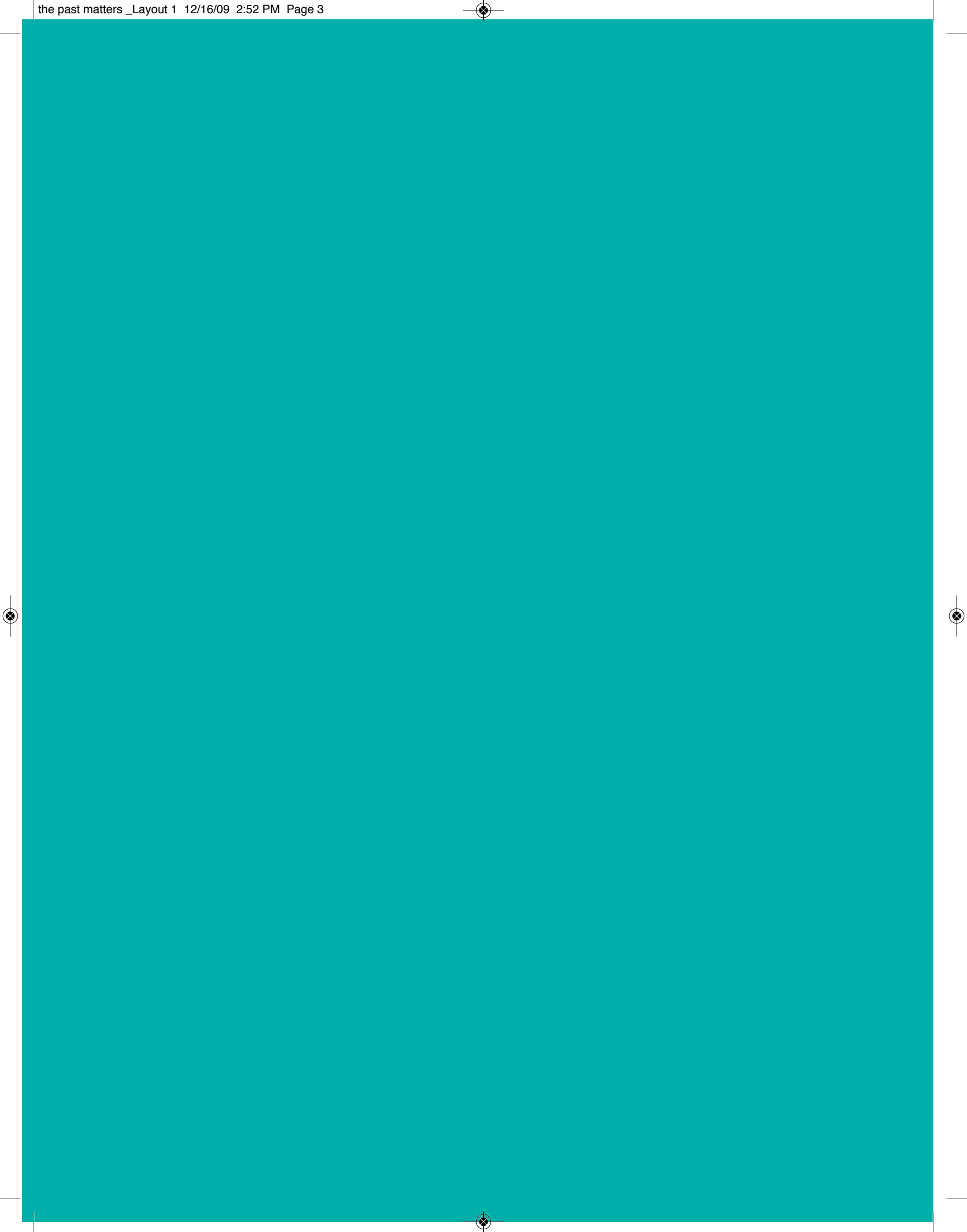


The West Virginia Statewide
Historic Preservation Plan

The **PAST**
MATTERS TODAY

2009-
2014



The Past Matters Today

The West Virginia Statewide
Historic Preservation Plan

2009-2014

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*West Virginia
Independence Hall*

*Photo courtesy of
the West Virginia
Development Office*

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The Past Matters



*Pearl S. Buck House
Hillsboro
Pocahontas County*

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A West Virginia Preservation Success Story

Downtown Charleston Historic District Charleston, Kanawha County

On March 24, 2006, the Downtown Charleston Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places. Although West Virginia has downtown districts across the state, the capitol city did not; in fact, an attempt to list the downtown failed in 1991. Over time, there was a shift in attitude with several local property owners recognizing the usefulness of the rehabilitation tax credits. Two recent projects have invested approximately six million dollars in the rehabilitation of downtown buildings using the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to take advantage of substantial federal and state historic preservation tax credits.



A Message from the DSHPO



West Virginians are actively engaged in historic preservation.... It has been my pleasure to be involved in various aspects of the five year statewide comprehensive historic preservation planning process, including the public meetings and the review of questionnaire results. During this process, people shared their passion for our state's history and demonstrated their commitment to a county or town's historic resources - or an individual property. Their concerns as well as their encouraging words have helped form the content of this plan.

The review of our successes is encouraging. Much has been accomplished. Of course, there have also been stumbling blocks and disappointments, but most people are not willing to give up on historic preservation. This plan focuses the direction of our activities for the next five years. I look forward to working with everyone to accomplish its goals and objectives.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan M. Pierce".

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Acknowledgements

The **West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)** would like to thank all of the people who helped in the formulation of this plan. SHPO is especially thankful for our local organizers and volunteers. In a state separated by distance and divided by mountains, these volunteers were essential to the planning process. Recognition is also given to the various historical societies, historic landmark commissions, and historic preservation groups whose members are on the front line of historic preservation and work miracles across the state. These bands of dedicated volunteers provided important and valuable observations about the state of historic preservation in West Virginia. SHPO appreciates our statewide partners, such as the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, Main Street West Virginia, the Council for West Virginia Archaeology, and the West Virginia Archaeological Society. As the strongest and most diligent advocates for historic preservation in our state, they provided frank assessments and identified the major areas that this plan should address. Additionally, SHPO would like to thank the citizens of West Virginia for their input into this process. From across the state, West Virginians provided insight and showed concern for historic resources. Finally, SHPO is grateful to Patricia Pitrolo of Bradley Strategies, LLC., who moderated the statewide meetings and compiled the resulting information.



*Public Training workshop,
Elkins, Randolph County*

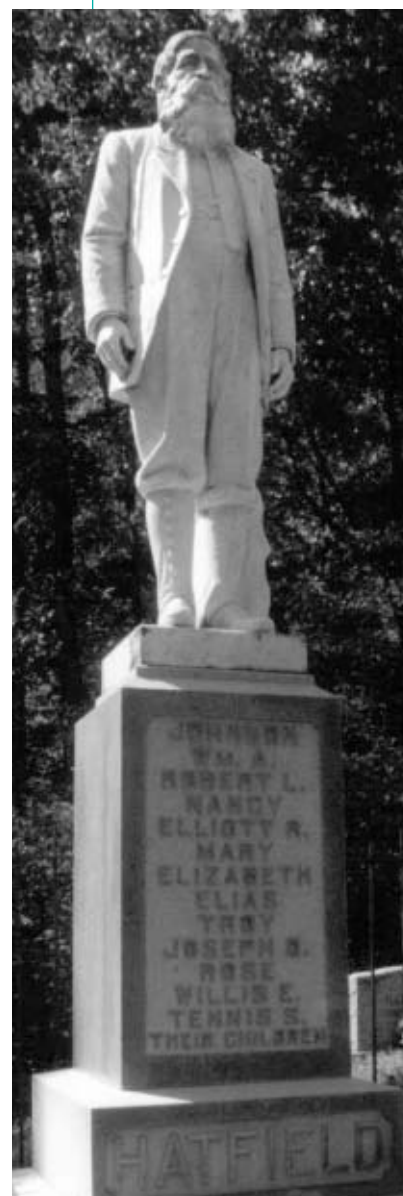
Executive Summary

*Man is a history-making creature who can neither repeat
his past nor leave it behind.*

W. H. Auden, The Dyers Hand

In the forty plus years following the creation of the West Virginia Antiquities Commission and the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act, historic preservation in West Virginia has come a long way. In the early years, the historic preservation movement focused on creating site museums, but through time its focus expanded. Currently, historic preservation efforts include private residences, historic downtowns, commercial store fronts, industrial complexes, warehouses, battlefields, landscapes, archaeological resources and more. The nature of historic preservation has also changed to reflect and represent the entire American experience. However, the most exciting aspect of this evolution is the development of historic preservation as a powerful mechanism that spurs economic development and betters community. Extensive research has shown that historic preservation is one of the best ways to improve local economies and communities. Through innovative programs like the Main Street Program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, communities around the state have made dramatic improvements in their historic downtowns. As a direct result of their efforts, property values have increased and new investments have been made on a large scale. The future of historic preservation as an economic engine also looks promising as heritage tourism starts to take root in West Virginia and have a positive impact.

