

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: West Virginia
COUNTY: Ohio
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 20 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
Center Wheeling Market

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lower Market, Centre Market

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Market Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Wheeling

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

COUNTY:
Ohio

CODE:
069

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Comments: <u>Farmers' Market</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Wheeling

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 Chapline Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wheeling

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Clerk's Office, City-County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 Chapline Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wheeling

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Engineering Record

DATE OF SURVEY:
1974

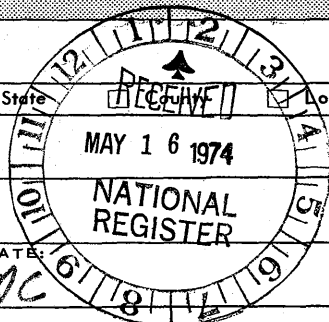
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
DC

CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

For 120 years the City of Wheeling has owned, operated and maintained the Centre Market, and the structure has become a landmark to the people of the city and surrounding communities. It is the only public market in the area and the oldest municipal building. The market also serves as a visible reminder of a lifestyle no longer practiced, where "going to market" was an integral part of the daily routine.

The 1853 building was designed by architect Thomas Pope as an open market. The building is of neo-classical style with three bays and structural cast iron Doric columns. These columns were produced by the Wheeling foundry of Hamilton and Rodgers, and each alternate column serves as a down spout. The roof is gabled, and at the southern elevation there is a belfry complete with bell. Enclosed between columns by cinder block construction in the twentieth century, the market has also been reshingled and has had a concrete floor added. The original interior arrangement was two aisles, with vegetable vender stalls on each side and butchers occupying the middle area. Stalls of the 264 feet long building have more recently been removed, making way for walk-in refrigerators, refrigerated display cases and portable tables.

The 1890 open brick, neo-Romanesque section has retained much of its original appearance as designed by Wheeling architect Edward B. Franzheim. Brick piers support the hipped roof with cross gables and a three-foot overhang. On the east and west elevations there are central arched openings with terra cotta animal medallions flanking each. The original slate roof is now shingled, the floor is concrete and at the northern bay a wooden enclosure was added after 1900 to house a fish market. Currently, the open 1890 market is used only during the warmer months, while the enclosed 1853 building houses the entire operation during cold weather.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1853 and 1890

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Centre Wheeling Market harks back to days when the city market place was a center of activity of the community. Farmers from the surrounding area found a good wholesale/retail outlet for their fresh vegetables and recently slaughtered animals. At a time when preservation by chemical treatment or refrigeration was unavailable for the most part, a ready market was a great asset to the agriculturist of the outlying area.

The commercial atmosphere of the market place was well developed by mid-nineteenth century, and Wheeling's Centre Market participated in distribution on an organized basis. From medieval times the market and fair were special occasions which brought people together. This type of municipal gathering place fostered an exchange of ideas as well as of goods and money. It brought people together and served to disseminate the latest word on every subject.

On market days the Centre Market was animated from early morning to late evening. Wagons, carts, the cry of hucksters created an atmosphere of involvement between buyer and seller which is hardly prevalent today. The vegetable stalls at Lower Market were on the sides, and the butchers carved and sold in the middle. People passed and looked, talked and purchased. The life of the city was enlivened, the farmers found a ready market, and urban life maintained a greater contact with the rural than is available today.

Centre Market was also an arena for politicians. It was a good place to meet people and broadcast ideas. The buildings have seen many rallies and much politicking over their century of existence, but the most famous meeting was held on August 6, 1862. A large attendance and warlike emotions made the event important. Francis H. Pierpont, Governor of the Restored Government of Virginia, made a speech, and a committee was appointed to draft resolutions. Of five resolutions unanimously adopted, one backed the war effort of the Union, one repeated the unconstitutionality of secession, one denounced Senator John S. Carlile of the Restored Government as a traitor to the Union cause and new statehood movement, one promoted recruiting of Union troops, and one expressed confidence in the administration of the United States and the Restored Government of Virginia. The meeting adjourned with three cheers for the Union.

The 1853 building is architecturally significant, for it is believed to be the oldest iron market house in the United States. Only one other such structure existed in 1853, that being in Cincinnati, and that building no longer stands. Although the 1853 section has been enclosed, its old lines are still visible, and its original cast iron Doric columns still support the roof.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lewis, Clifford M., S.J., ed. Wheeling Bicentennial, 1769-1969. Wheeling, W.Va.: n.p., 1969 (?). (p. 49)
Wheeling (West Virginia) Daily Intelligencer: Sept. 7, 1853 (p. 3, col. 1)
 Sept. 27, 1853 (p. 3, col. 1)
 Aug. 7, 1862 (p. 3, col. 1)
 Sept. 6, 1890 (p. 4, col. 2)
 Wheeling City Council. Minutes. February 10, 1891.

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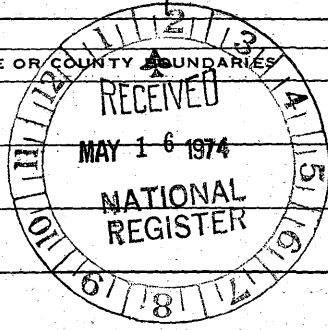
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		40° 03' 32.4"	80° 43' 27.7"	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .63 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Friends of Wheeling/City of Wheeling, and James E. Harding, Research Analyst

ORGANIZATION: West Virginia Antiquities Commission DATE: March 13, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University

CITY OR TOWN: Morgantown STATE: West Virginia CODE: 54

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Leonard M. Davis
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: May 9, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Montrose
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 2/20/75

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2/20/75

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE West Virginia	
COUNTY Ohio	
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	FEB 20 1975

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Centre Wheeling Market, then, displays a design which is unique, carries on the tradition of "going to market," brings the farmer into the realm of commercial enterprise, and has served as a gathering place of politicians and a center of news dissemination. This oldest Wheeling municipal building is a landmark which is functional as well as historically significant.

