and a single-leaf entry door nearer to the front of the building. The upper façade is ornamented with a band of brick, whose asymmetrical design suggests that it may have been shortened in the course of constructing the adjacent 1936-1937 Post Office. (1928; contributing; J. A. Tincher, builder) **O**
38. 14 East Main Street: This is a vacant parcel formerly occupied by a mid-block building (non-contributing) **O**
39. 12 East Main Street: Among the largest buildings in downtown Richwood, this 3-story red brick commercial building contains two storefronts on the first floor, each with traditional; window-to-wall ratios, display windows, recessed entries, and polished granite bulkheads. The upper façade is penetrated by flat-topped windows; those on the east side are residential scale and those on the west side of the façade are oversized, with fixed steel frame sash. The G. C. Murphy 5 and 10 store occupied this building for many years. Murphy's was headquartered in McKeesport, a Pittsburgh suburb, and was established in 1906 by George Clinton Murphy. Murphy's corporate architect was Harold Ellsworth Crosby, and the polished granite bulkheads became hallmarks of Murphy's and likely reflected Ellsworth's design. By the 1980s Murphy's operated 289 stores in several states. Murphy's occupied this space until 1985. (contributing; J. Tincher, builder; 1921) **O**
40. 6 East Main Street: Vacant lot formerly occupied by the Star Theater. This former theater building was built of concrete block and finished in buff-colored brick with a 3-bay façade and a deeply-recessed entryway flanked by storefronts with traditional window-to-wall ratios, display windows, and bulkheads. The upper façade was penetrated by flat-topped 1/1 windows, and centered is verbiage proclaiming "NEW THEATER" and a star within a circle in the center. Polychrome brickwork in various geometric patterns embellished exterior of the façade that terminates in a stepped parapet gable. The interior has been completely remodeled for retail use. The New Star Theater

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replaced an earlier Star Theater that was destroyed by fire on August 15, 1921. The theater was operated by the Holt family, including Charles Holt. The building was eventually remodeled for retail use and the Western Auto and Dollar General were among the tenants. The building was demolished in August 2026.

(non-contributing) **O**

41. 4 East Main Street: This is a single-story vernacular commercial building with two storefronts one of which exhibits a recessed entryway; both storefronts have traditional window-to-wall ratios, and display windows set on bulkheads. The buff-colored brick facade features polychrome red brick embellishment including a longitudinal band of polychrome brick extending across much of the upper façade. The building has a modest corbeled brick cornice and terminates in a flat parapet (contributing; c. 1921) **O**
42. 2 East Main Street: This is a substantial 3-story former bank building with a rounded front corner addressing its site. The first story is finished in rusticated brick, penetrated by large semi-circular multi-light windows. The corner entry incorporates a single-light door flanked by fluted Doric pilasters that are capped with an entablature with the words RICHWOOD BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY along the frieze. The two stories of the upper façade are finished in yellow brick laid with buttered joints and red mortar. The exposed west side elevation is penetrated by flat topped windows set singly and in pairs, and a modest denticulated cornice extends along the façade and side elevation. (Richwood Banking & Trust Building; contributing; 1911) **O**
43. 2 West Main Street: This is a 3-story red brick commercial building with a flat roof and an angled front corner addressing its corner sighting. The main entrance is through this angled corner bay, featuring a single-leaf entry door with display windows that are deeply recessed within a semi-circular-arched opening. On both side elevations are storefronts with two display windows and the original Luxfer prism glass transoms. The second story is penetrated by series of flat-topped 1/1 windows, set singly and in pairs, and the third-floor windows are also paired, flat-topped 1/1 windows, but are set within segmental-arched voids. Bay spacing is defined by corbeled brick vertical panels. On the angled corner between the second and third floor windows is a substantial shield stating IOOF HALL NO. 222 TUE NIGHT. This was built as a mixed-use property, with retail on the first story, offices or apartments on the second, the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows on the third story. (c. 1915; contributing; Odd Fellows Lodge Building) **O**
44. 4 West Main Street This is a modest single-story, smooth-dressed concrete block office building with a red brick façade with a flat roof and paired display windows along with a single-leaf entry door accessing the interior. The building exhibits little ornament. (contributing; 1962) **O**

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45. 6 West Main Street: This is a two-story commercial building finished in painted rock-faced pressed metal siding. The façade is three bays in width, massed asymmetrically, with boarded-up display windows on the first story, between which is a single-leaf entry door. The upper façade is penetrated by a pair of flat-topped 6/6 windows. Undersized modillions are under the exposed eaves. (contributing; c. 1910) **O**
46. 8 West Main Street: This is a two-story vernacular front-gable-roofed commercial building with a storefront on the first story, retaining traditional window-to-wall ratio, with a deeply recessed entry, display windows set on both sides, and a painted 8-light transom. Paired single-leaf entry doors are to the left of the storefront, with a glass block transom. The upper façade is penetrated by two oversized flat-topped windows. (contributing; c. 1905) **O**
47. 25-27 Oakford Avenue: This 3-story late Italianate-style painted brick building has an asymmetrical 5-bay façade with a second-story porch consisting of a band of four pairs of flat-topped 1/1 windows; the ground floor of the porch has been enclosed. The façade is penetrated by tall, narrow segmental-arched windows, set on stone sills and capped with radiating brick voussoirs. The south side elevation along Commercial Avenue has three stories of segmental-arched windows, four second-story oriel windows, and single-leaf doors accessing the interior. This was built by Dr. James Andrew "Dr. Jim" McClung (1874-1965) and his brother, Dr. Dennis McClung, who were among the first physicians locating in Richwood. The McClung Hospital, later known as the McClung Clinic, was founded in 1906 and was later under the management of Dr. Jim's son, Dr. James Edward McClung (1911-1976). The elder Dr. James McClung was also a Senator from the Ninth Senatorial District from 1913-1917. The building was later converted for multi-tenant apartment use. (McClung Hospital; contributing; c. 1906) **O**
48. 29 Oakford Avenue: This former hotel building is built of brick, painted, with a second-story balcony that extends across the entire façade; it is supported by brick piers, with a wood shingled railing supported by 8 plain wood posts. What appears to have been three storefronts are on the ground floor, one of which has been totally enclosed. Fenestration is segmental-arched, 1/1, with windows set on extended stone sills and capped with radiating voussoir brick lintels. The building is flat-roofed, with tile coping. This was built as the Oakford Hotel and likely occupies this site due to its proximity to the B & O Railroad which ran close by to the north. (Oakford Hotel; contributing; c. 1905) **O**
49. 1 Commercial Street: This is a 2-story commercial/industrial building that appears to have been built in at least two stages, including a 3-bay flat-roofed painted tile section with a stepped-parapet gable façade and flat-topped multi-light industrial steel frame windows, and a 3-bay tile addition with a shallow Quonset roof, an overhead garage door and all windows boarded up; It is not evident which section was built first. This was an automotive

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service garage from the 1920s through the 1960s. The facility then served as a motor re-wind shop from the 1960s through early 1970s. The HyPar Machine Company conducted chrome plating operations here after 1976 and the site was the subject of an environmental remediation project by the WV DEP. (contributing; c. 1925) **O**

50. 38 Edgewood Avenue: This is a single-story former B & O Railroad Depot of wood construction, finished in board-and-batten siding, with flat-topped fenestration and an extended bay on the south elevation affording a view to the site of the former railroad tracks. (c. 1912) **O**
51. 45 Oakford Avenue: This is a corner parcel formerly occupied by the 1920s Sokos Building built by Jim and Tim Sokos in the 1920s. It was replaced by Helios Park, dedicated in 2019, which was a community project that had a variety of funders and facilitators, resulting in the creation of this pocket park with solar panels donated by Create West Virginia, that are mounted on trellises designed by WV architect Thom Worledge and constructed of white oak donated by local Laurel Creek Hardwoods. The park was designed by WV landscape architect Todd Schoolcraft and includes a pervious concrete walkway, native vegetation rain garden, and a sundial which enables visitors to determine the time of day. The solar energy is fed into the grid via a "Net-meter" which provides a positive return to the city electric bill. (non-contributing) **O**
52. 43 Oakford Avenue: This is an Italianate-style commercial building finished in smooth-dressed rusticated wood blocks, with two storefronts, both of which retain traditional window-to-wall ratios with recessed centered entries and transoms. Single-leaf doors are on either side of the storefronts accessing the upper story. The second floor is distinguished by two matching rectangular oriel windows, beside which smaller 1/1 windows. Extending across the façade is a pressed metal cornice with two semicircular pediments, one of which bears the inscription D A & M E SNYDER and the date 1905. Brackets and modillions are under the eaves and a band of 5 courses of rock-faced wood blocks are beneath the cornice. It was built in two stages, in 1905 and in 1909. D. E. Snyder was an early settler of Richwood and operated a hardware business from this building. (contributing; 1905; 1909) **O**
53. 44 Oakford Avenue: This is a 2-story commercial building, distinctively built of rock-faced concrete block, with a red brick façade and an altered storefront on the first story that is clad in rough-cut wood boards. The 3-bay upper façade is penetrated by flat-topped windows with replacement 1/1 sash. A modest corbeled brick cornice is present, and the building is capped with a flat parapet. (contributing; 1921) **O**
54. 42 Oakford Avenue: This is a 2-story commercial building, distinctively built of rock-faced concrete block, with two altered storefronts on the first story and a 3-bay upper façade penetrated by flat-topped windows. The outermost windows are set in pairs, 1/1, set on