In a perfect world, historic preservation would be easy, and, to a point, over the past few years it has become easier, but much more work has to be done. Historic resources across the state face the threats of neglect, abandonment, and demolition. Many individuals who want to improve their quality of life and communities that would like to improve their local economies through historic preservation do not have the financial resources necessary to proceed. In other parts of the state, growth, sprawl, and the lack of planning are changing the fabric of West Virginia's communities for the worse. To address these concerns and others the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with the participation of stakeholders across the state developed *The Past Matters Today: The West Virginia Statewide Historic Preservation Plan 2009-2014* to guide its work for the next five years and to provide a framework for others who wish to promote historic preservation in the Mountain State.



*"Devil Anse" Hatfield
statue, Hatfield Cemetery,
Logan County*

Executive Summary continued

To bolster and promote historic preservation in West Virginia the following goals have been established:

Goal 1: Awareness

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

Goal 2: Identification

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

Goal 3: Advocacy

West Virginians will support and strengthen historic preservation activities across the state.

Goal 4: Community and Economic Development

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

Goal 5: Stewardship

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

*Lustron Corporation
publicity, c1950s*



While these goals and objectives are focused on historic preservation, they are also focused on the future. Every West Virginian has a role to play in the future that we create. The choices that we make today will have an impact on the West Virginia of tomorrow. For a future that is rooted in our shared heritage, reflective of our cultural values, and ingrained in our proud traditions, it is important to retain the vestiges of our history; preserve, restore or rehabilitate them; and venerate them as stalwart monuments of our industrious past and as platforms for a dynamic and productive future. To achieve this vision of the future requires the help and support of many people. The SHPO encourages everyone to join with us to make these goals a reality.

The Planning Process

CREATING THE PLAN

In 2002, the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) produced *Preserving Our Mountaineer Heritage: West Virginia Statewide Historic Preservation 2002-2006*. That plan was the framework for historic preservation activities for the past few years. This current plan entitled *The Past Matters Today* is a review of the activities over past years, an examination of the current status of the state's efforts and a plan for historic preservation to direct historic preservation efforts from 2009 to 2014.

The SHPO held ten meetings across the state during March, April, and May of 2007. With the help of local stakeholders, meetings were held in Keyser, Berkeley Springs, Elkins, Fairmont, Wheeling, Summersville, Parkersburg, Lewisburg, Huntington, and Bluefield. Local officials, state representatives, landmark commission members as well as the public at large were invited and encouraged to attend. The meetings began with a review of the existing goals and objectives. The public was then given an opportunity to address the previous goals and to explain the issues that preservation faced in their communities. During the meetings 171 attendees representing 79 organizations, communities, and businesses made comments and provided suggestions.

To provide those unable to attend the meetings with an opportunity to respond, the SHPO also developed two versions of a survey: one paper and the other electronically accessible on the Division of Culture and History website. All total the surveys represented opinions from 33 of West Virginia's 55 counties and included responses from historical



*McDowell County Courthouse
Welch*

society members, National Register property owners, landmark commission representatives, local government officials and representatives from state government. Additional comments and input were provided by members of statewide historic preservation groups like the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, the Archaeological Conservancy, and the Council for West Virginia Archaeology, the West Virginia Archaeological Society and Main Street West Virginia. These groups provided a statewide perspective and were quick to provide evidence of success, neglect, and failure.

ANALYSIS

After the meetings were over, the surveys counted, individual comments reviewed and data tabulated, the results demonstrated that West Virginians are passionate about their history, historic resources, and archeological sites. They have hope that these resources will remain a vibrant and an active part of the state's future. Through this process the major issues facing the state were identified.

The Planning Process continued

The Issues:

EDUCATION

The loudest and most prevalent comment from the process was the general lack of knowledge concerning West Virginia's cultural resources and historic preservation. To establish a statewide historic preservation ethic, education programs must be developed. From

the classroom to the city council chamber, corporate board room, county commission table, and state capitol, education needs to take place. Respondents called for historic preservation and local historic sites to be integrated into the curriculum of schools at the elementary, secondary and collegiate levels. The process also illustrated the need for programs that

educate political leaders at the local and state levels. Programs that dispel common historic preservation myths, provide information about the positive economic impact of historic preservation, and explain the value and uniqueness of West Virginia's historic and prehistoric properties were recommended.



*West Virginia State Capitol
Kanawha County*

Participants also noted that key players in economic development, like bankers, real estate agents, and insurance providers, need more information about the economic potential and impact that historic preservation can have on a community.

INVESTMENT AND FUNDING

When asked to rank the greatest threat to historic and prehistoric sites in West Virginia, the lack of funding ranked near the top. At every meeting, funding became a recurring part of the discussion. The need for more public grant monies and private investment was expressed. Economic development requires an investment at all levels and more of this investment needs to be directed toward historic and prehistoric properties. Success stories where investment has made huge contributions, like in Morgantown, Huntington, Lewisburg, Beverly, Kingwood and other cities, need to be shared and the communities promoted as models for others across the state. Assistance for historic preservation and community development projects needs to be greatly expanded and existing incentive programs, such as state and federal tax credits and preservation easements, must be promoted and supported. Historic preservation efforts that have made an economic impact must also be heralded and shown as a process for growth and presented as an investment in the community that has a positive impact on economic development and not the roadblock that many misrepresent it to be.

GROWTH AND SPRAWL

In many areas of the state, the greatest concern was the lack of preservation

planning. As a result, urban sprawl, limited zoning, limited or inconsistent enforcement of local protective mechanisms, and demolition threaten historic resources and their context. In regions like the Eastern Panhandle, growth has placed many of our historic and prehistoric properties in jeopardy. Tract housing and large commercial developments are transforming the landscape from its rural nature to one of subdivisions, parking lots, and strip malls. In other parts of the state, the lack of planning and enforcement are destroying the historic nature of our downtowns and residential communities are losing their unique identity. In these communities the traditional downtown setting is disrupted and destroyed by new construction that is unsympathetic to the traditional look of the town.

NEGLECT, ABANDONMENT AND DEMOLITION

The most challenging problem facing historic preservation in West Virginia is the neglect, abandonment, and demolition of historic resources. Many historic buildings and structures across the state are currently vacant and neglected. These buildings and structures are made up of two types. The first type includes the remains of once productive factories, farms, mill buildings, and coal mines. The second group comprises store buildings and residences in our urban centers. As time passes, the condition of these buildings deteriorate to such a degree that they become eyesores and safety concerns. In many cases, state agencies, county commissions, and city councils view demolition as the only solution. These groups are using the outdated and widely unsuccessful urban renewal model popular in the 1960s.



*Hoge House, Winfield
Putnam County
during restoration*

The belief that blight removal and the creation of vacant lots are the key to economic development is incorrect and misguided. In communities across West Virginia historic downtowns and industrial buildings have been leveled in the hopes of redevelopment. The reality is that in community after community empty lots remain undeveloped; are paved for parking lots; or if they are developed they are filled with sprawl development that undermines the aesthetics of the community.

IDENTIFICATION AND PLANNING

Over the past several decades much has been done to identify the historic and prehistoric resources of West Virginia. Tens of thousands of sites have been documented, but many more remain. Efforts must continue to place these existing sites into their proper historical context and to identify, evaluate, nominate, protect, and use newly identified resources so that they remain a part of our heritage.

Communities across West Virginia must incorporate preservation planning into their efforts. Erroneous myths concerning historic preservation are prevalent and many community leaders are

The Planning Process continued

reluctant to embrace preservation planning because of the fears that these myths promote. These leaders need to understand that consistent and thoughtful planning gives communities the ability to direct their development and to retain the qualities that make their communities the special places that they are.



*Shepherdstown
Jefferson County*

CONCLUSION

While the issues listed above are complex, there is real opportunity in West Virginia to make changes for the better. Through hard work and collaborative partnerships the state can be educated on the value of historic resources and the economic benefits of historic preservation. With the proper planning and an increase in investment the West Virginia of tomorrow will retain and build on its past and remain a place where people wish to live, raise a family, and be part of a community that values its heritage. To create that tomorrow, historic preservationists must continue to explain that the past matters today.

A West Virginia Perspective on the Historic Preservation Movement

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

Early efforts to preserve historic resources in West Virginia were, like federal efforts, very sporadic. One of the earliest state efforts to preserve and protect historic resources began in 1909 when the West Virginia legislature purchased the Grave Creek Mound in Moundsville. While the state owned the property the Mound received little attention until 1915, when the Warden of the West Virginia Penitentiary, M. Z. White, used prison labor to repair damage caused by an excavation into

the mound in 1838 and years of looting and neglect. Prison labor was also used to construct a museum to house some of the mound's artifacts. Other state efforts included the development of Droop Mountain Battlefield as a state park in 1926; the creation of Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park in 1950; and the purchase and restoration of West Virginia Independence Hall in 1963.

