

## Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100003667

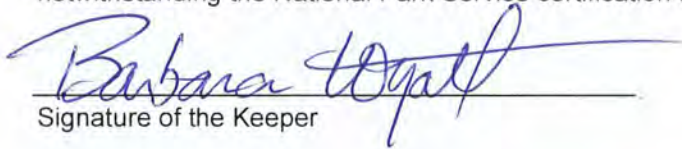
Date Listed:

Property Name: Golden Rule, The

County: Barbour

State: WV

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This Property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation

  
Signature of the Keeper

4-23-19  
Date of Action

=====

### Amended Items in Nomination:

This Supplementary Listing Record is included with the nomination for The Golden Rule because the area of significance "Commerce" has not been explained. To apply, The Golden Rule must be explained in a context of commercial development in Belington during the period of significance. Section 8 does not reveal why the business was commercially significant. It is said to have remained "both competitive and relevant for almost 100 years" but it isn't explained how that is exhibited. Simply staying open for that period isn't enough of an explanation and conflates "use" with "significance". If it is important to the community or the owner, Commercial significance can be added at a later date by submitting Additional Documentation that explains and justifies Commerce as an area of significance. By removing Commerce and Criterion A, the period of significance becomes 1902, the year The Golden Rule was built.

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The WEST VIRGINIA SHPO was notified of this amendment.

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### DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file**

**Nominating Authority** (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name The Golden Rule (preferred)

other names/site number Valley Grocery Company

### 2. Location

street & number 122 Crim Avenue

city or town Belington

state West Virginia code WV county Barbour code 001 zip code 26250


not for publication

vicinity

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide X local

Susan M. Pierce  
Signature of certifying official/Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

3/1/2019  
Date

West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Babara W. Galt  
Signature of the Keeper

4-23-19  
Date of Action

The Golden Rule  
Name of Property

Barbour County, WV  
County and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<b>Total</b>

### Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE/Specialty Store

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

WORK IN PROGRESS

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN

ITALIANATE

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK AND STONE

walls: BRICK

roof: RUBBER MEMBRANE

other: \_\_\_\_\_

The Golden Rule

Name of Property

Barbour County, WV

County and State

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**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary Paragraph**

See continuation sheets.

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**Narrative Description**

See continuation sheets.



The Golden Rule

Name of Property

Barbour County, WV

County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

### Period of Significance

1902 - 1950

### Significant Dates

1902

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

SHINN, LUTHER P.

### Period of Significance (justification)

See continuation sheets.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

See continuation sheets.

The Golden Rule

Name of Property

Barbour County, WV

County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Luther P. Shinn, the original owner and avocational architect/builder of The Golden Rule, constructed the building during the flourishing commercialization of the small town of Belington, WV and benefited from the building's proximity to transportation lines connecting the mountain town to other points of distribution throughout the Southeast. The Golden Rule was one of the first wholesale/retail establishments in Belington and maintained a multi-generational presence in Belington's commercial sector for almost 100 years. The family-run business developed an efficient model of management and used innovative technology to remain both competitive and relevant for nearly a century. For this reason, the Golden Rule is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A for its contribution to Belington's commercial history.

The Golden Rule features Italianate architectural elements that were nationally popular for commercial buildings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some Italianate building characteristics include a bracketed cornice, arched brick lintels, and masonry construction. The Golden Rule exemplifies the Italianate architectural style and is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion C for its exemplary use of the Italianate architectural style.

The period of significance for this building is 1902 - 1950, beginning with the date of construction and ending with the decline of Belington's golden age of commercial development – to which the Golden Rule contributed.

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

See continuation sheets.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

See continuation sheets.

**The Golden Rule**

Name of Property

**Barbour County, WV**

County and State

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

See continuation sheets.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

☒ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other

Name of repository: **WV Department of Arts,  
Culture, and History**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): **BB-0033-0027**

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** **0.482**

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

UTM # 17N/592036/4319931

1 17N 592036 4319931  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

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

See Continuation Sheet.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See Continuation Sheet.

The Golden Rule

Name of Property

Barbour County, WV

County and State

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Isabel Thornton/ Historic Consultant

organization Restoration Housing

date 04/03/2018

street & number 1116 Main Street, Suite B

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city or town Roanoke

state VA

zip code 24015

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**Photographs:**

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

See continuation sheets.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

## Narrative Description

### *Summary Paragraph*

The Golden Rule is an Italianate style mercantile building built in 1902 on the corner of Crim Avenue (US Route 250) and Watkins Street in Belington, West Virginia. The Golden Rule sits on the main commercial thoroughfare that runs through the town and follows along the Tygart Valley River. The building is three stories tall, eight bays deep and three bays wide, which is typical massing of early 20th century commercial buildings. The Golden Rule sits on a flat half-acre lot with the Tygart Valley River and the West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway directly behind (west) the building. The Golden Rule occupies about one-third of the half-acre parcel (see accompanying Plat Survey, Figure 4). There is very little setback from Crim Avenue. A brick sidewalk runs along the façade (eastern elevation) and fronts the four steps which lead up to the main entrance. A one-story frame addition on the southern side of the building sits on a grassy area that was once the location of an active gristmill. A gravel continuation of Watkins Street on the north side of the building functions as a parking lot. Overgrown vegetation obscures the western elevation which is immediately adjacent to the railroad tracks.