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continuous lug sills and capped with continuous smooth dressed stone lentils. The centermost window is blocked up with yellow brick. A flat parapet extends across the façade and in the center is a semi-circular pediment bearing the date 1921 (contributing) **O**

55. 36-40 Oakford Avenue: This property consists of three adjoining commercial buildings, built as one unit and linked by matching brick corbeled cornice detailing. Each of the outer corners is angled, and on southernmost the name JOE PALLONI and the date 1921 appears in a stone tablet; on the northern corner the name JOE CERRE and the same date appear. The entrances in the angled corners are through semi-circular arched openings with 3-course brick voussoirs. The upper facades are penetrated by flat-topped windows, set singly and in pairs, resting on brick sills and capped with brick lintels. The centermost building is painted and the outer buildings are of the original unpainted red brick. (contributing; Pallone-Cerre Building; 1921; J. A. Tincher, builder) **O**
56. 34 Oakford Avenue: This two-story vernacular building is built of concrete block with a façade of red brick. The building is extremely elongated, and the façade incorporates an overhead garage door, a display window in-filled with three 6/6 residential-scale windows lacking true divided lights, and two single-leaf entry doors. The upper facade is penetrated by four undersized flat-topped casement windows with transoms and is modestly ornamented with lighter-colored masonry elements that may be brick, tile, stone, or cast stone. (contributing; 1940s) **O**
57. 43-45 East Main Street: Vacant lot formerly occupied by a 2-story commercial building that was demolished in 2025. (non-contributing) **O**
58. 47 East Main Street: This is a 1½-story front-gable-roofed frame vernacular building to which is appended a rear side-gable-roofed wing. The main building is 3 bays in width with a centered entry flanked by display windows. An open frame porch, supported by three attenuated wood posts, extends across the façade. This building was built by the Richwood Banking and Trust Company but later became a community sewing building. (contributing; c. 1928) **BI**
59. 49 East Main Street: This 2½-story frame house has a gable-front roof and a shed-roofed front porch with a triangular pediment; the porch is enclosed with sliding glass windows that appear to have been installed more than 50 years ago. A second-story bay window with a gable roof is present on east elevation, and in the pediment of the gable on the façade are semicircular arched windows. (contributing; c. 1905) **BI**
60. 53 East Main Street: This is a 1½-story side-gable-roofed Craftsman-style Bungalow a wood construction, with a prominent shed dormer centered on the façade; a gable dormer is on the rear. The roof extends beyond the plane of the façade to shield a recessed front

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porch which is enclosed with windows. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout. This was the home of the Seriani family, including James Seriani, who was a contractor for the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company and also worked as a contractor on the railroad. He likely built the home himself. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**

61. 53 East Main Street: Single-story hip-roofed garage (contributing; c. 1950) **BI**

62. 55 East Main Street: This is a 1½-story side-gable roof vernacular residence of wood construction clad in perma-stone, with a 3-bay façade and a centered entry incorporating a single-leaf entry door above which is a forward-projecting gable-end-oriented second-story wing, supported by plain wood posts and enclosed within a replacement wood railing, with second-story paired 1/1 windows. All fenestration is flat topped, 1/1. This was the home of the dentists Drs. Veon and Reese and business owners Myrtle and Toon Brooks. (contributing; c. 1901) **BI**

63. 57 East Main Street: This is a 1½-story side-gable-roofed stucco-finished Craftsman-style Bungalow, with a prominent 6-bay jerkinhead gable dormer centered on the façade. What appears to have been an original recessed front porch is enclosed by a series of 12/12 windows that may represent an early modification. Interior brick chimneys are on the side elevations. This was the home of H. H. Steele, the Superintendent of the Steele Wallace Corporation, a major local industry and manufacturers of clothes pins. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**

64. 59 East Main Street: A vacant lot formerly occupied by a substantial 2-story front-gable vernacular residential building whose façade was dominated by a full double-gallery porch supported by a series of clustered plain wood posts. Fenestration was flat-topped throughout with 1/1 sash. It was built as a hospital by the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company for its company doctors, Drs. James and Noah McClung. It was later a hotel operated by William Landers and later by the Tonkins family. The building was demolished in August 2026 (non-contributing) **BI**

65. 63 East Main Street: This is a 2-story front-gable vernacular residential building of wood construction, with a 2-bay second story and the first story impacted by the removal of the porch and/or its enclosure with unpainted wood boards. It has forfeited integrity with the enclosure or serious modification to its front porch (c. 1901; non-contributing) **BI**

66. 63 East Main Street: A vernacular dependency of indeterminate age and usage is adjacent to the house, set back from the street. (non-contributing) **BI**

67. 67 East Main Street: This is a 2-story vernacular gabled ell house with a cross-gable roof and a front porch that has been partially enclosed, resulting in impaired integrity. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, and the building exhibits no other notable detail. An early owner was John Reem. (c. 1910; non-contributing) **BI**

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68. 69 East Main Street: This is a 2-story side-gable vernacular residential building of wood construction, with a 2-bay façade and an open shed-roofed porch that extends across the façade, supported cast metal posts. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with replacement multi-light sash lacking true divided lights; most are trimmed with non-historic fixed exterior shutters. It was built as company housing for the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company. (contributing; 1910) **BI**
69. 71 East Main Street: This is a 1½-story Craftsman-style Bungalow with a side-gable roof that extends beyond the plane of the house to shield a recessed front porch with curvilinear entrados. Craftsman-style bracing is under the eaves, shed dormers are present front and rear, and fenestration is flat-topped throughout, set singly and in pairs. This was the home of Lee Reese, a prominent businessman in early Richwood. A meeting was held in this house with Sen. Jennings Randolph that led to the construction of Route 39, known as “Marlinton Road,” linking Richwood and Mill Point. The house is said to have been built by Joseph Tincher, a major local builder. (contributing; 1926) **BI**
70. 75 East Main Street: This is a two-story vernacular side-gable-roofed residence of wood construction, with a 2-bay façade and an open porch extending across the entirety of the façade, supported by paired plain wood posts and enclosed within a solid railing. (contributing; c. 1910) **BI**
71. 79 East Main Street: 2-story vernacular gabled ell vernacular residence with what appears to have been a former wrap-around front porch that has been completely enclosed, with a loss of integrity (c. 1900; non-contributing) **BI**
72. 85 East Main Street: This is a single-story manufactured house built upon a raised foundation of concrete block dating from outside the Period of Significance (2023; non-contributing) **BI**
73. 85 East Main Street: This is a single-story concrete block front-gable garage dating from outside the Period of Significance (2023; non-contributing) **BI**
74. 87 East Main Street: Single-story shed-roofed garage that appears to date from within the Period of Significance (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**
75. 89 East Main Street: This is a 2-story side-gable-roofed vernacular wood frame house with a 2-bay façade with flat-topped windows set in pairs. Extending across the façade is a hip-roofed screened-in porch with a solid railing. (contributing; c. 1910) **BI**

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76. 91 East Main Street: This is a vernacular 2-story gable-front house of frame construction, finished in asbestos shingle siding, with an open porch extending across the façade that is supported by paired square wood posts. The main entrance is offset on the east side of the façade, with a single-leaf entry door, and paired flat-topped 6/1 windows are centered on the second story. (contributing; c. 1910) **BI**
77. 99 East Main Street: This is a 2-story front-gable-roofed L-shaped vernacular wood frame house with a 2-bay façade with flat-topped windows and partial returns of the cornice on the gable end. The pediment of the gable on the façade is finished in square-butt wood shingles. Extending across the façade and part of the east elevation is a hip-roofed wrap-around porch that, including its posts, is now finished in synthetic stone. A single-story wing on the rear may be original or may date from early in the history of the building. (contributing; c. 1911) **BI**
78. 44 East Main Street: This is a flat-topped former bank building, finished in red brick, converted for use as a daycare center. Two stories in heights, it has a 3-bay façade with the bay spacing defined by fluted pilasters, between which are windows and the main entrance on the westernmost bay. (First Community Bank Building until 1914; contributing; c. 1910) **BI**
79. 46 East Main Street: Formerly a company store, this is a 2-story commercial building of wood construction, finished in non-historic siding, with a front-gable rear wing with gable dormers and the façade incorporating a flat-topped 4-bay bay section whose first floor is clad in non-historic brick and capped with a substantial non-historic pent roof, with a forfeiture of integrity. (c. 1920; non-contributing;)
80. 48 East Main Street: This is a 2-story cross-gable-roofed vernacular frame house, finished synthetic stone, with an L-shaped façade and the main entrance with a single-leaf entry door, offset on the easternmost bay, shielded by a “doghouse” gabled forward-projecting entry bay. Fenestration is flat topped, 1/1. (contributing; c. 1940) **BI**
81. 50 East Main Street: This is a 1-story front-gable-roofed vernacular cottage of wood construction, with a wrap-around front porch that originally incorporated 1/1 operable windows serving a sunroom on the easternmost elevation. The 3-bay façade is penetrated by a single-leaf entry door flanked by flat-topped 1/1 windows. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**
82. 52 East Main Street: This is a 2-story Craftsman-style gable-end-oriented house finished in synthetic stone that was likely installed more than 50 years ago. Extending across façade is a gable-end oriented porch enclosed with a band of windows. The main entry is on the easternmost bay of this porch, with a single-leaf entry door. The upper façade is penetrated by a band of windows, set in threes, and a fixed single-light window is in the upper pediment. Exposed rafter tails are beneath the eaves of the house and the porch, along with