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

On March 6, 1965, the West Virginia Legislature created the West Virginia Antiquities Commission to determine the needs and priorities for the preservation, restoration and development of sites, buildings and other objects of archaeological or historic importance. A year later events on the national stage provided more support for the Antiquities Commission. In 1966, Congress passed



*DAR Chapter gathering
in 1967, Fort Ashby
Mineral County*

and President Johnson signed the National Historic Preservation Act that created a national historic preservation program with a strong state and federal partnership. The Antiquities Commission assumed the duties outlined in the act.

The Antiquities Commission began the first systematic program of historic preservation in the state and was very productive over its 13-year history. The Commission brought recognition and preserved some of West Virginia's most treasured resources. Through its efforts the Grave Creek Mound in Moundsville, West Virginia Independence Hall in Wheeling, Rich Mountain Battlefield, Harpers Ferry and cultural resources on Blennerhassett Island near Parkersburg were preserved. The first statewide historic preservation plan was created by the Commission in 1970 to provide a guide to protect historic resources. All totaled 3,000 historic structures and sites were surveyed, an archive of over 7,000 images was compiled, and 150 resources were nominated and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

On May 6, 1977, the West Virginia

The Planning Process continued

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



*Martinsburg light fixture
Berkeley County*

West Virginia's Cultural Resources

For about 11,000 years, humans have been making their mark on the land that became West Virginia. Today, there is a very diverse collection of items that documents our history and heritage. Collectively these remnants of our past are known as cultural resources. Tens of thousands of these resources have been documented and inventoried in West Virginia. These resources include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and historic buildings, structures, objects, districts, sites, and landscapes. At the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, inventory forms are currently kept in three formats to record archaeological resources, architectural/structural resources, and cemeteries. Ongoing development of a website which will link this information via a GIS mapped location includes discussion of how to manage information regarding resources that don't quite fit these three formats. A bridge survey form is also being developed under the leadership of the WV Division of Highways.

Currently, there are over 1,000 National Register of Historic Places listings from West Virginia. These listings include individually nominated buildings, structures, objects, sites and over 150 historic districts consisting of groups of resources. Sixteen of the state's historic resources have been identified as National Historic Landmarks, the highest designation for a historic property in the United States. All totaled, over 20,000 resources representing a wide range of resources and time periods in West Virginia history have been listed. Since the last plan was completed in 2001, 157 listings have been added to the National



Register. These new listings range from houses, schools, courthouses, barns, and churches to bridges, locomotives, commercial buildings, historic districts, fortifications, a golf course, and a cave.

The historic district nomination has added a significant number of historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places. In the 1980s, the number of districts multiplied five-fold with nearly 60 districts added to the National Register. The number of districts continued to add up in the 1990s through 2008 to equal roughly 150 historic districts with nearly 17,000 contributing structures. Generally thought of for use in downtowns or residential areas of towns, more recently, resources in rural areas have been listed as historic districts. The first of these districts was identified as the Pickaway Rural Historic District in Monroe County and included over 3,000 acres. The Tygart Valley Homesteads Historic District was approximately 1,500 acres. In spite of this success, other historic districts across the state need to be

*Tygart Valley Homestead
Randolph County, 1939,
John Vachon photographer
Library of Congress*

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued

identified, documented, and nominated, especially those related to industry and agriculture.

For the first few decades of the National Register of Historic Places, however, agricultural-related resources listed in the Register were limited to the large plantation houses. In more recent years, more modest rural structures and agricultural landscapes have been recognized as an aspect of the historic resource.

While the number of listings for the state is significant, there are many more historic resources worthy of recognition and preservation. Below is a general overview of the historic resources that can be found in West Virginia.

Archaeological Resources

Over 12,500 archaeological sites have been documented in West Virginia thus far. These sites represent a wide range of time from the earliest human occupation some 11,000 years ago to the more recent past. In order to better understand our predecessors, archaeologists investigate the material remains recovered from archaeological sites (the things that people made and used and the remnants of the plants and animals that people ate) and the context in which they were discovered. Archaeologists also work with other scientists to reconstruct

the paleoenvironment, how it changed through time and how it might have affected people's lives.

Together, this information portrays a more complete picture of what life was like for people hundreds and thousands of years ago and the reasons why their lives or cultures changed through time. This vast stretch of time in our past is divided by archaeologists into the prehistoric period and the historic period.

The prehistoric era encompasses sites that date from the end of the Pleistocene to ca. A.D. 1700, which is when Europeans first began settling the land that is now West Virginia. The rich legacy of West Virginia's prehistoric past is represented by archaeological sites such as quarries and other workshops, campsites, petroglyphs, earthworks, mounds and villages. Based on differences observed in these sites through time and in the material items that were left behind, archaeologists have broken the prehistoric past into different periods referred to as Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, and Late Prehistoric.

West Virginia's earliest European ancestors also left their mark on the land. Historic archaeological sites such as frontier forts and other types of military encampments, battlefields, and the ruins of early farmsteads, communities and industrial complexes have been discovered throughout the state. Archaeological study of these resources has enhanced our understanding of people's lives from the 18th through the early 20th centuries and increased our knowledge of changes in agricultural practices through time, the rise of various industries such as salt, timbering and coal, and how these industries have affected people's lives.

*Historic domestic artifacts
retrieved from excavations
Berkeley County*



Prehistoric Archaeological Resources

THE PALEOINDIAN PERIOD (CA. 9500 - 8000 B.C.)

The earliest occupation of North America occurred before 8,000 B.C. during what archaeologists call the Paleoindian Period. Although evidence of Paleoindian occupation in West Virginia is scarce, data from elsewhere in the northeast suggests that, in areas where a tundra environment predominated, people were focused on hunting caribou rather than mammoth or mastodon. In other places like the Chesapeake Bay area, where a mixed deciduous forest was in place by 9000 B.C., Paleoindian peoples likely hunted and gathered a more diverse range of foods. Within our region, Paleoindian sites have been found in association with high quality flint and chert outcrops near major river systems. The most recognizable artifacts of the period are large fluted projectile points. Archaeologists have broken these down into different types that are thought to correspond to different times within the period. In West Virginia, fluted points have been found along the Kanawha and Ohio rivers and in select upland locations in the Potomac River Valley. Some of these points appear to resemble the earliest variety found in the eastern United States (known as the Shoop-Debert/Gainey type). However, details about the lives of Paleoindian peoples in West Virginia are not known and will have to come from future research.



THE ARCHAIC PERIOD (CA. 8000 - 1000 B.C.)

The beginning of the Archaic Period traditionally coincides with the start of the Holocene. Paleoenvironmental data suggest that modern deciduous forests had reached areas south and east of the Allegheny Front by ca. 7800 B.C., and some archaeologists think, that early in the period, people simply continued the same basic subsistence and habitation practices as they did during the Paleoindian Period. While there is evidence for continued use of high quality exotic cherts, a change did occur in the types of lithic tools that were being used. These Early Archaic projectile points, which have been recovered from sites throughout West Virginia, indicate that different animals, such as deer, were being exploited. Carbonized nut hulls from the St. Albans Site (46Ka61) in Kanawha County date to ca. 7000 B.C. and provide additional evidence in West Virginia of the increasing variety of food in people's diets. Recent excavations at the West Blennerhassett Site (46Wd83-A) and the Dickinson Farm Site (46Ka111) should

*Data recovery excavations
Kanawha County*

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued



*Detail of excavations
Blennerhassett Island*

*Photo courtesy of the
West Virginia Division
of Highways*

provide additional information about the early part of this period.

Throughout the Archaic Period, population densities continue to increase and archaeologists find sites in progressively more diverse environs. Use of plant processing tools like adzes and celts continues to increase so that by the Late Archaic Period, a distinctive way of living has emerged. Settlements have become focused on river valleys, while more marginal areas are used seasonally to extract specific resources. In the Ohio River Valley, shell midden sites, such as West Virginia's East Steubenville Site (46Br31) indicate that people are exploiting riverine food sources for the first time. Also for the first time, people began trading for and using steatite or soapstone. Steatite fragments have been

recovered from sites all over West Virginia. A source study for the steatite will be conducted as partial mitigation for adverse effects resulting from Corridor H and should provide invaluable information regarding migration and trade networks.

THE WOODLAND PERIOD (CA. 1000 B.C. - A.D. 1000)

The Woodland period is typically characterized by the emergence and spread of ceramics. While the trend for semi-permanent base camps continues from the Archaic Period, the use of pottery is seen as evidence for an increasingly sedentary way of life. This in turn is related to an increasing reliance on the systematic exploitation of plants or horticulture. Planned nucleated and non-nucleated settlements appear and tend to become increasingly larger during this period. However, smaller semi-permanent habitations and short term camps likely used for resource procurement have also been identified. In addition, evidence suggests that, late in the Woodland Period, Native Americans made increasing use of rock shelters.