### *Exterior Description*

The Golden Rule building is a three-story brick building with rectangular massing and three bays on the principal (east) elevation (Photos 1 & 2). The exterior brick walls are laid in a seven-course common bond pattern sitting on top of a brick and stone foundation. Italianate architectural features adorn the commercial building, as seen in the masonry details and window fenestration and headers. Parapets conceal the flat roof on the east, north, and south elevations. The parapet on the east and north elevations have a corbeled and bracketed ochre colored brick cornice; the south elevation has a stepped parapet capped with terra cotta coping. In addition, there is painted signage on both the north and south sides (Photos 5 & 10). Each sign has faded with age but remains visible. The painted sign on the north elevation is a single line of text that spells "Golden Rule Co.". The south wall has a larger sign that extends from the first floor to the second floor and is about twice as wide as it is tall. This sign has more advertising content with a list of the type of products that customers can buy at the store. Another painted sign, although faded, advertises "Mail Pouch" in the building's third story (Photo 10).

The main entrance is set within a recessed alcove. Four concrete steps lead up to the double doors that are recessed from the facade. A single-pane plate-glass demi-lune shaped transom is positioned above the modern aluminum and glass double doors. The entryway has painted wooden bead board paneling covering the walls and ceiling (Photo 3).

Pairs of arched window openings are situated in the east, west, and north elevations (Photos 2, 5, and 7). A double Romanesque arch of golden-toned brick laid in three soldier courses tops the windows on the second



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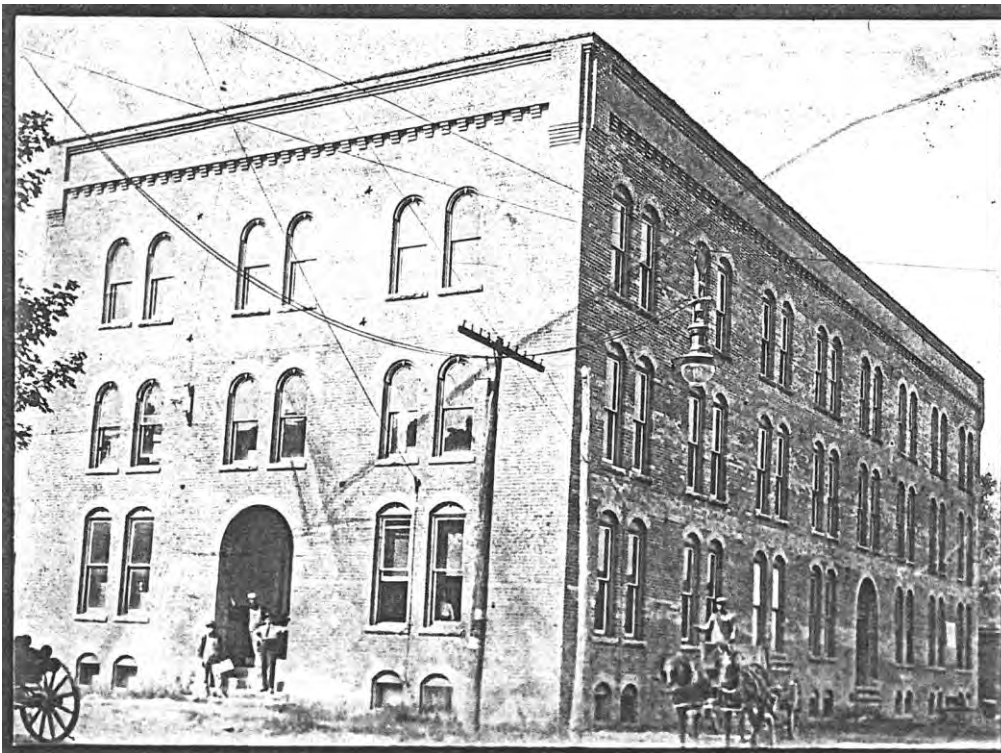
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 2

and third floors in the facade. These same windows have an upper sash that mimics the arched opening. All of the other windows throughout the building are rectangular, double-hung, wood windows. Segmental arches, made of two header courses of golden-toned brick, top the one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows on the first-story of the façade, as well as the remaining windows in the north and west elevations, as well as those at the foundation level (although these openings have been bricked-in and/or boarded-up). A decorative wooden pendant hangs from the middle of each arched molding above the windows.

The most noticeable alteration in the building appears in the façade. A thirty-pane steel frame window unit was installed in the northern-most bay of the façade's first story (Photo 2) ca. 1960. Historically, a pair of double-hung, wood windows that match the pair in the southern-most bay appeared in this location (see Figure 1). In order for this type of window to be added, the brick mullion separating the pair of original windows was removed along with the lintels over the two single-pane basement windows.



**Figure 1: Undated Photo of The Golden Rule, Crim Ave., Belington, WV**

The window sills throughout the building are either ashlar cut granite or concrete replacements. Segmental arched lintels surround the loading-bay doors in the north and west elevations, as well as the double-entry doors on the front façade. Along the exterior roofline, the rain gutter system consists of a four by six-inch galvanized metal trough that runs along the length of the roof on the western wall at the rear of the building.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