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Craftsman-style bracing under the eaves. An oriel is on the first story on the eastern elevation (contributing; c. 1922) **BI**

83. 54 Main Street: This is a 1½-story wood frame Dutch Colonial Revival-style house with a gable-end-oriented gambrel roof with an imbricated shingle pediment and a single-story porch that extends across the façade, enclosed by operable 1/1 windows, with a single-leaf entry door with a transom and sidelights penetrating the easternmost bay. The pediment on the façade is penetrated by paired 1/1 flat-topped windows. A 2-story side wing has a laterally-oriented gambrel roof with a shed dormer on the easternmost bay. Red brick chimneys with corbeled peaks penetrate the roofline. (contributing; c. 1901) **BI**
84. 58 East Main Street: L-shaped modern office building of 1 story, finished in brick, set back from the front lot line with a paved parking lot in front. (1978; non-contributing) **BI**
85. 60 East Main Street: This is a 2-story gabled ell vernacular house of wood construction, with a cross-gable roof and a 1-story bay window on the east side of the façade. The main entrance is on the west side of the façade, with a single-leaf entry door flanked by sidelights and shielded by a shed-roofed porch supported by plain wood posts. Fenestration is flat topped, with multi-light replacement sash lacking true divided lights. On the west elevation is a shed-roofed side wing that incorporates a secondary entrance with a single-leaf entry door within sidelights. This was the home of William L. Thomas, listed in Census records as the manager of a furniture store in Richwood. (contributing; c. 1901) **BI**
86. 62 East Main Street: This is a substantial Queen Anne-style house of wood construction, finished in the original weatherboard, with an irregular form including a multiple roof system, a centered jerkinhead gable dormer with a centered pointed-arched window, and a locally-distinctive attached circular gazebo with a conical roof on the easternmost front corner. The western front corner incorporates a Queen Anne-style turret with a pyramidal roof. A hip-roofed front porch with a centered pediment extends across a portion of the façade; the porch is currently screened in. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with original 1/1 sash units. Dentil bands are under the eaves. This was the residence of a local dentist, Dr. W. V. Jarrett, and is the community's finest example of the Queen Anne style. Dr. Warren Victor Jarrett (1876-1965) was a native of Pennsylvania and a practicing dentist who settled in Richwood when the community was established at the beginning of the 20th century. He was practicing in Williamsport, Pennsylvania in 1901 but apparently moved to Richwood shortly thereafter. His son William (1905-1985) was also a dentist and lived here with his parents. (Dr. Warren V. Jarrett House; contributing; 1904) **BI**
87. 64 East Main Street: This is a somewhat eclectic wood frame church with both semi-circular and lancet-arched fenestration and a facade dominated by a square corner tower with a pyramidal roof, a blind semi-circular oculus, a round-arched open belfry, and stylized

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pinnacles at the corners. The main entry is in the first floor of the tower, accessed by a set of concrete steps and incorporates a double-leaf entry door with a lancet-arched transom of religious art glass. A substantial semi-circular arched window is on east side of the façade, with religious art glass. The pediment of the gable on the façade is finished in wood shingles and has a circular oculus in the upper pediment. This building an earlier church built on the same site in 1901 that was destroyed by fire in 1909. The church is a distinctive local example of rural Gothic Revival-style and Romanesque Revival architecture, executed in wood (1909; 1914 addition; Richwood Presbyterian Church; later Cherry River Southern Baptist Church; contributing; Joseph Tincher, builder) **BI**

88. 68 East Main Street: This is a 2-story gabled ell vernacular house of wood construction, finished in stucco, with an original open porch that has been partly enclosed and stucco-finished, resulting in a forfeiture of integrity. (c. 1901; non-contributing) **BI**
89. 80 Main Street: This modest 1-story gable-end-oriented Colonial Revival-style house is finished in red brick, with a symmetrical 3-bay façade and a centered single-leaf entry flanked by multi-light steel frame windows. (contributing; c. 1930) **BI**
90. 82 Main Street: 1-story red brick-finished Colonial Revival-style telephone utility building (contributing; c. 1930) **BI**
91. 3 Park Place: This is a substantial 2½- story stucco-finished Craftsman-style house with a front gable roof and an open wrap-around porch extending across the façade and portions of the north elevation, with a solid stuccoed railing and plain wood supports. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with original multi-light wooden sash retained. Windows are set in groups, and enframed within courses of red brick. The pediment of the gable on the façade is finished in wood shingles, finished naturally, the principal entry is offset on the façade, with the original wooden Craftsman style single leaf door retained. This was the home of Richwood pharmacist Newton McCutcheon (1873-1961), whose obituary listed him as Dr. Luther Newton McCutcheon and noted him to have taught school for five years in Nicholas County and to have been a graduate of the former Kentucky School of Pharmacy in Louisville and the Valparaiso School of Pharmacy in Indiana. He also served as a deputy sheriff in Richwood. (contributing; c. 1923) **BI**
92. 5 Park Place: This is a 2-story vernacular house of wood construction, clad in aluminum siding, with a multiple roof system incorporating a main hipped roof with a gablet and side gables. The façade is dominated by the enclosed front porch which incorporates large expanses of fixed flat-topped multi-light window units. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout. A 2-story bay window is set back on the south elevation, beside which is an undersized gable dormer. This was the home of the Wolverton family, prominent Richwood attorneys

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and politicians. Among them was Congressman John Marshall Wolverton (1872-1944), who graduated from the WVU College of Law in 1901. He served as Prosecuting Attorney in Nicholas County from 1913 to 1919 and again in 1925, and as a Representative to Congress 1925-1927, 1929-1931, and 1932-1936. (contributing; 1907) **BI**

93. 7 Park Place: This is a 2-story vernacular house of wood construction, clad in aluminum siding, with a gable roof and gable-end orientation to the street, partial returns of the cornice on the gable ends, and a hipped-roofed front porch that has been enclosed with 1/1 operable windows; the front door is through the southernmost bay of the porch, with a single-leaf door with sidelights. The upper façade is two bays in width and fenestration is flat-topped 1/1. A prominent 2-bay shed dormer is offset on the south slope of the roof and a side-gable oriented wing is on the rear. This was the home of Dr. William Edward Echols (1874-1961), a local physician. Earlier survey data indicates that to have been built by George E. Boso (1876-1956), a carpenter who was listed in Census data both as a carpenter at the local paper mill and as a "house carpenter". (contributing; 1909) **BI**

94. 9 Park Place: This is a 2-story Cape Cod-style house of wood construction, with a side-gable roof that is penetrated by paired gable dormers. It appears that an originally open brick porch has been enclosed on the façade. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, and a 1-story shed-roofed wing is on the rear. This was the home of Dr. William Nelson (b. 1893 and is said to have been built by George E. Boso (1876-1956) who was listed in Census data both as a carpenter at the paper mill and as a "house carpenter." (contributing; c. 1907) **BI**

95. 11 Park Place: This is a 2-story vernacular house of wood construction, with a side-gable roof that is penetrated by a substantial front gable wing on the south side and a smaller gable dormer on the north side of the roof. The roof extends beyond the plane of the building creating an open porch that extends across the façade, supported by replacement cast metal posts. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with replacement sash units. The pediments of the gable ends are finished in stained wood shingles. This was the Manse (the pastor's home) for the Richwood Presbyterian Church. Among those who lived here was Rev. Mr. Henry Orr (b. 1883), who served in the 1930s. (contributing; c. 1905) **BI**

96. 15 Park Place: This is a 1½-story wood frame house with a side-gable roof with exposed rafter tails and a forward-projecting gable-front wing on the south side of the façade. Substantial Craftsman-style bracing is under the eaves. It appears that the originally open front porch has been enclosed with bands of windows, and in the pediment of the gable on a façade is a pair of multi-light sash. A rectangular oriel penetrates the south side of the façade, below which is an original basement-level garage accessed by a single overhead door; a similar oriel is on the north elevation, above which is a hipped dormer penetrated

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by two windows along the roof line. This was the home of Benjamin Roberts (b. 1886), listed in the Census as a forester for one of the local lumber companies. It was also the home of Henry Smith (1874-1941) who was the Assistant Superintendent of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**

97. 17 Park Place: This is a 1½-story Craftsman-style wood frame Bungalow with a shallow-pitched side-gable roof and a shallow 6-bay shed dormer centered on the facade. A 2-story side-gable wing has been added onto the north elevation. The roof extends beyond the plane of the building to shield a recessed front porch that is supported by clustered square wood posts. Craftsman-style bracing is under the eaves and fenestration is flat-topped throughout. The property was associated with the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company and served as a company recreational facility as well as lodging for out-of-town executives who came from the main office in Scranton, Pennsylvania to Richwood. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**

98. 17 Park Place: A 1-story contributing frame gable-end-oriented 2-car garage with a single overhead door is adjacent to the main house. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**