In general, evidence for horticulture appears in sites as carbonized seeds. Domesticated varieties of marshelder, recovered from the Fairchance Village Site (46Mr13-B), as well as maygrass and goosefoot from the Childers Site (46Ms121) indicate that Native Americans in the mid Ohio River valley were moving toward agriculture, although hunting/gathering and fishing continued to comprise an important part of their subsistence. Carbonized squash seeds and rind fragments have also been recovered from many sites during this period. While horticultural practices were certainly in place elsewhere in West

Virginia, direct evidence of this is scarce or non-existent. Indirectly, the shift in food procurement strategies is also supported by the appearance of deep storage/refuse pits in habitation sites and by the introduction of the bow and arrow. By about A.D. 800 maize horticulture was firmly in place as indicated by data recovered from the Woods Site (46Ms14) and the Corey Site (46Pu100). Again however, solid evidence for crop cultivation outside of the Ohio and Kanawha River valleys does not appear until much later.

The period is also associated with the use of burial mounds and other earthworks. Along terraces of the Ohio, Kanawha and other western rivers in West Virginia, the mounds tend to be earth constructions often containing multiple burials. In the eastern part of the state, especially along the Cheat and South Branch of the Potomac Rivers, Native Americans covered their dead with stone mounds. Whether of stone or earth, burial mounds are often interpreted as evidence of some sort of social hierarchy. The largest extant burial mounds in West Virginia can be found in Moundsville and South Charleston. The Grave Creek Mound in Moundsville was named a National Historic Landmark in 1966 and the Criel Mound in South Charleston was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

THE LATE PREHISTORIC AND PROTOHISTORIC PERIODS (CA. A.D. 1000 - 1690)

In the western part of West Virginia, the Late Prehistoric Period is defined

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

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

FORT ANCIENT CULTURE

Several Fort Ancient sites have been identified in West Virginia. Generally, they occur in the watersheds of the Ohio River south of the Northern Panhandle,

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued

as well as along the Little Kanawha, Kanawha, New, Bluestone and Guyandotte Rivers. A number of West Virginia sites were instrumental in the development of the Feurt-Clover Tradition within the Fort Ancient Culture. The tradition is broken into a number of phases: Roseberry (ca. A.D. 1050-1250); Blennerhassett (ca. A.D. 1250-1450); Clover (ca. A.D. 1450-1640); and Orchard (ca. A.D. 1640-1690). Prominent Fort Ancient sites used to develop the tradition include the Roseberry Farm Site (46Ms53), the Blennerhassett Village Site (46Wd35), the Clover Site (46Cb40), Buffalo Site (46Pu31), the Man Site (46Lg5), and the Orchard Site (46Ms61).

At the time of its appearance in West Virginia soon after A.D. 1000, Fort Ancient settlements were small, oval shaped, planned, nucleated villages with a central plaza surrounded by a ring of houses. Houses tended to be sub-rectangular in shape and were semi-subterranean with compacted floors. Small burial mounds, in which

adults and adolescents were interred, are also associated with villages from early Fort Ancient sites. Infants and juveniles were buried amongst the houses. Later in the Fort Ancient Period, villages maintained the same general layout but were much larger in size and tended to be surrounded by palisades or fences. By about A.D. 1250, the beginning of the Blennerhassett Phase, the use of burial mounds seems to have been abandoned and instead, graves are encountered amongst the houses in the domestic ring surrounding the central plaza. Fort Ancient sites exhibit an almost total reliance on maize agriculture rather than the suite of domesticated grasses and other plants typical of earlier periods. However, small mammals, birds, fish, mollusks, elk, and white-tail deer continue to be exploited.

During the Clover Phase, much of the regional variation between Fort Ancient sites, especially as evidenced by differing pottery styles, seems to disappear. In addition, sites belonging to the later

A West Virginia Preservation Success Story

Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex Moundsville, Marshall County

On May 12, 2008, the 9,000 square foot addition to the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex opened in Moundsville. The new \$3.1 million dollar state-of-the-art facility provided a permanent and stable home for the West Virginia Archaeology Collection. The collection contains approximately 2,000 boxes of artifacts from key archaeological sites from the prehistoric and historic eras as well as photographs, maps, and other related materials. Along with abundant storage, the new facility provides conservation labs for curators and greater access to the collection for researchers.

Clover Phase (ca. 1580) have produced European goods such as glass or brass beads, copper and items made from scrap metal kettles. These are generally interpreted as evidence for trade rather than an early European presence in the state. By the end of the Late Prehistoric/Protohistoric Period, during what is called the Orchard Phase, the location and patterning of villages seems to have changed again. Instead of large oval shaped villages on river floodplains, archaeologists have found small villages or hamlets located further away from the river. Often the villages are arranged in a dispersed linear, rather than oval shaped, pattern. Also of note, the ceramics recovered from these sites appear to represent a variety of different styles. Some archaeologists have interpreted this as evidence for a fragmentation and decrease in Native American populations resulting from Iroquois raids into the region. It may also be evidence of a population decrease resulting from European-introduced diseases.

MONONGAHELA CULTURE

In West Virginia, Monongahela sites occur primarily in the northern panhandle region. Subsistence evidence indicates that the Monongahela culture, like Fort Ancient, became increasingly more dependent on maize throughout the Late Prehistoric period. Mussels from the Ohio and Monongahela River were also prominent at Monongahela sites along with the remains of deer, turkey, turtles, and fish. Wild plant foods, like grapes, plums and the seed bearing plants goosefoot and smartweed were also part of their diet. Throughout the Late Prehistoric period Monongahela settlement patterns changed. In early



Monongahela sites, circular houses were either clustered around a central plaza or in a linear arrangement. In West Virginia, these sites generally consist of two to six dwellings. Later in the period, village sites become increasingly complex and varied in the arrangement of houses. Of interest, later sites have what are known as “petal houses,” large circular houses with numerous attached, external features. In some instances later village sites were surrounded by stockades or fence lines. Also later in the period, there is a trend for villages to be located on upland saddles rather than in valley bottoms.

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

Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex collections storage

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versus Fort Ancient's sub-rectangular houses in more oval shaped villages. The recently excavated Monongahela village known as the Fort Hill Site (46Mg12) should provide much needed comparative data for West Virginia sites.

EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA

In the eastern part of West Virginia, the Late Prehistoric Period is not differentiated from the earlier Woodland Period. However, post A.D. 1000, trends in subsistence and settlement practices in this region parallel those occurring at Fort Ancient and Monongahela sites. For example, small, unfortified villages characterized settlements prior to A.D. 1300. But soon after, larger nucleated villages with palisades begin to appear. In addition, Native American diet in the eastern part of the state also became increasingly reliant upon maize agriculture that was supplemented by a variety of other plants and animals such as deer, fish and shellfish. Again, differences between sites in this part of the state and contemporary sites elsewhere appear as stylistic variation in pottery. In eastern West Virginia, people appear to be interacting more with groups to the north and south, from south-central New York to North Carolina. Whereas in the western part of the state, there are clear ties with groups further west. Protohistoric sites in eastern West Virginia are also marked by the presence of European trade goods. In addition, sites such as the Mouth of the Seneca (46Pd1) and Pancake Island (46Hm73) have produced evidence of Susquehannock movement into and habitation in the region.

Historical Archaeological Resources

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

FRONTIER FORTS

The earliest historical archaeological sites in West Virginia are related to the settlement era. These sites include sparsely settled communities, isolated farmsteads, and frontier forts. Frontier forts were part of a defensive system that made settlement of the hostile frontier possible by not only serving as operational bases for scouts and militia but also as a place of refuge for the settlers. Frontier forts can generally be divided into three categories: the blockhouse, the stockade, and the fort. Over the past few years archaeological excavations have been conducted at frontier forts related to the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Excavations at Fort Ashby in Mineral County and Fort Edwards in Hampshire County have provided a better understanding of the layout and design of forts as well as a glimpse into the life on the frontier. Pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary-era forts have also been identified at Fort Martin in Monongalia County and Fort Arbuckle in Greenbrier County. While archaeological investigations at these forts have provided valuable information, many of the 58 French and Indian War-era, 122 Pre-Revolutionary and Revolution-era, and 14 Post Revolutionary-era forts and blockhouses have yet to be located and investigated.

CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS AND LANDSCAPES

Renewed interest in the Civil War has brought attention to West Virginia's Civil War battlefields, skirmish sites, camps, entrenchments/earthworks, and cultural landscapes. Archaeological investigations



*Camp Bartow
Pocahontas County*

have taken place at Rich Mountain Battlefield, Carnifex Ferry Battlefield, Droop Mountain Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and Camp Bartow, all of which have been identified, nominated, and listed in the National Register. Other sites across the state have yet to be identified and investigated. While the new interest has had a positive impact on the study of Civil War sites, it has also put many of these sites at risk of looting. The rapid increase in development especially in the Eastern Panhandle has also put these sites at risk.