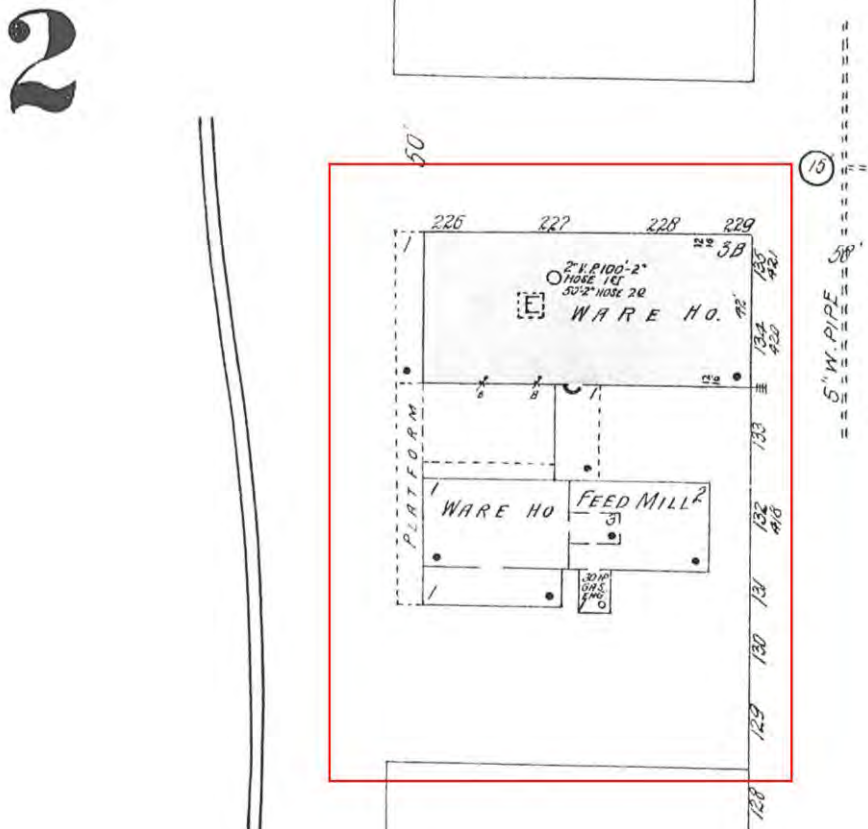
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 3

Each side of the wall has a downspout that is about three or four inches in diameter to carry water from the gutter to the ground. These are the only two downspouts on the structure.<sup>1</sup>

Historically, a frame warehouse/grist mill stood south of the Golden Rule building along the western half of the south elevation. According to the 1923 Sanborn map for Belington, the mill section stood two stories in height and the ware house stood only a single story. An open platform ran the length of the west elevations of the two buildings. A standard fire door provided access into the Golden Rule from a one-story connecting hyphen (see figures 2 and 3). Corn was brought in by rail, ground into cornmeal, and then shipped out again by rail. Local deliveries to nearby stores were made by horse-drawn wagon.<sup>2</sup> Documentation that reveals the date that this warehouse/mill was removed could not be located; however, ca. 1970, the Shinns (the owners at that time) constructed a wood-frame, single-story addition along the southern elevation in nearly the same location as the former gristmill (Photos 8 & 9, Figure 2).



**Figure 2: 1923 Sanborn Map, Belington, WV, Golden Rule property in red outline**

<sup>1</sup> Lynn Stasick, "Prioritized Narrative Needs Assessment: Golden Rule Building," 5.

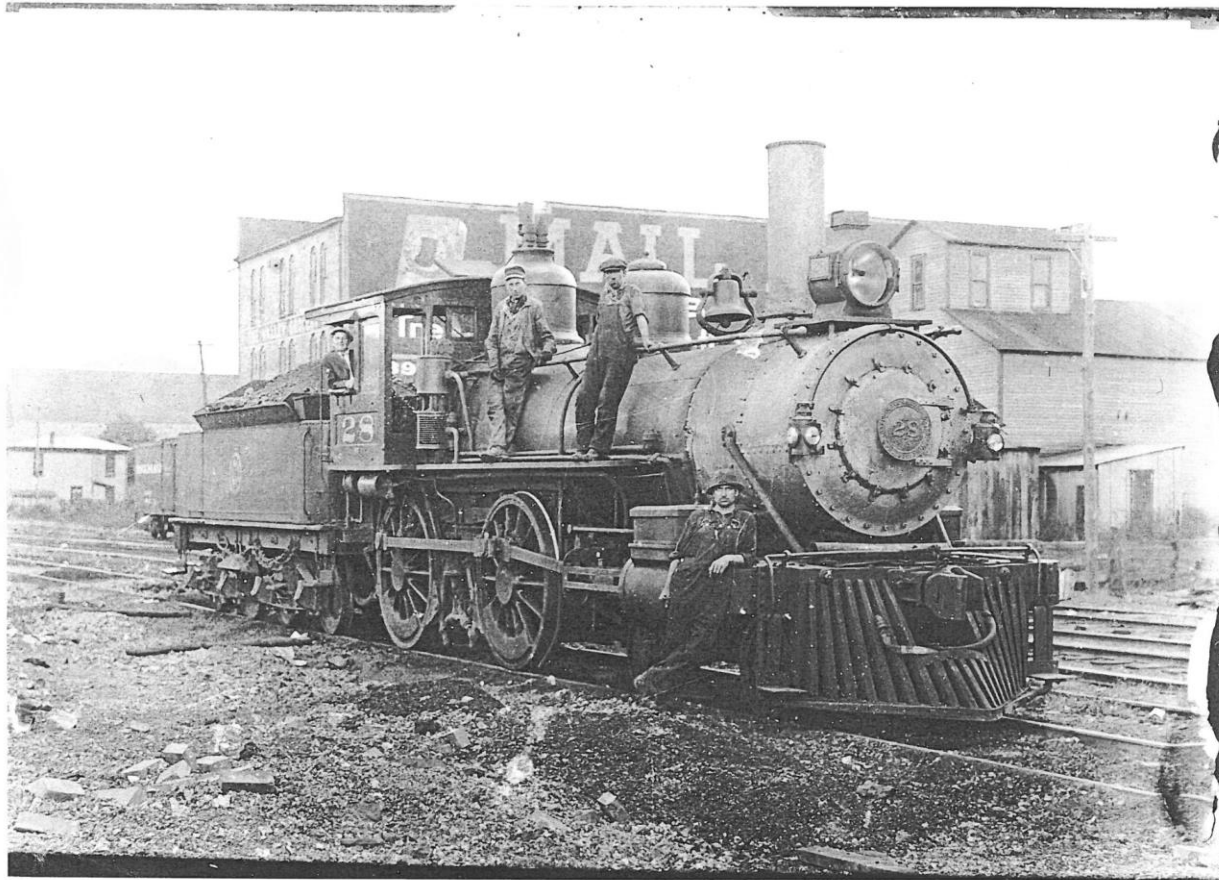
<sup>2</sup> Smith, "The Golden Rule: Doing Business in Barbour County," 20.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 4