99. 25 Park Place: This is a substantial gambrel-roofed Dutch Colonial Revival-style house of wood construction, finished in shiplap and wood shingles, oriented to the south on its lot, with the side elevation facing Park Place. The front porch is enclosed with louvered windows, and a series of 3 wood shingle-finished shed-roofed dormers is on the façade. The east elevation, oriented to Park Place, is penetrated by a series of flat-topped windows, suggesting the presence of an interior sunroom. On the second floor of this elevation is a 4-bay shed dormer. The house was associated with the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company, and was the longtime home of the plant manager, Thomas Richards. Census data also indicates it to have also been the home of Russell Richards, a Richwood merchant. (contributing; 1933) **BI**

100. 16 Park Place: This is a substantial Colonial Revival-style house with a centered entryway, suggestive of a central-passage double-pile interior plan. The façade is dominated by an open wrap-around porch supported by Doric columns. The first story is three bays in width and the second story is 2 bays in width, with flat-topped fenestration, 1/1, with exterior wood shutters. Gable dormers penetrate the slopes of the hipped roof and an attached garage is at the rear. This was the home of Capt. Armstrong, the plant manager of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company (contributing; c. 1902) **BI**

101. 16 Park Place: Non-historic in-ground swimming pool (non-contributing) **BI**

102. 12 Park Place: This is a 1-story Ranch-style house of frame construction, finished in an ashlar stone veneer, with a side-gable roof and an irregularly-massed 4-bay façade. This property marks the end of the district's Period of Significance. (contributing; c. 1967) **BI**

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103. 12 Park Place: A side-gable-roofed 2-bay frame garage with overhead garage doors is at the end of a driveway north of the main house. (contributing; c. 1967) **BI**
104. 6 Park Place: This is a 1½-story Dutch Colonial Revival- style house of wood construction, with an L-shaped façade and a gambrel roof with a forward-projecting front-gable wing on the north side of the façade. The main entrance incorporates a single-leaf entry door accessed from a concrete stoop. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, and on the north side of the façade is a 1-story oriel window. A bay window is on the south elevation. (contributing; c. 1920) **BI**
105. 4 Park Place: This is a substantial 1½-story high-style 3-bay central-passage Dutch Colonial Revival-style house, with a centered entry incorporating a single-leaf entry door enframed within multi-light sidelights. Fenestration on the first floor of the façade incorporates flat-topped multi-light tripartite windows, while on the second floor are paired and single multi-light flat-topped windows, above which are curvilinear 6-light eyebrow windows. On the south elevation are an exterior gable-end brick chimney and a 1-story sunroom wing with a spindle wood railing along the roofline. It was the home of Superintendent Brookshanks of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company, leading local employers. It was acquired by Victor Morrison in 1940. (contributing; 1927) **BI**
106. 83 East Walnut Street: This is a substantial 2-story vernacular wood frame house with an L-shaped façade and a hipped main roof with a gable-end-oriented forward-projecting wings on the west elevation and on the side of the facade, creating the L-shaped façade. An original open wrap-around hip-roofed porch extends east the façade and portions of both side elevations, with a spindle wood railing and plain wood support posts. Fenestration is flat topped, 1/1, set singly and in pairs, with some windows having exterior fixed wooden shutters mounted outside the surrounds. A 1-story bay window is on the east side of the façade, and a single-leaf entry door penetrates the westernmost bay. The pediments of the gables are finished in wood shingles with locally-distinctive projecting sections at the peaks. The house was associated with the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company, leading local employers, and was the home of Richwood mayor Arden L. Craig (1878-1938), an attorney who died while living here. It was also the home of local dentist Miller M. Milroy. (contributing; 1908) **BI**
107. 71 East Walnut Street: This is a 2-story vernacular gabled ell with a cross-gable roof and a substantial wrap-around open porch that extends across the façade and a portion of the east elevation; the porch is supported by plain wood posts. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with replacement 1/1 window units. This was a company house associated with the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company, a leading local employer beginning at the turn of the century and continuing for decades thereafter. (contributing; 1903) **BI**

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- 108.76 East Walnut Street: This is a 2-story vernacular gabled ell with a cross-gable roof and an open shed-roofed porch in the angle of the L-shaped façade. Fenestration is flat-topped, with multi-light replacement sash lacking true divided lights. The pediments of the gables are finished in original imbricated shingling and an oval oculus is in the pediment of the gable on the facade. Said to have been built by the Boso Brothers. George E. Boso (1876-1956) was listed in Census data variously as a carpenter at the local the paper mill and as a “house carpenter.” (contributing; 1908) **BI**
109. 78 East Walnut Street This is a 2-story vernacular hip-roofed frame house with a pediment centered on the roofline on the façade, penetrated by a fixed 9-light window. Extending across the façade and wrapping around a portion of the west elevation is an open hip-roofed porch with a solid railing, supported by plain wood posts. Fenestration is flat-topped with windows set singly and in pairs, with replacement multi-light sash lacking true divided lights. (contributing; 1910) **BI**
110. 14 Park Place: This is a single-story Ranch-style house finished in brown brick, with a shallow-pitched intersecting gable roof and flat-topped fenestration throughout, many with diamond-shaped mullions. A forward-projecting gable-end-oriented wing is on the northernmost of the 3-bay façade. The main entrance is in a recessed centered bay on the façade, with a double-leaf door with strap hinges. An original integral open carport is attached on the southern gable end. (Non-contributing; c. 1970) **BI**
- 111.21 Oakford Avenue: This is a 1-story smooth-dressed concrete block commercial building with a red brick 3-bay façade with a centered single-leaf entry door flanked by display windows. (contributing; c. 1950) **BI**

Integrity

The original Downtown Richwood Historic District retains integrity in all of its composite qualities of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While a small number properties have been demolished since the original nomination, the great majority remain intact, and alterations are those that might be expected in any commercial area, including storefront remodelings, window replacement, and the installation of non-historic siding.

The same can be said for the immediately adjacent largely residential area being added to the original district. Very few demolitions have occurred, and while expected changes are present—window replacements and non-historic siding—the added area’s composite integrity is fully intact. In the few cases where front porches have been removed, those properties are evaluated as being non-contributing to the overall sense of historicity of the district. The amended district as a whole clearly retains integrity in its seven composite qualities.

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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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1900-1967

Significant Dates

1900

1921

1928

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Boso, Bros., builders

Dean, Levi J., architect

Simon, Louis A., architect

Tincher, J. A., builder

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 amended Downtown Richwood Historic District is locally significant and meets National Register Criterion A for *Commerce* since its substantial commercial area encompasses the entirety of the historic commercial district of this community and for *Exploration and Settlement* due to the entire district's close association with the 1900 founding and earliest and subsequent physical development of the City of Richwood. The amended district is locally significant for Criterion C for *Architecture* since local examples of popular commercial and domestic architectural styles during the early-to-mid twentieth century are found here, along with numerous examples of the vernacular and traditional architectural preferences that were locally popular during the updated district's 1900-1967 Period of Significance. These dates span the town's 1900 founding and the date of construction of the latest of the district's historic resources, a brick-veneered Ranch-style

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house at 14 Park Place (Resource No.103). The district's Criterion C significance is bolstered by its association with noted Huntington, West Virginia architect Levi J. Dean, federal architect Louis A. Simon, the Boso Brothers, builders, and prolific local master builder J. A. Tincher, whose work is found throughout the district.² The present nomination is a thoroughly logical expansion of the earlier district since it extends the nominated area directly eastward from the earlier district, encompassing Richwood's early-to-mid twentieth-century historic residential area. The new boundary also reflects demolition immediately south of the core of the downtown and adds one commercial building (Resource No. 111, 21 Oakford Avenue) missed in the original nomination.

The district is being expanded from the original 2001 downtown district in order to more accurately reflect the broad architectural heritage of the community that extends beyond the 1900-1950 Period of Significance set forth in the earlier nomination. The expanded nomination now includes historic domestic and institutional properties that were excluded from the earlier document that covered just the downtown and failed to document the homes built and occupied by Richwood's business and community leaders as well as workers in the community's diverse industries.

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

Historic Context

Nicholas County was erected in 1818 from portions of Kanawha, Randolph, and Greenbrier Counties. The settlement at Richwood was originally known as Cherry Tree Bottom, reflecting its location along Cherry Tree River. By the 1880s, land speculators, aware of the potential values of the timber and underground minerals, had acquired much of the land in Nicholas and surrounding counties and commercial logging operations began before the turn of the twentieth century. Lumbering provided *raison d'être* for the establishment of the community, and following the establishment of the lumbering operations of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company in 1900, a post office was located here. The rapid growth of the community brought about the extension of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad into Richwood in 1901, the same year that the settlement was incorporated under its first mayor, Emerson E. Deitz (1869-1944), who became Richwood's first school teacher, operated a retail business, and served as Postmaster from 1908 into the 1930s.³ The Post Office was named Richwood, testimony to the scale of the timberlands surrounding the settlement on all sides.

The population grew and in 1904 was estimated to be 3,000; by 1909 Richwood was among

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² This historical narrative is largely derived from the Statement of Significance for the 2001 nomination of this district, a full citation for which appears in the Bibliography in Section 9.

³ "Appointments of U S. Postmasters 1832-1971," <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1932/records/609556>, accessed September 15, 2025.