INDUSTRIAL SITES

Industrial development plays a key role in the history of West Virginia. Archaeological investigations at industrial sites have not only documented technological processes and industrial advancements, but have also provided insight into the lives of workers and their communities.

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued

West Virginia's industrial sites range from small grist mills to large scale factories and mining complexes. The early manufacturing of salt along the Kanawha "Salines" was a key impetus for settlement along the Kanawha River just outside Charleston. The first salt furnace was constructed in 1797 and by 1815 there were 52 salt furnaces in production along the Kanawha River. Excavations conducted at Burning Spring Branch site, 46Ka142, reveal the material culture and the organization of a nineteenth century industrial plantation.

A federal armory was established at Harpers Ferry in 1794 with production beginning in 1801. By the 1850s, Harpers Ferry was a sprawling industrial town that not only contained the United States Armory and Arsenal but also a private manufacturing center located on Virginus Island which produced flour, lumber, cast iron items, machinery parts, and cotton. A majority of these manufacturing sites were driven by water power systems. Excavations at

Nuttallburg, Fayette County



Flowing Springs Mill, 46Jf340, located north of Charles Town in the Harpers Ferry District of Jefferson County, have provided information significant to the overall understanding of grist mills and their part in the industrialization of American society.

The introduction of railroads resulted in the expansion in both size and scope of industrial sites across the state. For example, the Dry Creek Brick Factory (46Gb19) located south of White Sulphur Springs in Greenbrier County is reported to have provided the brick used to face the Allegheny and White Sulphur Springs tunnels of the Covington and Ohio Railroad. Excavations at this site revealed that two brick burning methods and kiln types were utilized to produce handmade bricks and that no mechanized equipment was used in the brick production process. The largest kiln (Kiln #5) at the site, an up draft permanent kiln, had the capacity to burn approximately 1,120,000 bricks at one time.

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

DOMESTIC SITES

Excavated in both rural and urban settings, these sites have provided information regarding various domestic activities and distinctions of social class. The “Wilcox-Bradford” summer kitchen located at Cedar Hill Plantation, the residence of a wealthy slave-holder named Luke Wilcox (1795-1854) was excavated and determined to be constructed of log with a block foundation and a dirt floor. Insight into the lives of the African American slaves who worked in the Kanawha Valley’s salt industry was provided through the excavations that occurred at the Willow Bluff site, 46Ka352. Pierced silver coins retrieved from excavations are thought to represent details of religious beliefs. Domestic materials such as ceramics and glass were also found.

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

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



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

In comparison, excavations at High Street in Shepherdstown, an agriculturally-based community, revealed that marked differences in class and race as illustrated through material culture were not evident in the neighborhood. The archaeological record also indicates that the inhabitants of Shepherdstown had a more diverse diet, which continued to increase over time, than residents in Harpers Ferry.

*Harpers Ferry armory
housing excavation
Jefferson County*

*Photo courtesy of Harpers
Ferry National Historical Park*

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

UNDERWATER RESOURCES

Few underwater resources in West Virginia have been documented. Underwater resources that can be expected to exist within the state's waterways include bridge piers, dams, wing-dams, submerged vessels, ferry landings, wharves, submerged timbers used for lock and/or canal walls, and foundation walls. Surveys have been conducted by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers that have identified numerous sunken barges along the state's major rivers. Often, during bridge replacement projects, abandoned piers from previous bridges are noted and evaluated. At Harpers Ferry, remnants of a waterpower dam, headgates, and foundation walls are visible within the waters of the Shenandoah River.

*Pricketts Fort Cemetery
Marion County*



The Coal River Locks, Dams and Log Booms Archaeological District is comprised of a series of nine locks and dams that were built between 1855 and 1859, two log booms comprised of 25 timber-crib piers, and a lockkeeper's house. The dams were constructed out of stone-filled timber cribs resting on wooden piles and/or bedrock, where as the locks were constructed of timber cribs. A later constructed grist mill dam is situated at the former location of the navigational dam at Upper Falls (Lock #3) along the Coal River.

Cemetery Resources

Cemeteries are unique historical resources that can provide evidence of various settlement patterns, burial customs, religious and cultural influences, economic development, social relationships, and lineage. The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office uses the West Virginia Cemetery Survey Form to record information about cemeteries. Currently, over 600 small family plots, church graveyards, as well as private, municipal, and national cemeteries have been added to the survey database. Many cemeteries have been included in the National Register as contributing resources within historic districts or associated with churches.

Prominent and distinctive examples of cemeteries have been listed individually in the National Register meeting Criteria Consideration D. The Grafton National Cemetery in Taylor County was dedicated in 1868 to inter Union dead; it continues to serve as a veterans' cemetery. The Confederate Cemetery at the edge of Lewisburg uses an earthen mound in a cross shape to mark the

burials of soldiers killed at the Battles of Lewisburg and Droop Mountain. Spring Hill Cemetery overlooking Charleston is well known for its mortuary art. The Hatfield Cemetery located in Sarah Ann in Logan County is the burial place of Anderson “Devil Anse” Hatfield. His grave is marked by a life like statue commissioned by his children. Green Hill Cemetery was designed by David Hunter Strother (a.k.a. Porte Crayon) in Berkeley County. Its circular design divides the hillside vertically while circular drives create concentric circles. Brooke Cemetery designed by John Chislett in Wellsburg conveys the Victorian idea of “cities of the dead” through its advantageous interpretation of its rural setting and nineteenth century mortuary symbolism.

Smaller cemeteries such as those dedicated to individual families and churches have also been inventoried or listed in the National Register. At Fort Hill Farm in Mineral County the family cemetery is found at the top of a prominent hillside. This location provides a panorama of the farm buildings and related fields. A family cemetery is also located near the William S. Gilliland Log Cabin in Charleston. Virginia’s Chapel in Cedar Grove has a small cemetery adjacent to this small brick church. Unfortunately, small rural family cemeteries can be fragile resources to preserve and protect. Generally preserved through volunteer labor, these cemeteries can be forgotten and lost due to the dispersion of family members. Time, the elements, neglect, vandalism, and development cause these resources to disappear from the landscape.

Architectural and Structural Resources

HOUSING

Of all the resources that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places from West Virginia, houses represent the largest and most varied group of buildings. From the earliest settlement in the wilderness of western Virginia to the relative peace following the Revolutionary Era through the rise of turnpikes, canals, and railroads during the Antebellum Period; the bloodshed of the Civil War and the struggle for Statehood; the exponential growth of the economy during industrialization; and the triumph and tragedy of the twentieth century, West Virginians have been building homes from a variety of materials and based upon vernacular traditions and architectural styles. Houses in the state range from humble log cabins, massive, high-style Victorian mansions, Arts and Craft bungalows, four square houses to Lustron fabricated residences, ranch style homes and planned subdivisions. Whether found in an urban or rural setting, these houses reflect the history of the state and the experiences of West Virginians.

The earliest houses in West Virginia are generally found in the eastern portions of the state. When constructed in the mid-1700s these houses were on the



*Gold House, Mason
Mason County*

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fringe of the frontier. In the 1740s and 1750s land grant companies like the Ohio Company and the Greenbrier Land Company along with large property-owners like Lord Fairfax pushed for settlement west of the Blue Ridge. The earliest surviving remnants of this era can be found along the Potomac River and its tributaries in the Eastern Panhandle in Berkeley, Jefferson, Hardy and Hampshire Counties. Examples from Jefferson County include White House Farm near Summit Point that was built of rubble limestone by Dr. John McCormick in 1742. In 1735 Robert Worthington built the stone portion of Piedmont and named it "Quarry Banks – New Style" after his home in England. Both these buildings were enlarged by the original or successive owners. In contrast, c.1751 Peter Burr built a two story, wooden log, beam, and board house near Shenandoah Junction.



*Switzer House, Wardensville
Hardy County*

In adjacent Berkeley County, a small single pen cabin was built by David Morgan c. 1745. Located in Gerrardstown the c. 1743 Hays-Gerrard house was constructed of limestone. The

Harlan Spring Historic District includes Spring Hill, a log house from the 1740s. The Thomas Brown House in Inwood is another early example of log construction dating to 1741.

Settlement and establishment of this region slowed following 1756 when war erupted between the British and the French who fought for control of the Ohio Valley region in the French and Indian War. Following the English victory in the French and Indian War, the colonies at the bequest of the King and his Privy Council issued land patents for military service, but settlement was blocked west of the ridge of the Appalachian Mountains by the Proclamation Line of 1763. While some defied the proclamation and settled on the frontier in spite of the threat of Native Americans attack, many new landholders moved into the Potomac River drainage at the base of the mountains and established substantial farms. Prominent examples of homes built in the 1770s include Harewood, a stone two-story Georgian Mansion built by George Washington's brother, Samuel, in Jefferson County and Lick Run Plantation, another Georgian example, built by Peter Light in Berkeley County. In contrast, in Hardy County, Nicholas Switzer constructed his house in 1778 up against the hillside "Swiss fashion." Influenced by his Swiss-Germanic background and using local fieldstone, Switzer built his home into the sloped bank with the living quarters above and barn below.