**Figure 3: Undated photo, The Golden Rule & gristmill in background, gristmill on right side of image**

The front-gable addition is clad in T-111 siding and the fenestration is comprised of a centrally located, single-bay garage door in the east elevation. A one-story, shed-roof enclosed hyphen connects the main block of the Golden Rule building with the addition. It features a single-leaf entry door flanked by two, small, rectangular-shaped stationary windows. The building serves as a storage facility at the present time.

*Interior Description*

The interior of The Golden Rule building is an open warehouse floor plan with abundant storage space and open sightlines to all walls. The original plan of the building is a typical early 20<sup>th</sup> century warehouse in which there are wooden milled structural posts and beams. The original floor plan consists of 14 posts that separate each floor into three bays north to south and eight bays east to west. The structural supports are 12 inches by 12 inches painted wood posts with chamfered edges. There are additional six-inch square angled bracing supports and girders above. All structural systems including joists, rafters, posts, and carrier beams

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 5

appear to be stable.<sup>3</sup> The floors are made of 4" wide wooden planks and the ceilings have exposed joists. The walls have exposed brick with three pairs of windows in the eastern and western walls and eight pairs in the northern wall. Other than the bricked-in openings in the basement, there are no windows in the southern wall.

Upon entering the building, a former showroom and associated office-space occupy the front half of the first floor (two bays in depth extending west from the east elevation). Two former offices occupy the first and second bays (extending west from the east elevation) in the northernmost bay. Stairs, a restroom, and the securities safe (located in one of the former offices) are on the northern side of the building. A quarter pace staircase leads to the second floor (Photo 14). Originally, the staircase was open, but faux wood veneer paneling was applied to framing which resulted in the formation of a stairwell. There are two wooden rolling loading dock doors still present as part of the original first floor plan (Photos 17 & 18). Both doors are set on overhead tracks that allow them to roll back into the wall along the track (much like that of a pocket door). Each door is comprised of four panels. One of the loading dock doors is located on the north wall with an intact three-part demi-lune transom. In addition, exposed brick header details follow the arch above the transom. The second loading dock door is located on the south wall and leads into the connecting footbridge and addition. It's not apparent that this door was also surmounted by a transom; however, if one was originally present, it is now covered. The door and the rolling track mechanism are the only original pieces still existing at this loading dock. A third loading dock door is visible from the exterior of the building (Photo 7) on the rear wall but is boarded up and inaccessible from the interior.

The first floor demonstrates the highest degree of deviation from the original warehouse plan. The wooden posts and beams are still present, but they are encased and have been painted. In the 1950-60s, plywood partition walls were added throughout the first floor to provide separation of rooms for furniture showrooms, offices, and storage for The Golden Rule general store. The front doors open directly into the main display room used by the store (Photos 11 & 12). The walls are covered with faux wood veneer paneling and a drop ceiling has been added with acoustic ceiling tiles and fluorescent strip lighting. Linoleum tiles cover the wood floors and floor-to-ceiling display shelves line the south wall. Adjacent to the front display room to the north are two offices with similar floor and wall coverings. The acoustic tile dropped ceilings, faux wood paneling, and linoleum floor tiles continue through the offices and to the showrooms in the rear of the building (Photos 15, 19 & 20). The offices have the original unpainted wainscoting, baseboards, and trim caps still intact<sup>4</sup>. Drop ceilings cause the windows on the north and west walls to be bisected. Only about one third of each window is visible within each room. A large walk-in security safe made by the former Cary Safe Company of New York (1878-1929) is located on the north wall next to one of the offices (Photo 13). A heavy metal door that has a locking mechanism the same size as the door itself secures the safe. Surrounding the lock door is a Neo-classical style door surround. The ornate casing displays fluted pilasters with intricate

<sup>3</sup> Stasick, 9.

<sup>4</sup> Stasick, 10.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 6

floral capitals on each side of the door opening. In addition, the molding above the door exhibits a Neo-classical cornice with dentils.

The second floor has minimal alterations to the original plan (Photos 21 – 29). The posts and beams are exposed and have been painted as seen in the other floors (Photo 25). Fluorescent strip lights have been attached to the beams. Partition walls have been constructed in the northeast corner to create an office space and are covered with the same faux wood paneling seen throughout the building. Two doors from the room open towards the west and south (Photos 22 & 26, respectively). Peeling linoleum flooring loosely laid in sheets covers the original wood floor throughout, and white paint coats the brick walls. Pony walls clad in faux wood paneling surround the stairwell (leading to the first floor) opening in the center of the floor for safety (Photo 23).

Currently, the third floor (Photos 30-32) remains unfinished much like it was when the building was first constructed. It retains the warehouse style open floor plan with uncovered wood floors, exposed brick walls, and no partition walls. At one time, there was a fire on the third floor, but the damage was not extensive enough to cause any structural issues to the roofing system.<sup>5</sup>

The basement has a low ceiling and walls constructed with both brick and large, cut stone. Although there have been floods over the years, it appears that structural integrity of the foundation is sound with little evidence of water damage. The space has been used recently primarily for storage space, but also houses the main mechanical components of the hydraulic freight elevator (Photos 34 – 36).