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the leading lumber camps in this entire West Virginia region. The “Big Mill” began the construction of workers’ housing in a mining camp known as “Milltown,” south of Richwood in 1901. The U. S. Census⁴ recorded the following demographics for the community during the 1900-1966 Period of Significance of the district:

1910	3,061
1920	4,331
1930	5,720
1940	5,051
1950	5,321
1960	4,110

Richwood’s early industrial growth was documented in a local history produced by the Chamber of Commerce:

The vast amount of timber the company owned and its facilities for delivering it to Richwood attracted other industries based on wood processing. In 1901, the Dodge Clothes Pin factory (later called the Steele-Wallace Corporation) constructed in Richwood the largest wooden clothes pin factory in the world [referred to locally simply as the “pin factory”]. Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company supplied the factory with beech and maple logs for the manufacturer of their clothes pins. Later the factory expanded production to include butter trays. In 1902, the Cherry River Tanning Company (later Mosser Company) built what was, for a period of time, the largest shoe-sole tannery in the world. It utilized large quantities of hemlock bark the lumber company provided to tan its leather. In 1903, the Sherwood Manufacturing Company built a plant to make wagon hubs from birth logs the lumber company furnished. In 1904, the same corporation in Philadelphia that owned the lumber company built a large paper mill to utilize spruce, hemlock pulpwood and slabwood from the lumber mill that would otherwise have been wasted. Finally, in 1913, the J.D. Westcott & Sons Company built a plant to manufacture broom handles, dowels, and chair rounds from the beech and maple supplied by the lumber company.⁵

These industries were all located outside the historic district, but the district’s commercial life and physical development were clearly dependent upon the growth and success of each of these industrial endeavors.

The Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company built many miles of railroads from the end of the Baltimore and Ohio main line into its timber holdings that eventually covered more than 200,000 acres of timberland covering portions of five counties. In 1921 the community of Richwood was chartered as a city, and its rapid growth was tied directly to the timber industry and specifically to the growth of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company. By the late 1920s

⁴ U. S. Decennial Census, census.gov, accessed September 15, 2025.

⁵“History of Richwood,” <https://www.richwoodchamberofcommerce.org/history>, accessed September 15, 2025.

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Richwood could claim three banks (the Richwood Banking and Trust Company dating from 1902, the First National Bank from 1906, and the Citizens Bank from 1916), two theaters, two hospitals, several hotels and boarding houses, and more than 30 mercantile establishments such as department stores, pharmacies, hardware and furniture stores, and a Coca Cola bottling plant. Summersville, the county seat, is located 24 miles to the northwest, but Richwood and its downtown were the economic centers for Nicholas County for most of the twentieth century. principally due to the industries that chose to locate here.

The business district portion of this nomination is populated by commercial buildings that were home to a variety of local businesses, including myriad small shops, pharmacies, clothiers, banks, social and religious institutions, etc. The newly-added East Main Street and Park Place residential area is dotted with both high-style and vernacular domestic architecture and one historic church that represents several styles popular during the Period of Significance, and was home to a broad spectrum of Richwood citizens, including prominent community members such as dentists Dr. Wendell Jarrett and his dentist-son, and merchant Millard Millroy, pharmacist Newton McCutcheon, Dr. William Echols, Congressman John Marshall Wolverton, leading businessman Lee Reese, furniture retailer William L. Thomas, Henry Smith, the Assistant Superintendent of the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company, H. H. Steele, the Superintendent of the Steele Wallace Corporation, a major local industry and manufacturers of clothes pins, and Arden L. Craig, Richwood's Mayor during the 1920s and 1930s. Businessman Lee Reese's home at 71 East Main Street hosted a meeting with Sen. Jennings Ranolph to plan for the improvement of State Route 39, known as "Marlinton Road," linking Richwood and Mill Point. James Seriani was a contractor for the Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company and also worked as a contractor on the railroad; his home is at 51 East Main Street. The Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company also built company houses along East Main Street, including 69 East Main Street and also built a company hospital at 59 East Main Street.

By the 1920s, Richwood's population topped 4,300, but that decade also witnessed a pair of cataclysmic events that change the face of the community and resulted in the historic districts current appearance. On August 15, 1921, a fire broke out on Main Street during a windy afternoon ultimately causing a conflagration described in a newspaper headline thusly: "\$450,000 Fire Razes Business Section." Given the seemingly endless supply of timber, most of the community's downtown settlement architecture was built of wood and the afternoon fire cleared out several blocks. Only dynamiting a Main Street building to create a fire break halted the disaster, but not until many wood buildings had been destroyed. Another fire stop was provided by the Richwood Banking and Trust Company Building (Resource No. 41) at 2 East Main Street. In all, this fire resulted in the loss of 32 properties in the heart of town. A second major downtown fire occurred on April 20, 1928 that leveled nearly all of the remaining properties spared by the 1921 for a total loss of more than 50 additional buildings. It is thought to have begun in the Oakford Theater, on the site later occupied by the 1936-1937 U. S. Post Office (Resource No. 35) at 22 East Main Street. As in 1921, a charge of dynamite use used to remove a building to create a fire break. As downtown Richwood

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was rebuilt, a cohesive architectural character developed along Main Street and its connecting streets with nearly all of the buildings of a similar style, construction method, and degree of ornamentation.

The Stock Market Crash of October 1929 brought economic changes to the downtown. The Richwood Banking and Trust Company and the Citizens Bank both failed, and the First National Bank was reorganized and reopened in 1932 as the Cherry River National Bank, located outside the district.

By the 1930s, the timber industry was declining, and coal mining took its place to create new jobs and to bolster the economy of the Richwood area. The tourism economy of the area grew as the Cherry River Boom & Lumber Company sold 175,000 acres of its holdings to the federal government in 1934 to greatly expand the Monongahela National Forest that had been established in 1920 and encompasses 1,700,000 acres in portions of 10 counties.⁶ A promotional newspaper from June 9, 1937 boasted that “Richwood, home of the Lumberjacks [the high school athletic teams], was the gateway to the largest national forest in the eastern United States.”⁷

Beginning in the 1930s and growing throughout the balance of the Period of Significance of this district, coal employment increased in the region, with more than 4,000 coal miners living nearby by the 1960s. These miners and their families shopped regularly in downtown Richwood, along with patrons from nearby Summersville, Webster Springs, Rainelle, Marlinton, Hillsboro, and many surrounding communities, accounting for this area to develop as a regional shopping and economic hub, a role that it held throughout the balance of the district’s Period of Significance.

Criterion A

The amended Downtown Richwood Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A for *exploration and settlement*, since it represents the very earliest development of this section of West Virginia in the wake of harvesting vast acreage of previously-untouched timberlands. Prior to the establishment of the city in 1901, this section of Nicholas County consisted only of vast lands of virgin timber and natural waterways. The area added to the original district primarily consists of residential architecture dating from the community’s settlement in 1901 through the mid-1960s.

The district’s further local significance under Criterion A falls in the area of *commerce*, since the original historic district, encompassing as it does the entirety of the community’s central business district, consists of a commercial area that catered to the needs of Nicholas County citi-

⁶“Monongahela National Forest,” <https://thetouristchecklist.com/monongahela-national-forest/>, accessed September 5, 2025.

⁷ “History of Richwood,” **Op. Cit.**

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zens not only from Richwood but from the aforementioned surrounding hamlets, including the county seat of Summersville.

Criterion C

The amended Downtown Richwood Historic District is locally significant also under criterion C for *architecture*, since it includes examples not only of high-style architecture but also myriad examples of vernacular architecture representing the traditional building styles and skills of local craftspeople. Represented within the district are Huntington Architect Levi J. Dean, prolific Richwood contractor Joseph Tincher, and Supervising Architect of the U. S. Treasury, Louis A. Simon.

Huntington architect **Levi Johnson Dean** (1878-1951) studied architecture at a correspondence school in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Dean designed public institutional buildings, churches and residences throughout West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky. When the West Virginia Registration Law was passed in 1921, he became the nineteenth architect to be registered in the state. His identified work in this district is seen in the First United Methodist Church and Parsonage, at 6 East Main Street, 50 Oakwood Avenue at 2 East Walnut Street, respectively (Resource Nos. 39, 10, and 11, respectively). The Richwood Banking and Trust Company Building at 2 East Main Street (Resource No. 41) is attributed to him.

Louis A. Simon (1867-1958) oversaw the design of Richwood's 1936 Post Office at 22 East Main Street (Resource No. 35). He studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and joined the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury in Washington, D.C., in 1896. He became Chief of the office's Engineering and Drafting Division in 1915, where he assumed responsibility for all architectural work and led the designs of hundreds of federal buildings across the U.S. was the last Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, first under Acting Supervising Architect James A. Wetmore, and serving in that position from 1934 until 1939. He spent his almost his entire career with the office, and after 1939 became the Supervising Architect of the Public Buildings Branch of the Federal Works Agency until 1941. The New Deal saw myriad post offices designed and built across the country, and Simon oversaw the design of many of them. "Though the office under Simon was responsible for the design and construction of many large buildings, he is often remembered for the introduction of standard, easily extendible plans which could be quickly executed for smaller communities."⁸ The Post Office at Richwood is surely one of these.

The individual who was most singularly responsible for the present appearance of Richwood's downtown was **Joseph Andrew Tincher** (1874-1948), a leading contractor and prolific master builder in Richwood for more than 35 years. He was responsible for a significant proportion of the architecture of the original historic district that was built following the aforementioned major

⁸"Louis A. Simon (1857-1958)," **AIA Historical Directory of American Architects**, no date, accessed September 10, 2025.