The ongoing stabilization of the region following the end of the Revolutionary War led to renewed settlement in western Virginia. The Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1795, pivotal to the opening of the

Northwest Territory, also relaxed tensions in portions of western Virginia. Beginning in the late 18th century, roads, canals, turnpikes, steamboats and finally railroads overcame the challenges of geography and opened up western Virginia to settlement and commerce. Current architectural trends, such as Federal, Adam and Greek Revival, were incorporated into home building.

Examples of these styles can be found along the Northwestern Turnpike. The David Pugh house near Capon Bridge in Hampshire County exhibits elements of the Federal style. The Washington Bottom Farm near Romney is an exceptional example of the Greek Revival. George W. Washington and his wife, Sarah Wright, lived in a single pen log cabin until the main house was completed in 1835.

Construction also occurred through the region of western Virginia served by the James River and Kanawha River Turnpike. Elmhurst, constructed in 1824, was located adjacent to the Greenbrier River toll bridge crossing just outside Lewisburg. Further west on the turnpike near Charleston can be found the MacFarland House, Cedar Grove, and Glenwood which were built by the leaders of the local salt industry.

The South Branch of the Potomac River travels through an extensive valley defined by the Allegheny and Shenandoah Mountains. Many plantations were established in this region which includes present day Pendleton, Grant, Hardy and Hampshire Counties. In the Old Fields area north of Moorefield, the Van Meter family established four individual properties including Fort Pleasant and Buena Vista Farm. The former was built at the



*Washington Bottom Farm
Springfield vicinity
Hampshire County*

site of Isaac Van Meter's log home and fort. Buena Vista Farm was built in 1836; its imposing multi-gabled barn is a prominent feature of the landscape. Nearby is Willow Wall. Completed in 1812, this Georgian building is noted for its association with the McNeil Rangers, a Confederate troop that participated in regional skirmishes and the Battle of Moorefield. Further south in Pendleton County, the McCoy House in Franklin and the McCoy Mill demonstrate the continued settlement and industry of the South Branch Valley in the mid nineteenth century. Sites Homestead, located beneath Seneca Rocks, was built c 1839 as a single pen log structure, then expanded into a clapboard two and a half story frame during the 1870s.

In the 1840s and 1850s sectional divisions developed between eastern and western portions of Virginia. While the conflict and division created by the war limited construction, war's end signaled the beginning of an industrial revolution. Prior to the war, railroads in the state were limited to east-west lines. Beginning in the 1870s, railroads were built to reach remote parts of the state to

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obtain valuable timber, coal, oil and other natural resources. Within the meander of the Bluestone River, Bramwell in Mercer County contained the homes of the coal operators and company officials who were developing the productive Pocahontas coalfields. The Bluestone Coal Company planned the town of Bramwell and established its headquarters there in 1885. In contrast to the “coal barons” residences, the standardized workers’ housing within the Bramwell “additions” was modest in scale and size. Ironically, the subdivisions for the workers were named after coal company operators. Another significant example of company planning and design is the Gary “Works” in McDowell County: a series of twelve individual company towns linked by hard-surfaced road and rail lines.

a national headline. Its notoriety brought Eleanor Roosevelt to West Virginia to review the dire conditions first hand. Influenced greatly by his wife’s counsel, Franklin Delano Roosevelt drafted and secured passage of the National Industrial Recovery Act early in his administration. The first back-to-the-land housing project was developed in Preston County under the watchful leadership of the First Lady. In 1933, the federal government built the community of Arthurdale which included the construction of 165 homes, 6 school buildings, a community center, an inn, and factory buildings. Mrs. Roosevelt also supported and visited similar efforts that took place at the Tygart Valley Homestead Project in Randolph County and Eleanor in Putnam County which was named in her honor.



*Widen, Clay County, no date,
WV State Archives,
Robert Caruthers Collection*

The economic boom in West Virginia came to an end as the bustling World War I economy cooled in the mid-1920s. In West Virginia, the Great Depression was especially harsh. The poverty found at Scotts Run near Morgantown became

Even prior to the bombing of Pearl Harbor, America began to prepare for war. Beginning in 1939, several dormant factories were revived to address escalating war efforts. The Naval Ordnance Plant in South Charleston was one such plant. Mothballed following World War I, the plant was brought back to life. The size and scale of the operation required new buildings and structures as well as a large number of employees. To supply the need, a large number of single family homes were built on modest lots. Examples of these homes can be found in the Kanawha Valley near Charleston, in the Monongahela Valley near Morgantown and areas across the state as miners, mill hands, and factory workers went back to work to support the Arsenal of Democracy.

With the surrender of Germany and then Japan, America GIs returned home and once again the economy boomed in

West Virginia. Development this time was different with the automobile having a huge impact on homebuilding. With the new freedom of movement new housing projects were created in suburban areas beyond the city limits. Ranch houses and other modern styles of the era were built in named subdivisions. New housing opportunities were also made to farmers who took advantage of the Farmers Home Administration and other home loan programs. These mid-century modern homes are reaching the 50-year criteria established by the National Park Service and in the years ahead they too will become a part of the historic preservation landscape.

COMMUNITIES

As West Virginia developed from its earliest historic period, communities took hold and expanded. These community centers vary in size from small crossroads to commercial downtowns. They developed from a nexus of trade, local commerce and industry as well as proximity to a means of transportation. Wellsburg in the northern panhandle developed a thriving wharf on the Ohio River. Point Pleasant took advantage of the confluence of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. Tabler's Station originally developed around the depot station established in 1890 by the Cumberland Valley Railroad. Thurmond's commercial area abutted the C&O railroad tracks. Sistersville became a commercial center due to the natural gas industry. Other natural industries such as lumber and coal influenced commercial centers such as Kingwood and Welch. Larger cities like Charleston, Huntington, Wheeling, and Parkersburg developed several commercial areas as well as residential neigh-



*Anderson Elementary School
Brooke County, c. 1939,
WV State Archives*

borhoods. However, at the turn of the twentieth century as the center of commerce has changed from the downtown to strip development or outlying shopping malls, once thriving downtowns and Main Streets have suffered. These economic centers often rely on historic preservation efforts to remain viable.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Within West Virginia communities, educational institutions were established. One room school houses, elementary and secondary schools as well as universities and colleges have been identified through the National Register as significant resources within a community. Windy Run School was built in 1889 for Braxton County students and has been maintained by efforts of a county homecoming organization. The Weston Colored School from 1882 through 1954 served as a one room schoolhouse for black students. In the 1920s the school was renovated in the Mission style of architecture. Schools such as the Sims School and Huntington High School have been adapted for residential purposes; also in Huntington, the

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued

Douglass High School has been converted primarily for use as a community health center and training facility. Homestead School located in the Tygart Valley Rural Historic District continues as a local elementary school. Always proud of its heritage associated with the Depression, the school has recently reinvigorated traditions such as May Day celebrations to celebrate its past.

The majority of West Virginia's universities and colleges have at least one or two buildings listed in the National Register such as those on Woodburn Circle at West Virginia



*Morgantown
Monongalia County*

University and the Old Main at Marshall University. Bethany College's Main Hall is a National Historic Landmark, known for its Collegiate Gothic architectural style and its association with Alexander Campbell, the founder of the Disciples of Christ evangelical movement. WV Northern Community College continues to adapt and grow in downtown Wheeling using the former B&O Railroad Station as its Administration Building and the former Wheeling Wholesale Grocery Building as its Education Center. WV State University has a downtown

presence in Charleston through its use of the Capitol Theatre. Several historic buildings are also located on its main campus: Canty House and East Hall recognize the university's early black educational heritage.

ETHNIC RESOURCES

The African American Community
West Virginia's black community has contributed significantly to the state's history. In areas such as education, civil rights, architecture and industry, resources have been listed in the National Register. Weston Colored School and Douglass High School have been mentioned already. In 1865 Storer College began as a one room school in the Lockwood House on Camp Hill in Harpers Ferry, providing basic education for former slaves. This teacher's college was the site of significant civil rights events, including the 1906 conference of the Niagara Movement.

Significant individuals have been recognized through the National Register. Booker T. Washington's early life is represented in the Malden historic district nomination. John C. Norman was West Virginia's second registered black architect. The Staats building in Charleston as well as faculty housing at West Virginia State University represent his career. In 1915 the Mattie V. Lee Home was established in honor of West Virginia's first black physician to assist young African American women to improve their employment, education and housing opportunities.

The mid twentieth century civil rights movement is represented by the Elizabeth Harden Gilmore House in Charleston. The first woman licensed

as a funeral director in Kanawha County, Gilmore led the first local sit in to open up lunch counters to blacks. She helped found the local chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality and was active in the Kanawha Valley Council on Human Relations.