The Golden Rule's most unique component is the water-powered freight elevator. The elevator functioned as an important tool for moving freight within the store. The elevator "car" is a simple wooden platform with a wooden gate that raises and lowers to protect the passenger. Based on a design of the Cincinnati-based Warner Elevator Manufacturing Co., Luther Patrick Shinn incorporated the elevator into the building to help the employees move furniture and other large merchandise among the three floors and the basement. This elevator is reported to be the only one of its kind in West Virginia and was still known to be operational in 1992. The system that powered the elevator contains a large metal cylinder, iron pipes, cables, and pulleys. The cylinder was attached by cables to a network of pulleys that were connected to the elevator platform. An iron pipe that ran from the city's water supply into the basement forced water into the cylinder causing the pulleys to turn and raise the wooden platform up the elevator shaft.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Stasick, 9.

<sup>6</sup> Smith, "Historic Property Inventory Form."



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 7

*Alterations*

Luther P. Shinn's grandsons David and Paul Shinn completed major renovations of the store to update its appearance both inside and out sometime in the 1950s. On the outside, a parking lot was created, new aluminum and glass double doors replaced the original entry doors, and a lighted sign was installed above the entry. Interior renovations included the construction of showrooms on the first floor and the installation of dropped ceilings (with acoustic tiles) throughout.<sup>7</sup> In addition, in the 1970s, the pair of one-over-one, double-hung windows on the first story in the northeast corner of the building was replaced with a large industrial, multi-pane, metal awning window unit.<sup>8</sup> A 1923 Sanborn Map shows a loading platform that extended along the western and southern elevations, but it is no longer extant.<sup>9</sup> Other alterations include the replacement of several stone windowsills with concrete, and the application of Portland cement over failing brickwork along the northwest corner of the building.<sup>10</sup>

The Golden Rule store eventually closed in 1999 and was sold out of the Shinn family. Since 1999, the building has been used solely for storage space. Woodlands Development Group based out of Elkins, West Virginia bought the property in 2017. Overall, the building is in fair condition. Although the building has been subjected to cosmetic changes over time, these can be removed to reveal the building's original historic fabric. The original historic integrity of The Golden Rule building remains high with many of its historic features, such as the masonry, windows, hardwood flooring, and freight elevator, retained in situ.

<sup>7</sup> Smith, "The Golden Rule: Doing Business in Barbour County," 20.

<sup>8</sup> Smith, "Historic Property Inventory Form."

<sup>9</sup> Sanborn Map Company, "Belington, Barbour County, West Virginia."

<sup>10</sup> Smith, "Historic Property Inventory Form."

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 8

**Narrative Statement of Significance (continued)**

*Belington's Commercial History*

The area now known as Belington, West Virginia was originally called Barker's Settlement after Elias Barker was granted the land in 1781. Prior to Barker's arrival, the area of Belington was a crossroads of Native American trails. Belington was founded in 1855 and became incorporated in 1894. Its boundaries were limited to only the eastern side of the Tygart Valley River. In 1906, Belington annexed the town of Alston, located on the western side of the river.<sup>11</sup> The name Belington was adopted from John Bealin, a local storeowner, who lived in the area before the Civil War. In the late 1800s, three railroads converged in Belington: the West Virginia Central, the Baltimore and Ohio, and the Roaring Creek Railroads.<sup>12</sup> The Beverly-Fairmont Turnpike helped to open the area to road travel as well as establishing the junction of the Greenbrier and Belington Railroad in 1887-88. The Greenbrier and Belington Railroad was later connected with the Baltimore and Ohio line in Grafton, West Virginia.

By 1890, Belington was the site of a steel mill and a brick manufacturing plant that contributed to the local economy. The lumber industry also added to the region's economic prosperity. However, the era of 'king coal' was Belington's most prosperous time. The West Virginia Central Railway line, part of the Western Maryland system, reached Belington by 1900. These railroads helped Belington transform into a thriving industrial town by exporting its valuable coal and lumber resources to regions throughout the country.<sup>13</sup> As a result of the growing industry in Belington, the town's population increased from 430 to 1,481 between 1900 and 1910.<sup>14</sup>

Originally, the Golden Rule building operated as The Valley Grocery Company, a wholesale grocery distributor to stores in Barbour County and neighboring counties during the region's nascent period of economic growth and development.<sup>15</sup> Luther Patrick Shinn, a well-known merchant in nearby Buckhannon (Upshur County, WV), founded the grocery business in Belington in 1902 and designed and constructed the building now known as The Golden Rule. A corn mill, originally attached to the grocery building, supplied cornmeal locally and shipped it by rail to other areas.

At the time of The Valley Grocery Company's inception, small local grocers were common throughout America as they did not face competition from larger chain conglomerates. By the 1920s and early 1930s, the "supermarket", which was a grocery store with self-service, uniform stores, and nationwide marketing, was first seen in the arrival of well-known chains such as Piggly Wiggly and Kroger. Kroger was considered the

<sup>11</sup> Snider and Burns, "National Register for Historic Places Registration Form: Wilmouth House."

<sup>12</sup> Maxwell, *The History of Barbour County*, 198.

<sup>13</sup> Rice and Brown, *West Virginia: A History*, 184-90.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, "Statistics for West Virginia."

<sup>15</sup> Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, "Endangered List 2014: The Golden Rule."

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 9

earliest innovator in its approach for adding separate food departments, offering massive amounts of food with sale prices and providing a parking lot to its customers.