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downtown fires in the 1920s. He was born in Alderson, Greenbrier County, and became president of the Tincher Lumber Company in Richwood. As early as 1910 he appeared in the Decennial Census as a contractor. Within the amended Downtown Richwood Historic District, he was responsible for the 1922 Deitz-Spencer Building (9 East Main Street; Resource No. 9); 16-18 East Main Street (Resource No. 36; 1928); 12 East Main Street (Resource No. 38; 1921); 36-40 Oakford Avenue (Resource No. 52; Cerro-Palloni Building; 1921), and the Richwood Presbyterian Church at 64 East Main Street. It seems likely that he built other buildings within the district that embody some of the identical physical characteristics but have been hitherto unidentified with him.

The Criterion C significance of this district is bolstered by the presence in the district of buildings representing not only high-style design but also the vernacular traditions embraced by local builders. Formal styles found in the original district include the Commercial, Colonial Revival, and Italianate, while the added area is notable for examples of the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, Craftsman, and American Foursquare styles. Within these are interspersed throughout the entire district vernacular houses and commercial buildings that reflect no particular style but nonetheless are locally-important manifestations of the diversity of building customs and traditions that flourished in southeastern West Virginia during the district's 1900-1967 Period of Significance. Specific examples of these appear in the Resource Inventory.

Summary

As set forth above, this district meets National Register Criteria A and C. In the Criterion A areas of *exploration/settlement* and *commerce*, the nominated area includes the entire historic downtown and the immediately adjacent historic residential neighborhoods to the east, all of which date from the 1900 settlement of the community and the ensuing seven decades thereafter. With respect to Criterion C, the district contains examples of high-style architecture as well as regional vernacular architecture, including Italianate, Gothic and Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, Craftsman, and Ranch, as well as buildings built without reference to formal styles, that nonetheless embody local and regional building practices and traditions. The Criterion C significance is further bolstered by the presence of work in the district by locally-, regionally-, and nationally-prominent architects and builders.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☒ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other
Name of repository: Nicholas County Historic Landmark Commission

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Document-
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property c. 23 ac. (10 ac. in the 2001 district and 13 ac. in the added section)

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: 17 | Easting: 540701 | Northing: 4230896 |
| 2. Zone: 17 | Easting: 541260 | Northing: 4231146 |
| 3. Zone: 17 | Easting: 541334 | Northing: 4231379 |
| 4. Zone: 17 | Easting: 541434 | Northing: 4231398 |
| 5. Zone: 17 | Easting: 541392 | Northing: 4231132 |
| 6. Zone: 17 | Easting: 540880 | Northing: 4230531 |

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

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The boundaries for this historic district correspond directly to the maps prepared in conjunction with this nomination which are drawn directly from the GIS map for Nicholas County, West Virginia.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These boundaries were chosen to reflect the entirety of the historic central business district and two immediately adjacent residential areas of this community. The boundaries were drawn to exclude non-contributing properties.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: David L. Taylor, Historic Preservation Consultant
organization: o/b/o Nicholas County Historic Landmarks Commission
street & number: 19 Cherry Alley
city or town: Brookville state: PA zip code: 15825
e-mail: tta.david@gmail.com
telephone: 814-648-4900
date: July 2026

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.)

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

Nicholas County, WV

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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: Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase)

City or Vicinity: Richwood

County: Nicholas

State: West Virginia

Photographer: David L. Taylor

Date Photographed: September 2025-May 2026 (Note: The numbers of those images associated with the original district are followed by an (O) and those of the boundary increase areas by (BI)

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

Photo 1 of 32 (O): Richwood Banking and Trust Company, façade and east elevation and streetscape of the east side of Oakford Avenue, looking southeast

Photo 2 of 32 (O): Streetscape East Main Street at Oakford Ave looking east, showing Richwood Banking and Trust Company and IOOF Lodge Building

Photo 3 of 32 (O): Snyder Building, 43 Oakford Avenue, façade, showing distinctive finishes, oriel windows, cornice, curvilinear pediments, looking southeast

Photo 4 of 32 (O): Star Theater Building, façade, looking southeast

Photo 5 of 32 (O): G. C. Murphy building, façade, looking southeast, and showing storefronts with distinctive Murphy Company's polished granite bulkheads

Photo 6 of 32 (O): B and O passenger station, façade and south elevation, looking northwest

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documenta-
tion, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

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Photo 7 of 32 (O): U. S. Post Office, façade, looking southwest

Photo 8 of 32 (O): Streetscape East Main Street, looking southeast and showing adjacent non-contributing buildings

Photo 9 of 32 (O): Streetscape north side of East Main Street, looking northeast

Photo 10 of 32 (O): Streetscape Oakford Avenue, looking south and showing the Oakford Hotel and the McClung Hospital

Photo 11 of 32 (O): VFW Building, façade and south elevation and showing elongated form, brick façade, fenestration, etc.

Photo 12 of 32 (O): Streetscape east side Oakford Avenue, looking northeast

Photo 13 of 32 (O): Intersection Oakford Avenue at East Walnut Street, looking southeast, with the First United Methodist Church, 50 Oakford Avenue, in the foreground.

Photo 14 of 32 (O): Streetscape East Main Street at Oakwood Ave looking northeast

Photo 15 of 32 (O): Streetscape, Oakford Ave, looking northeast toward East Main Street

Photo 16 of 32 (O): Streetscape, Oakford Avenue looking southeast, with the Pallone-Cerre Building near the center

Photo 17 of 32 (O): Streetscape, north side East Main Street, looking northeast and showing a portion of the Spencer Memorial Sculptural Garden, 33 East Main Street, a non-contributing site, and the elevated sidewalks typical for the north side of East Main Street

Photo 18 of 32 (O): Streetscape East Main Street, looking southeast with Richwood Banking and Trust Building in the foreground

Photo 19 of 32 (BI): Dr. Wendell Jarrett House, 62 East Main Street, façade and east elevation, looking southeast

Photo 20 of 32 (BI): 71 East Main Street, Craftsman-style Bungalow, façade and west elevation, looking northeast

Photo 21 of 32 (BI): 64 East Main Street, Richwood Presbyterian Church, façade, looking southeast, and showing fenestration, corner tower, finishes, etc.

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

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Photo 22 of 32 (BI): 16 Park Place, Capt. Armstrong house looking southeast and showing façade and east elevation.

Photo 23 of 32 (BI): 4 Park Place, showing Dutch Colonial Revival style form and finishes

Photo 24 of 32 (O): Spencer Memorial Sculptural Garden, a non-contributing site, looking north

Photo 25 of 32 (O): Streetscape, north side of East Main Street, looking northeast, with Methodist Church in the upper left corner.

Photo 26 of 32 (O): Streetscape north side of East Main Street, looking northeast and showing elevated sidewalks along this side of Main Street

Photo 27 of 32 (BI): Streetscape north side East Main Street, looking northeast.

Photo 28 of 32 (BI): Streetscape East Main Street looking northeast, with 71 East Main Street in the center

Photo 29 of 32 (BI): Streetscape east side Park Place, looking northwest, with the Congressman John Marshall Wolverton House in the foreground

Photo 30 of 32 (BI): Streetscape, east side Park Place, looking northeast

Photo 31 of 32 (BI): Streetscape, west side Park Place looking northeast

Photo 32 of 32 (BI): Streetscape, east side Park Place, looking northeast, with the Capt. Armstrong House in the background.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
Tier 2 – 120 hours
Tier 3 – 230 hours
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documenta-
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Photo 1 of 32



Photo 2 of 32

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Photo 5 of 32



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Photo 9 of 32



Photo 10 of 32

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Photo 11 of 32



Photo 12 of 32

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Photo 13 of 32



Photo 14 of 32

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Photo 15 of 32



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Photo 17 of 32



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Photo 19 of 32



Photo 20 of 32

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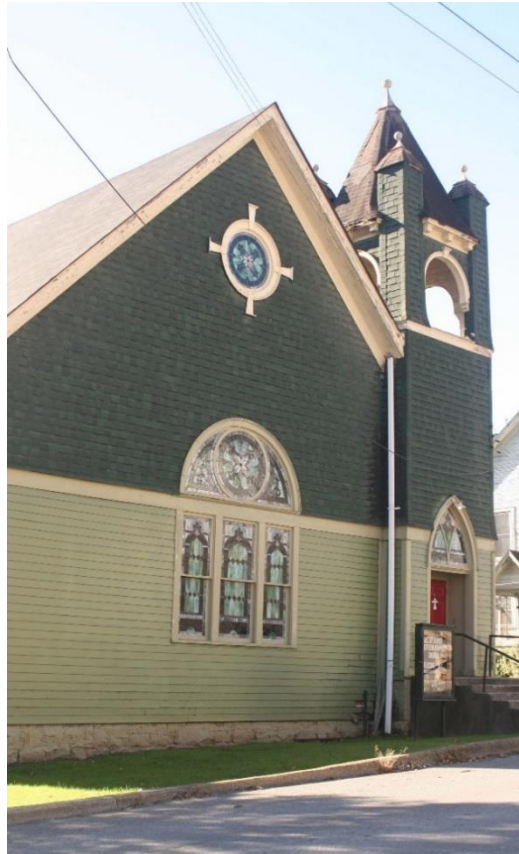


Photo 21 of 32



Photo 22 of 32

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tion, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)
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Photo 23 of 32