African-Americans have also contributed to the state's industrial heritage. Recent nominations have identified historic districts of black company housing located in Coopers and Freeman, just outside Bramwell.

The Jewish Community

The Jewish Community is considered the second largest ethnic group in West Virginia. Ohev Shalom Temple in Huntington houses a congregation organized in 1887. The current temple was built in 1927 and incorporates Romanesque and Byzantine styles. Temple Shalom in Wheeling was built in 1955 and its unique concentric design is a local landmark.

Other smaller minority groups live in West Virginia. Their communities and activities have been documented by the WV Division of Culture and History in "An Introduction to West Virginia's Ethnic Communities," most recently updated in 2008. Further identification of historic resources associated with these groups will continue.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LANDSCAPES

Turning to the rural landscape, West Virginia has had a strong agricultural tradition. Farms of varying size and barns of differing styles along with silos, milk houses, corn cribs, and other buildings have been used in West Virginia to grow crops and



*Ohev Shalom Temple
Huntington, Cabell County*

livestock from first settlement. The 1775 Stump Family Farm in Hardy County included a double pen home and barns which were constructed on good flat bottom land adjacent to the South Fork Branch of the Potomac River.

McClung's Price Place in Greenbrier County took advantage of the Frederick loam soil when it was established around 1800. Oriented south to face the original wagon road, the farm house began as a two story, single pen chinked log cabin constructed c. 1800. In the 1880s the home was expanded with a two story, double pen log addition with a central hall. In the early 1900s, the home was sided. A barn, smokehouse and springhouse remain from the original farm. A large barn and granary were added in the 1880s. It is an "exceptional example of American homesteaders pioneering, prospering and then preserving."

Individual barns themselves and orchards have also been recognized for their architecture and historic significance. The ca. 1860 Faber-Double Crib Barn in Jackson County is a unique surviving

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example of log construction. It is on land purchased originally in 1843 by Hiram Faber and has remained in use by his descendants. The Nathan Hellings Apple Barn in Hancock County represents the late nineteenth apple industry of the northern panhandle of West Virginia. Orchards and their produce have also proved to be a significant land use in the state's eastern panhandle. Rellim Farm was established in 1888 by Abraham Miller. Since that time, family members have nurtured apple and cherry trees primarily.

Nearby is the West Virginia University Extension Farm at Aspendale which also used the Rellim orchard from the 1920s through 1965 to field test techniques for commercial fruit production.

TRANSPORTATION

The mountainous geography, numerous rivers, abundant natural resources and mineral-rich geology of West Virginia have shaped its history from the beginning. The development of transportation routes and the means to transport goods and people were key to the economy of western Virginia and later West Virginia. Transportation improvements led to the rise of industry in the state especially the timber, coal, oil, gas, and glass industries.

Boone County



Currently, West Virginia has numerous road and road-related resources listed in the National Register. These include road beds like those found on the Weston and Gauley Bridge Turnpike in Braxton County; bridges like the National Historic Landmark Wheeling Suspension Bridge, the Philippi Covered Bridge in Barbour County, the Elm Grove Arch Bridge in Ohio County, and the Duck Run Cable Suspension Bridge in Gilmer County. Other resources include mile markers like the cast iron markers found along the National Road in Ohio County and buildings associated with toll collections.

Water transportation proved to be the easiest form of transportation when the earliest settlers came to the mountains. The rivers that emptied into the Ohio River were used every spring to move flatboats and timber to the south eventually reaching New Orleans.

Efforts to improve navigation began with the construction of locks and dams first on canals and later on rivers. The most notable example of canal construction in the region was the construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal that was built along the northern bank of the Potomac River. Other canal and river improvement took place along the major streams of West Virginia during the 19th century. On the Coal River near St. Albans a series of locks were built to move coal to the Kanawha River. The same is true for the Little Kanawha River where a series of locks and dams were built to move oil from the Burning Springs oil field in Wirt County to Parkersburg on the Ohio River. Larger dam projects on the Ohio River, Great Kanawha River, and their tributaries were first constructed in the last decade of

the nineteenth century and continued with major construction projects beginning during the New Deal. Other dam projects in West Virginia, like Bluestone Dam in Summers County, were started in the late 1930s; suspended during World War II; and completed after the war's end.

The largest collection of historic transportation and industrial resources, however, is related to the railroads. Even before the completion of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (B&O) to Wheeling in 1852, the railroad company built several bridges and tunnels that were marvels of nineteenth-century engineering. Railroads that crossed West Virginia include the B&O, Western Maryland, Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O), Virginian, Norfolk Southern and numerous small line railroads. Railroad depots from the nineteenth century and later can be found across the state. They range from huge stations and hotels found in Wheeling and Grafton to local stations like those found in Tunnelton, Gauley Bridge and Richwood. Beyond depots, support buildings used for fabrication and repair of engines and railcars still exist. The B&O Roundhouses at Martinsburg, site of the Great Railroad Strike of 1877, are an ongoing restoration project. The Virginian Railway Yard which was historically used for service and repair is another example of adaptive reuse in Princeton. Many depots, stations, and workshops have been converted for other productive uses such as offices, visitor centers or museums. In several cases they remain part of active railroad operation such as the Amtrak Stations in Thurmond and Prince.

Scenic and tourist railroads utilize



*B&O Roundhouse roof system
Martinsburg, Berkeley County*

historic rail grades and buildings in Elkins, Romney, and Cass. Popular tourist attractions, railroad enthusiasts and others can ride the rail to explore the logging camps at Cass. Railroad grades have been converted to walking and biking trails such as the lengthy North Bend Rail Trail in Harrison County and Wood County. Other rail-trails have developed near Weirton, Wheeling and along the Ohio River all of which utilize historic bridges and tunnels.

Finally, train locomotives have been recognized. Two Chesapeake & Ohio coal hauling engines, the 2755 located at Chief Logan State Park in Logan County and the 1308 in Huntington, have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Six compact gear-driven Shay and Climax engines are still in use at Cass.

INDUSTRY

Industry in West Virginia began with small scale milling and manufacturing. First grist mills, blacksmiths and small shops developed like Fidler's Mill in Upshur County and Boggs Mill in

West Virginia's Cultural Resources continued

Pendleton County. By 1810 several larger industries emerged along major rivers: the salt industry developed along the Kanawha River, the iron industry developed along the Ohio River and the United States Armory at Harpers Ferry was created at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers. The oil and gas industry along the Little Kanawha River was in its infancy as well as the coal and timber industries across the state prior to the Civil War. Between 1870 and 1920, the coal, timber, iron, pottery and glass industries exploded and with it new railroad lines were built along rivers and through the mountains to harvest the abundant natural resources. Examples of these resources include the Kay Moor Coal Mine in Fayette County, the Elkins Coal and Coke Complex in Preston County, the Interwoven Stocking Company Plant in Martinsburg, the La Belle Iron Works in Ohio County, the Coal Company Stores of McDowell County, and the Schulmbach and Reyman Breweries in Wheeling.



*La Belle Iron Works
Wheeling, Ohio County*

While industry has been a huge part of the history of West Virginia and the reason many communities and towns

were created, industrial resources from an earlier age are either forgotten or the resources related to them are being demolished. For example, many of the glass factories in the northern part of the state have recently been demolished--the most prominent example is the Fostoria Glass Factory in Moundsville. In other parts of the state, coal mines and coal loading facilities after years of neglect are being sold for scrap. Beyond the factory buildings themselves, worker housing, company stores, and even entire communities are disappearing.

BATTLEFIELDS, MILITARY RESOURCES, AND HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

Some sites have significance for several events that led to the Civil War, for example, Harpers Ferry was the site of John Brown's Raid in 1859. Other resources are related to military action like, the Philippi Covered Bridge in Barbour County, the site of the first land battle of the Civil War, Rich Mountain Battlefield in Randolph County, Cheat Mountain Summit, Camp Bartow, Camp Allegheny and Droop Mountain Battlefield in Pocahontas County, and Carnifex Ferry Battlefield in Nicholas County. Other resources include the homes of individuals who played a part in the war like the home of Confederate spy, Belle Boyd in Martinsburg and the General Albert Gallatin Jenkins Plantation at Green Bottom on the Ohio River. Interest and public support of these Civil War resources and others have increased greatly and other sites are being identified, interpreted, and preserved. While the new attention has helped some resources, sadly the renewed interest has also led to the

looting and destruction of others. Recently, viewsheds and landscapes associated with military-related resources have become an issue. In West Virginia, sprawl housing, strip mining, cell phone towers, and wind farm projects are having an impact on historic landscapes across the states. Battlefields and other military sites are greatly impacted by these endeavors and planning is needed to protect the viewsheds.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

From the massive State Capitol in Charleston to county courthouses across West Virginia's 55 counties, government buildings in the state are the most prominent buildings to be found. The grandest of all buildings in West Virginia is the State Capitol Building in Charleston. Built between 1924 and 1932 and designed by renowned architect Cass Gilbert, the massive Italianate Renaissance building of limestone and marble crowned with its massive gold dome stands prominently along the Kanawha River. While smaller in scale, courthouses across the state stand as the daily seat of governmental action in each county. Courthouses range from Greek and colonial revival structures that represent a pre-industrial age like the Brooke County Courthouse in Wellsburg to more ornate examples like the Beaux-Arts styled Marion County Court House in Fairmont to larger Neo-classical buildings like the Boone County Courthouse in Madison to more modern Art Deco and Art Moderne styles like the Mercer County Courthouse in Princeton and the Harrison County Courthouse in Clarksburg. In more recent years numerous state and federal building across the state have represented styles from the 1950s and 1960s.