With the advent of new supermarket chains and the subsequent boom of car-ownership and suburban living that occurred after World War II, many local general stores, grocers, and wholesale markets suffered heavily and ultimately closed their doors, leaving empty buildings in once-bustling town centers.<sup>16</sup>

As a shrewd businessman and flexible entrepreneur, L.P. Shinn constantly adapted his business to accommodate shifting trends in shopping. In 1929, he officially incorporated the Golden Rule Company and began to expand its merchandise to include items such as furniture and home goods. The grocery business was reduced and eventually eliminated as early as the 1950s as a demand for other types of merchandise increased. The Golden Rule store transitioned from a grocer to a retailer of men's work clothing, shoes, furniture, flooring, and bedding. The store had the added benefit of an unused lot next door to it that they were able to convert into parking spots. In addition, the store was able to keep their prices low because they bought furniture directly from the factory instead of other retailers.

*L.P. Shinn, Owner and Builder*

The Shinn family of West Virginia were descendants of a remote Scotch ancestor who came to America and settled in Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary War. The first Shinn to come to present day West Virginia was Levi Shinn, Luther's great grandfather. The log house that Levi Shinn built, located in Shinnston in neighboring Harrison County, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 (NR Reference #73001907). Isiah Shinn, Levi's son (and Luther's grandfather), settled in Harrison County, which is adjacent to Barbour County, where he worked as a farmer. Luther's father was Jeremiah Shinn, another substantial farmer in the Shinnston community. Jeremiah married Mahala Sturms, and they had five daughters and two sons, including Luther. For several generations, the Shinn men were known to have worked as either farmers or commercial suppliers with little interest in pursuing more professional degrees in law or medicine.<sup>17</sup>

Luther P. Shinn was born in 1850 in Shinnston in present-day West Virginia, a small town named for his family in Harrison County. He lived there throughout the Civil War and, during his lifetime, often recounted stories about the raids and soldiers he witnessed when he was young. Luther acquired a country school education in a log cabin from which he walked two miles from his home everyday. As a teenager, Luther often made trips to nearby Clarksburg, WV and other smaller towns to sell produce from his family farm. He once recalled that he "drove an oxcart full of apples into Clarksburg to sell to Union soldiers (during the War), who were at that particular time stationed near Hart settlement in the Western part of the city. As he approached the camp a group of soldiers ran out and pulled the key from the axle in the oxcart wheel. The

<sup>16</sup> Young and Young, *The Great Depression in America*.

<sup>17</sup> Callahan, *History of West Virginia, Old and New*.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 10

cart upset and a whole regiment of soldiers came running after the spilled apples.”<sup>18</sup> Somewhere in his early days of farming and selling produce, Luther developed a strong interest in the mercantile side of the agricultural industry and, in conjunction with his well-known benevolent manner, adopted a business philosophy of “treating others as you would have them treat you”, an adage that served him well throughout his lifetime.<sup>19</sup>

Before going into the grocery business, Shinn completed a two-year course (curriculum is not known) from the Fairmont Normal School (now known as Fairmont State College) in Fairmont, WV. He later married Virginia Boggess, daughter of John W. Boggess, of Lumberport, (Harrison County) WV, an ex-soldier of the Union Army. Mr. and Mrs. Shinn had two sons, Hugh B. and Guy. Virginia died of unknown causes in 1882.

Mr. Shinn took up merchandising at the age of twenty-five with his first business, which was based in Buckhannon, (Upshur County) West Virginia. For several years, he operated this mercantile business in addition to a hotel, also based in Buckhannon. Following the success of these two enterprises, he designed and constructed a building for his next business venture in 1892. This building was one of the first commercial buildings in Buckhannon’s downtown business district. By this time, he was a well-known merchant in Buckhannon. The store, located at 16 East Main Street, housed a dry goods business on the first floor and a photo and print studio on the second floor.

Shinn’s building on Main Street in Buckhannon exhibited Italianate architectural details similar to that of The Golden Rule but on a smaller scale. After building The Golden Rule in nearby Belington in 1902, Shinn sold his Buckhannon building. Although Shinn no longer owned the building (also known as the Stockert Building), it continued to serve as a store for decades and is now the home of Buckhannon-Upshur Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Center.<sup>20</sup> Shinn subsequently partnered with French Sexton, the brother of Luther’s second wife Ida, to create the Shinn and Sexton store located down the block from his first building in Buckhannon. Throughout his adult life, Shinn was involved with running businesses in Buckhannon.

The original stockholders of The Valley Grocery Company in Belington (later to become The Golden Rule) were L.P. Shinn, G.W. Shinn, and Hugh B. Shinn (his sons from his first marriage). The company was chartered with \$61,000 of working capital. The business began as a grocery store but eventually adapted to the needs of the community (and benefited from its proximity to the river, rail and other major thoroughfares) to offer more varied goods, such as men’s work clothing, shoes, furniture, and other household items. Both of his sons from his first marriage were active in the nascent family business. Hugh B. Shinn, born in 1874, began working with his father at the age of eighteen and Guy was associated with the company until he died

<sup>18</sup> “City’s Oldest Merchant, L.P. Shinn Has Many Experiences in Long Life.”

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Buckhannon Historic Landmarks Commission, “Buckhannon’s Historic District.”

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 11

in 1906.

In 1929, the company underwent a reorganization as well as a name change. The new stockholders of “The Golden Rule” included L.P. Shinn, his second wife, Ida Mae Sexton Shinn, and their two children, William and Lola. In addition to owning and operating The Golden Rule Grocery Company in Belington, L.P. Shinn helped organize Randolph Wholesale Grocery in Elkins (Randolph County), West Virginia.