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Photo 25 of 32



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Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documenta-
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Photo 31 of 32



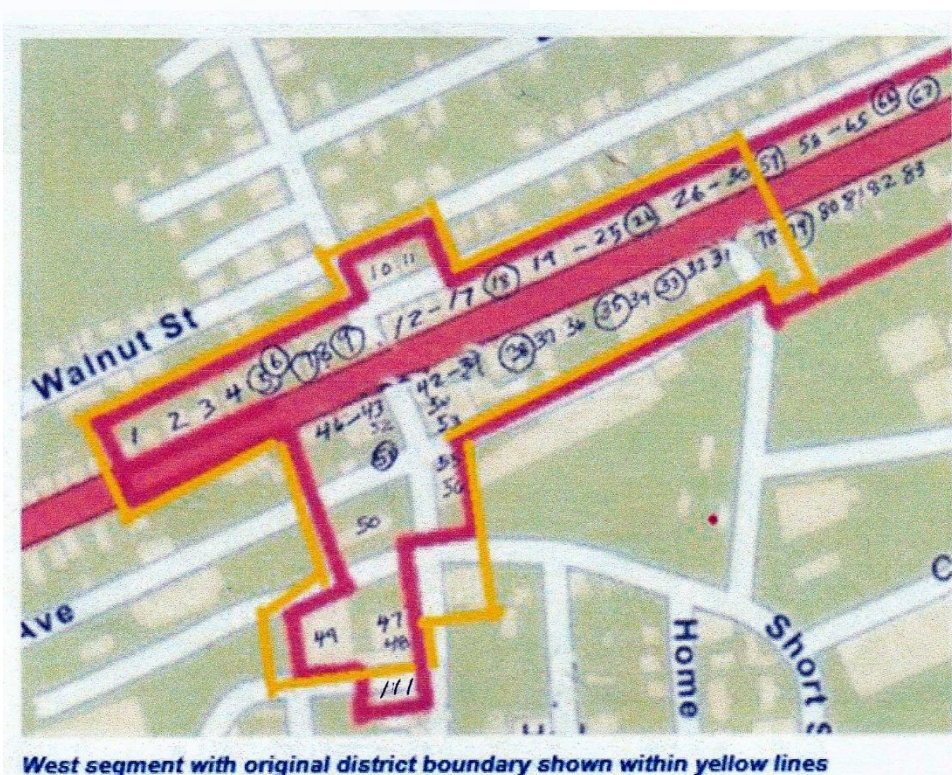
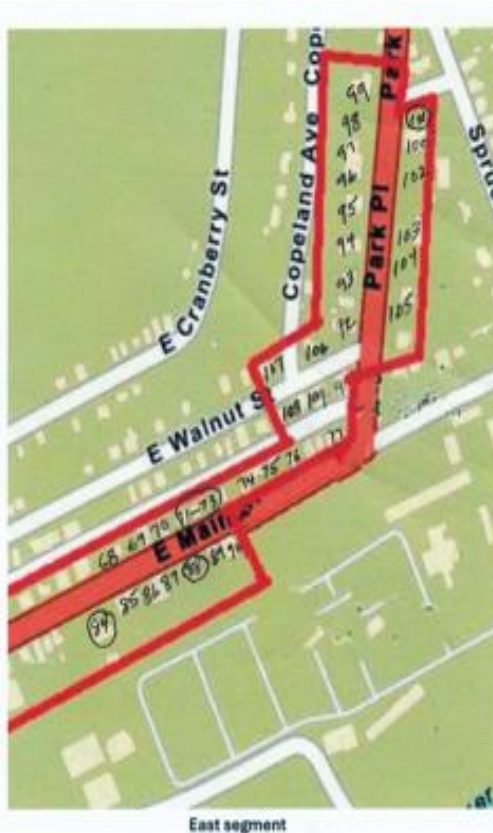
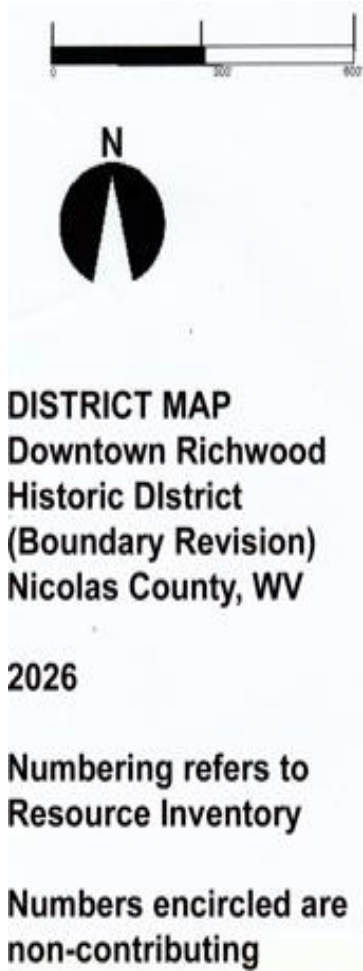
Photo 32 of 32

Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documenta-
tion, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

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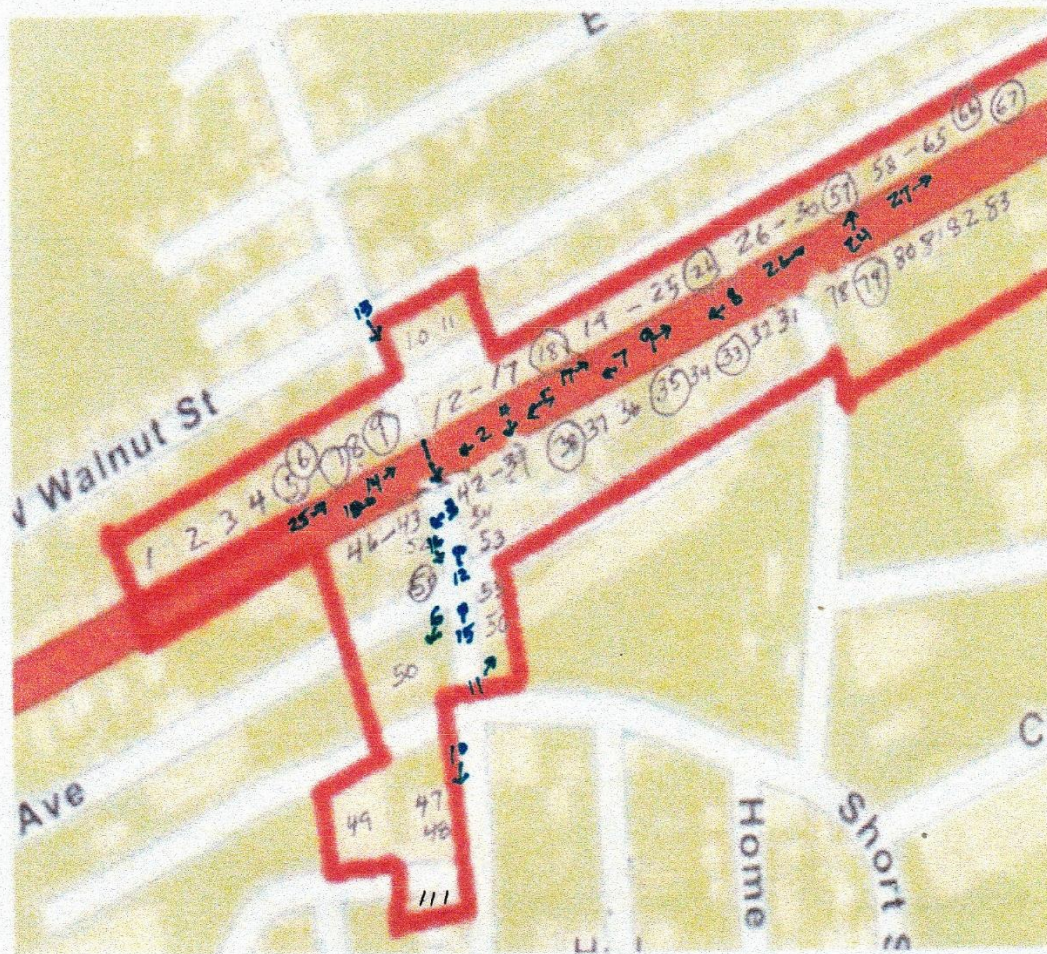