McNeel Mill, Pocahontas County, after restoration

CONCLUSION

The preceding narrative demonstrates the wealth of West Virginia's historic resources. However, there continue to be threats and opportunities for their safekeeping. The designation as historic through the National Register nomination process is just the first step. Buildings or resources noted within the narrative are threatened in various ways. Financial resources, good community planning as well as personal and public commitment are key ingredients needed to protect our historic resources. Opportunities for reuse occur with the use of the rehabilitation tax credits. Ongoing grant programs such as the State Historic Preservation Development, Save America's Treasures, Transportation Enhancement and Preserve America Grant Programs provide financial assistance. Community support such as that demonstrated for the Homestead School or the Jefferson County Jail sparks the organizational and/or governmental commitment. The Goals, Objectives and Strategies that follow provide a methodology for the continued protection of our historic resources.

West Virginia's Historic Preservation Plan

This plan for historic preservation in West Virginia outlines the basic goals and strategies that were developed through our planning process. These goals focus on awareness, identification, advocacy, community and economic development, and stewardship. By design they represent a plan of action for the entire state. While the SHPO has taken the lead in developing these goals, these goals cannot be achieved without the effort of a great number of people. Preserving cultural resources is not the domain of one agency or solely the domain of federal and state governments. Successful preservation efforts are always the product of grassroots effort, local leadership, and partnerships.

Goals, Objectives and Strategies

GOAL 1: AWARENESS

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

The aim of the Awareness goal is to inspire an appreciation of cultural resources and to instill a lasting historic preservation ethic. A general lack of knowledge about historic resources and the proper historic preservation techniques was identified as the greatest challenge facing historic preservation in West Virginia. To contend with this issue, the following objectives were fashioned as a guide for the SHPO and those agencies, organizations, and individuals who make decisions and take actions that impact historic and cultural resources, such as museums, education institutions, parks and the tourism industry as a whole.



*Laidley Towers, Charleston,
Kanawha County*

OBJECTIVES

- 1.1** Make West Virginia's heritage and historic resources more available, accessible and applicable as a teaching tool in the classroom.
- 1.2** Increase the knowledge of the historic resources found in the state.
- 1.3** Increase the understanding of the proper preservation methods, techniques, standards and procedures.
- 1.4** Expand the use of the Secretary of the Interior's established standards and guidelines for archaeology and the treatment of historic properties.
- 1.5** Develop a variety of media projects to educate the public and to foster a positive image about historic preservation.



*Mannington, West Virginia
Marion County*

GOAL 2: IDENTIFICATION

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

From archaeological sites dating to some 11,000 years ago to buildings, structures and objects of more recent vintage, West Virginia has numerous cultural resources. Many of these resources, however, have not been surveyed and identified. The identification of these resources is not only important so that they can continue to be a vibrant part of our environment, but also for the planning of roads, bridges, waterlines and other projects. When resources are identified, evaluated and designated, architects, engineers, and other planners can include them in project development and to prevent delays and increased costs when they are found late in the construction process. This effort must include the SHPO, state agencies, counties, localities and individuals working toward the following objectives.

OBJECTIVES

- 2.1** Expand the state inventory of historic resources.
- 2.2** Develop historic contexts to assist in preservation planning and the identification of resources.
- 2.3** Increase the identification and nomination of historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places.

GOAL 3: ADVOCACY

GOAL 3: ADVOCACY

West Virginians will support and strengthen historic preservation activities across the state.

Advocacy requires effort, time, and money be allocated in order to promote historic resources and historic preservation as a whole. Partnerships must be valued and new ones developed. Legislative tools must also be utilized to help communities determine the future of their communities. Finally, personnel must be put in place to direct and support this and other historic preservation goals. To meet the Advocacy goal the following objectives must be addressed:

OBJECTIVES

- 3.1** Develop stronger and better working relationships between individuals, organizations, and agencies to foster historic preservation.
- 3.2** Strengthen the legal authority to protect historic resources.
- 3.3** Identify, initiate and establish collaborative and cooperative efforts to further historic preservation goals.
- 3.4** Create the position of State Archaeologist to serve as a leader for archaeology in the state.

GOAL 4: COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

Across the country, communities have used historic preservation to improve their economies and quality of life. National and statewide efforts like the Main Street Program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation have made an impact. In West Virginia the City of Morgantown has followed this approach and gained national attention for their efforts. Other towns and cities have also made great strides with historic preservation-based revitalization. However, there are more communities in West Virginia that need help. Over the next five years a concerted effort must be made to achieve the objectives below:

OBJECTIVES

- 4.1** Increase the assistance for historic preservation and community development projects.
- 4.2** Increase the use of existing incentive programs such as state and federal tax credits and preservation easements.
- 4.3** Expand the use of historic preservation, agricultural easements and heritage tourism as viable economic development tools.



*Lincoln Highway Marker
Hancock County*

A West Virginia Preservation Success Story

State Development Grant Program

An established program offered by the WV State Historic Preservation Office and funded by the WV Legislature, the last seven years has seen a steady increase in funding available for grant activities. These grants are focused on the weatherproofing, repair and stabilization of buildings and other resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Since 2002, 166 grants have been awarded for a total of \$3,354,870. A fifty percent matching grant, an amount double the total represents the investment in local communities. The development grant program assists historic resources as well as property owners and trades people.

GOAL 5: STEWARDSHIP

GOAL 5: STEWARDSHIP

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

If historic resources are to be a part of our future, West Virginians must take an active role in safeguarding them. Success requires that historic preservation be at the forefront of planning activities instead of an afterthought during the project review process. Greater understanding and cooperative consultation can produce creative and alternative solutions that are beneficial to all involved. To achieve this, the following objectives should be met:

OBJECTIVES

- 5.1** Expand the role of historic preservation in local and state planning activities.
- 5.2** Take individual and collective responsibility for the protection of archaeological resources statewide.
- 5.3** Develop alternative solutions to help protect existing, abandoned or underused historic resources.
- 5.4** Actively participate in the various environmental review processes such as the Section 106 review process of the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.



*Top-O-Rock, Charleston
Kanawha County*

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*Page-Vawter House
Ansted, Fayette County*

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Editor's Note: Various National Register of Historic Places nominations have been consulted during the writing of this plan. Unless noted, photos courtesy of West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

APPENDIX

Archives and History Commission

Appointed by the Governor, the Archives and History Commission serves as a citizen advisory board for the Division of Culture and History. Traditionally, thirteen members, including two ex-officio voting members and five non-voting ex-officio members, serve on the commission.

By law commissioners must represent the following professions: historian, architectural historian, historical architect, archaeologist specializing in historical or prehistoric archaeology, archivist, librarian and a museum specialist. The commission meets three times each year and is charged with the following duties:

- Provide advice to the Commissioner of Culture and History and the agency directors of the State Historic Preservation Office, State Museum and Archives and History Section.
- Approve and distribute grants and awards from state and federal funds.

- Request, accept or expand federal funds to accomplish the purposes of the Historic Preservation Office.
- Encourage and promote the purposes of the Division of Culture and History, the State Historic Preservation Office, State Museum and the Archives and History Section.
- Approve rules and regulations concerning the professional policies and functions of the Division of Culture and History.
- Review and approve nominations to the state and National Register of Historic Places.

The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

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

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

- The maintenance of an inventory of historic properties in cooperation with public agencies, private organizations, and individuals.
- The processing of nominations for properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- The preparation and implementation of a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan.

*Capito House
(now Jarrett Construction offices)
Charleston, Kanawha County -
in progress (tax credit)*



- The administration of the Certified Local Government program to provide direct funding to local governments through their established historic landmark commissions.
- Technical assistance, education and training related to historic property surveys, tax credits, National Register nominations, archaeology, and historic preservation-related topics.
- The review of the Federal Historic Preservation Certification Applications for tax credits on revenue producing properties and state Historic Residential Rehabilitation Tax Credit Applications for historic residences.
- The promotion of the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines established for archeology, rehabilitation, and historic preservation.
- Consultation with state agencies, federal departments and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, interested persons and other consulting parties during the Section 106 review process of the National Historic Preservation Act.



*White House Farm
Summit Point
Jefferson County*

Executive Summary



The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office

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Martinsburg, Berkeley County,

*Photo courtesy of the West Virginia
Development Office*





**The West Virginia State
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