Luther P. Shinn named his business and building “The Golden Rule” in homage to his primary business philosophy to “treat others as you would have them treat you”, from the Gospel of Matthew (7:12) in the Bible. His success was often attributed to his practice of this maxim as well as his honesty and charity towards his workers and towards less fortunate members of society. His obituary, which covered the front page of *The Buckhannon Record* in 1933, led with the headline “Honest in Business, Friend of the Needy, a Man that Loved to Live and Was Not Afraid to Die.” His altruism was most notably kept private and without need for credit, as his obituary also noted that “No one will ever know just how much Mr. Shinn gave to the poor. He was sympathetic, and kind and hundreds can attest to his generosity. The man who went to him in distress never came away empty-handed, and no one else knows what he gave nor how often he handed merchandise to the poor with no hope of remuneration. He would give men work many times when the job was not really needed, just to help some man out with necessities of life.”<sup>21</sup>

After L.P. Shinn’s death in 1933, his son William Sexton Shinn took over operations of the store for approximately 30 years until his death in 1968. William’s wife, Wanda E. Ware Shinn Mitchell (b.1924), and their two sons, David and Paul Shinn subsequently took ownership of The Golden Rule for several decades to come.

In addition to Shinn’s legacy as a prominent business owner, entrepreneur, and builder, he was an active community member as he engaged in many manners of commerce, transportation, and freight for the success of his business. The only office he ever held was as a member of Buckhannon City Council and for many years he was an official in the Methodist Church. Luther P. Shinn was well known and well liked by the communities in which he lived.<sup>22</sup>

*Architectural Significance - Italianate Architecture*

The Italianate architectural style gained popularity throughout the mid-to-late 1800s in the United States. It initially became fashionable through residential architecture and then later in commercial structures. Common themes of the style included Neo-Classical influences in symmetry, use of columns, arches, and porticos, as well as masonry construction. Italianate architecture was common in both large cities and small

<sup>21</sup> *The Buckhannon Record*, “L.P. Shinn Dies Monday; City’s Oldest Trader.”

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 12

towns for residential, commercial, and industrial uses; it was not limited by geography. The Italianate architectural style as expressed in early 20th century commercial buildings eventually began to dominate the landscape of Main Street America and define the streetscapes that are quintessential to the country's commercial identity. This style was very much in fashion during the Industrial Revolution and subsequent commercial district booms in the late 19th century. Typical buildings and towns that experienced these booms were often oriented along new rail lines and growing industries such as coal, timber, and iron.

The Golden Rule is an exemplary commercial building from the Italianate architectural style of the early 20th century. Typical Italianate architectural features adorn the commercial building throughout, such as large storefront windows, a flat roof, pairs of arched windows with decorative moldings, engaged pilasters on the cornice, and contrasting brick colors.<sup>23</sup> The building's massing is rectangular, and, with only three stories, its painted signage is easily visible from the town's main thoroughfare upon which it is situated.

Additional Italianate architectural details that the Golden Rule possesses include, full-arch lintels, made of two header courses of golden-toned brick atop the one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows on the first-story of the façade, as well as a double Romanesque arch of golden-toned brick laid in three soldier courses atop the windows on the second and third floors. The windows on the east elevation on the second and third stories have an upper sash that has an arch-shaped head to match the arched opening. Semicircular brick lintel arches surround the loading-bay doors in the north and west elevations, as well as the double-entry doors on the front façade, recessed within a larger arched opening.

L.P. Shinn consistently constructed buildings in this style, as it was both in-fashion at the time and decorative materials in this style were easily accessible to yeoman builders. His first building on Main Street in Buckhannon also exhibited similar Italianate architectural details. This brick building on Main Street is two stories with two-part commercial block massing. It is unique as it is one of only three buildings in the Downtown Buckhannon Historic District (NR Reference #09001196) with details on the façade made of pre-ordered pressed metal. Since Italianate architecture was so popular in the late 1800s, it was common for builders to pre-order the specific decorations for the building rather than having them uniquely manufactured. Shinn would have ordered the details for the cornice and window lintels from a catalog and then assembled them on the building once they were shipped. Pre-made materials made it easier for builders to incorporate the ornate brackets and modillions that are present on this and other Italianate structures. The Main Street building has additional Italianate details, such as an ornate center gable with corbels and window headers. Unlike most other Italianate buildings, the fenestration pattern contains only one set of paired windows on the second floor. The three other windows are single but maintain the same style of headers above. L.P. Shinn's buildings added architectural character to both downtown Buckhannon and Belington.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Stasick, 2.

<sup>24</sup> Buckhannon Historic Landmarks Commission, "Buckhannon's Historic District: 14 East Main St."

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 13

One of the most distinguishing elements of Italianate architecture is the treatment of either brackets or corbels beneath the cornice or eaves along the roofline of buildings in the Italianate style. In the Golden Rule, parapets conceal the flat roof on the principal (east elevation), north, and south elevations. The parapet on the east and north elevations have corbeled and bracketed ochre colored brick cornice; the south elevation has a stepped parapet capped with terra cotta coping. Furthermore, the east, north, and west elevations contain pairs of arched windows that are typical fenestration forms of Italianate architecture. Even the half-sized basement windows are paired. It is rare to see Italianate buildings with standalone single windows; the Golden Rule is no exception. The cornice on the facade is also typical of Italianate architecture. Two engaged pilasters at each end of the building are attached to the cornice by a band across the top of the building. The pilasters are corbelled in such a way that the bricks step out in rows to create a shelf. The pilasters and cornice use a gold-toned brick to provide contrast.<sup>25</sup>

Another extant example of Italianate architecture in Belington, the ca. 1890 former Citizens Bank, sits two blocks north of the Golden Rule at the corner of Crim Avenue and Bridge Street. While L.P. Shinn did not construct this three-story masonry building, it displays many similar architectural elements as the Golden Rule. The building has paired windows on all three floors separated by pilasters and segmented stone arches above. The first-floor pairs of windows and doors have fanlight transoms. In addition, its cornice features corbels and pressed metal detailing. Characterized as a two-part commercial block form, this structure contrasts from the Golden Rule as being designed for commercial office or retail space instead of warehouse use. The large archways that lead to the front entryway and corner entry door are inviting to pedestrians on the street. Although demonstrative of the Italianate architectural style, alterations to original windows and the addition of an asphalt-shingle clad pent roof between the first and second stories greatly compromises the building's integrity.