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West segment

RICHWOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

Nicholas County, West Virginia

Photo Map

Numbers in blue are photo

numbers

and camera orientation

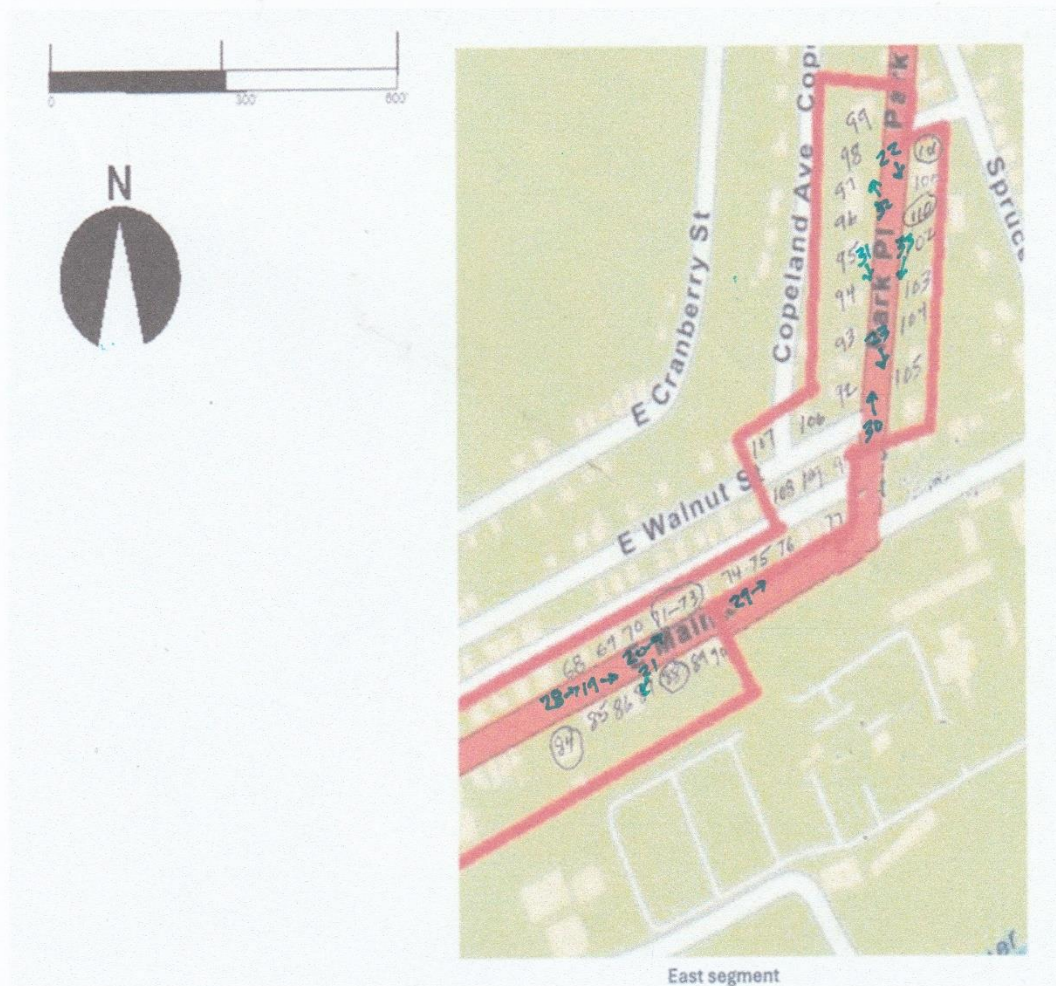


Downtown Richwood Historic District (Additional Documenta-
tion, Boundary Decrease, and Boundary Increase)

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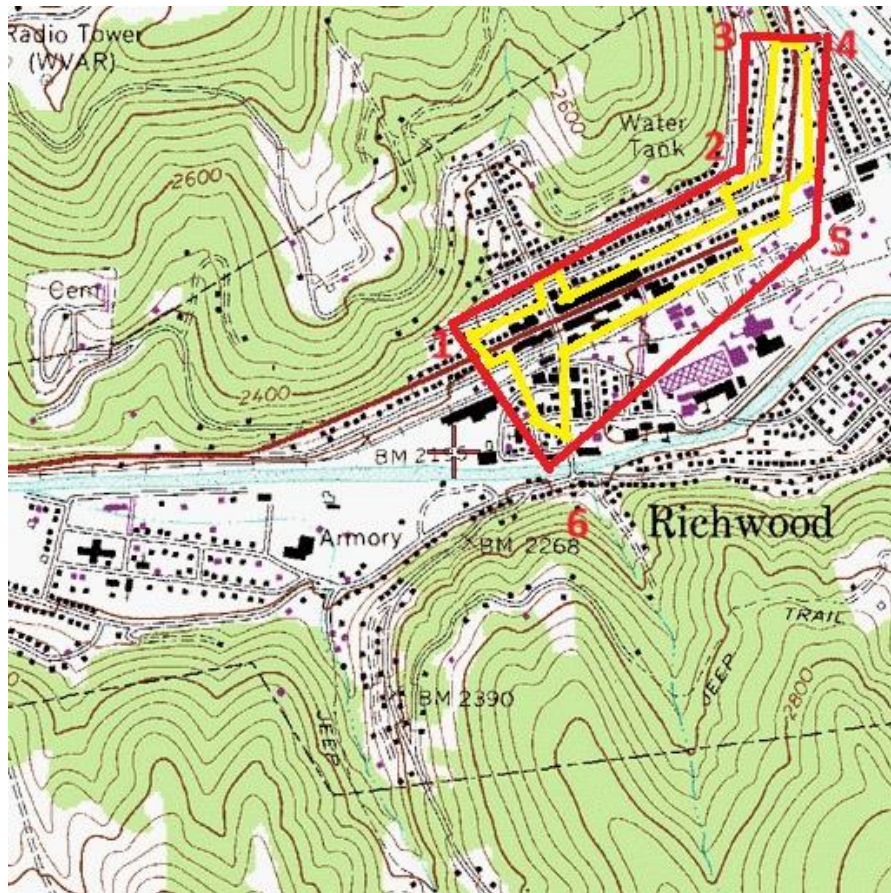
RICHWOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT
Nicholas County, West Virginia
Photo Map
Numbers in blue are photo
numbers
and camera orientation

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Richwood, WV Quadrangle



1: 17/540701/4230896

2: 17/541260/4231146

3: 17/541334/4231379

4: 17/541434/4231398

5: 17/541392/4231132

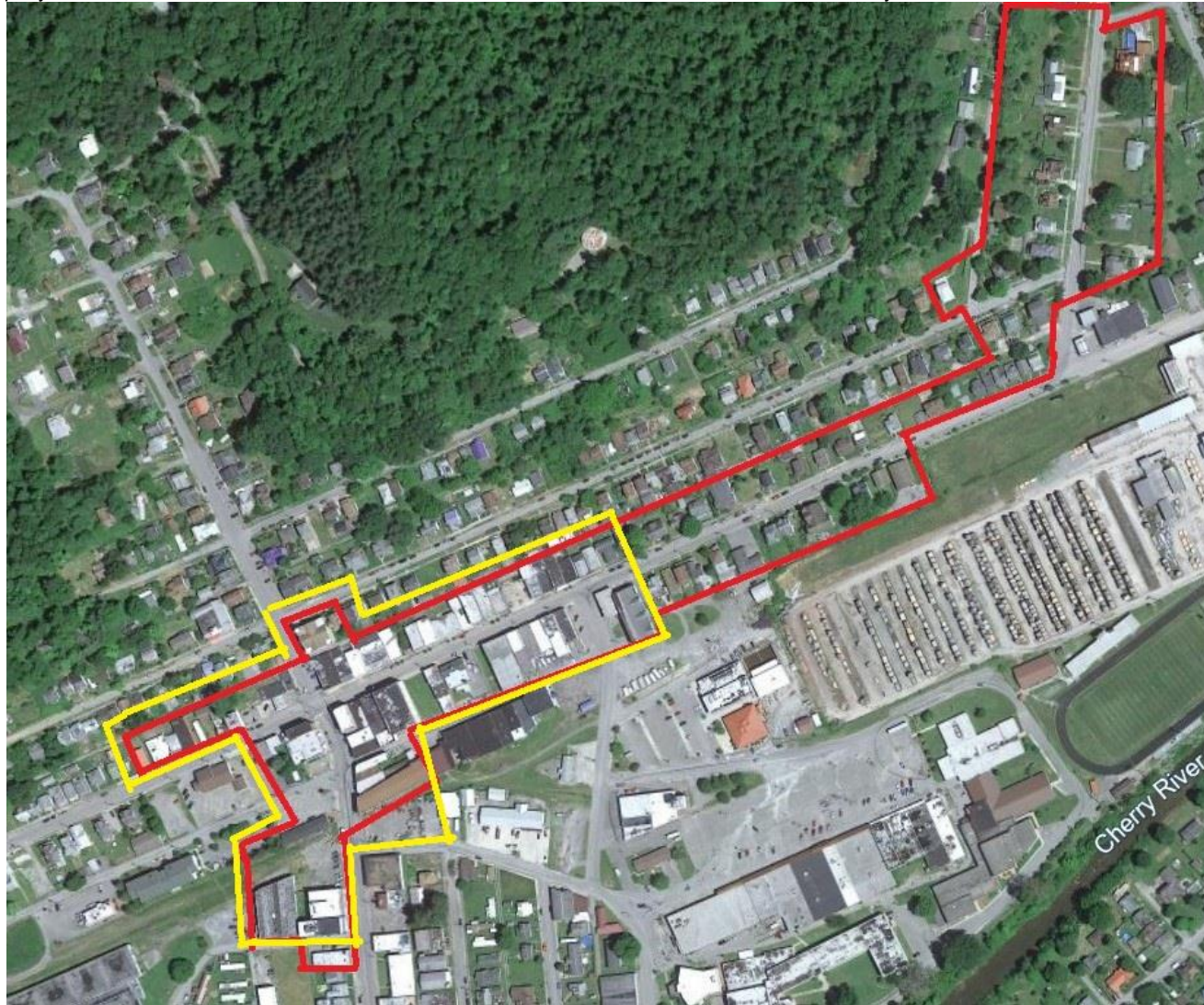
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District shown on Google Earth; the original district is shown within the yellow lines