*Hydraulic-powered Elevator*

L.P. Shinn was an innovative businessman who tried to find the most efficient way to run his businesses. In order to make it easier and quicker to move furniture throughout his store, he installed a hydraulic elevator at a time when elevators were largely uncommon. The elevator became an unusual spectacle to visitors of the Golden Rule. Customers who came in to the store would frequently ask for a ride and see the mechanism of the elevator.<sup>26</sup> Although elevator technology quickly progressed to electric power instead of water, the Golden Rule's elevator continued to serve the store for decades.

Hydraulic elevators powered by water pressure began to be utilized in factories after Sir William Armstrong invented the hydraulic crane in 1846. They were thought to be safer and more reliable than steam driven elevators and were limited to buildings with a maximum of five (5) or six (6) stories. Since water powered

<sup>25</sup> Stasick, 2.

<sup>26</sup> Smith, 19.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 14

elevators have restrictions on height and speed at which they can travel, they became less popular after the invention of the electric elevator in 1887. Most of the hydraulic elevators have been replaced over time with modern electric ones that are safer, quicker, and simpler to operate.<sup>27</sup>

The Golden Rule elevator operates by a piston that connects to machinery that moves it up or down the three-story building. Although the piston moves only about 5 feet, it is able to create the power to carry the elevator 30 feet up. Connected to the elevator car are two sets of pulleys that are attached by cables to the large metal cylinder that holds the water. One pulley causes the elevator to rise while the other brings it back down. The cables that carry the car can be seen from the inside of the open shaft (Photo 16). It has a maximum load of 2,000 pounds, but a former employee stated that it had carried furniture weighing up to 2,500 pounds. The car is approximately six feet square and takes about two minutes to travel from the basement to the third floor.<sup>28</sup>

The Warner Elevator Manufacturing Company, based in Cincinnati, Ohio built the hydraulic elevator used in The Golden Rule. In 1858, Warren Warner, founder of the Warner Elevator Company, built the first hydraulic elevator in America. Warner is credited with being the innovator of the hydraulic elevator manufacturing industry. Although the Warner Elevator Company was organized in 1860, at the time of its incorporation in 1887, it was the third largest elevator manufacturer in the country. They made all types of elevators for industrial and residential uses ranging from freight to passenger elevators, even dumbwaiters. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century when technology progressed to using electricity instead of water pressure to power elevators, the Warner Company continued to manufacture until being sold to the Shepard Elevator Company in 1921.<sup>29</sup>

*Summary*

The imposing brick building that once housed The Valley Grocery Company and The Golden Rule was one of the first wholesale/retail establishments in Belington and the family owned and operated business maintained a multi-generational presence in Belington's commercial sector for nearly a century. The family-run business developed an efficient model of management and used innovative technology, such as the unique water-powered elevator, to remain both competitive and relevant for almost 100 years. For this reason, the Golden Rule is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contribution to Belington's commercial history.

The Golden Rule is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of the Italianate architectural style found in many late-19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-

<sup>27</sup> "History of Elevator Technology."

<sup>28</sup> Smith, "The Golden Rule: Doing Business in Barbour County," 19.

<sup>29</sup> Cincinnati Triple Steam, "Historic Warner Mfg. Co."

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 15

---

century commercial buildings. Although, the historic gristmill was removed after it became obsolete, another addition was constructed in the same location. Despite this alteration, the building still retains a high degree of integrity of design, setting, location, material, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 16

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 17

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 18

---

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

The boundary of The Golden Rule is shown on the accompanying survey map entitled "Plat of Survey for Woodlands Development Group, Inc."

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The aforementioned parcel encompasses the historic building, known as the Golden Rule, as well as the former gristmill building connected by an enclosed hyphen.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      19

**PHOTO LOG:**

Property Name:                      The Golden Rule  
Address:                                122 Crim Street  
City/Town:                            Belington, WV  
County:                                 Barbour  
Photographer Name:                Isabel Thornton  
Date Photographed:                July 2018

Photo 1 of 36	Façade (East Elevation), Camera facing Northwest
Photo 2 of 36	East Elevation, showing front façade and entry, Camera facing West
Photo 3 of 36	East Elevation, showing detail of entry, Camera facing West
Photo 4 of 36	North Elevation, showing side façade loading dock, Camera facing West
Photo 5 of 36	North Elevation, showing side façade, Camera facing Southwest
Photo 6 of 36	North Elevation, showing side façade and adjacent road, Camera facing NW
Photo 7 of 36	West Elevation, showing rear façade, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 8 of 36	South Elevation, showing side of gristmill addition, Camera facing North
Photo 9 of 36	South Elevation, showing front of gristmill addition, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 10 of 36	South Elevation, showing side façade, Camera facing North
Photo 11 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing showroom entrance, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 12 of 36	First Floor Interior, showroom, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 13 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing office vault entrance, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 14 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing second floor stair entrance, Camera facing Northeast
Photo 15 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing rear of showroom, Camera facing Northeast
Photo 16 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing entrance to hydraulic elevator, Camera facing South
Photo 17 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing loading dock, Camera facing South



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      20

---

Photo 18 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing gristmill entrance, Camera facing Southwest
Photo 19 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing rear office, Camera facing West
Photo 20 of 36	First Floor Interior, showing rear office, Camera facing West
Photo 21 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showroom, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 22 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showroom and office wall, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 23 of 36	Second Floor Interior, stairs to First Floor, Camera facing South
Photo 24 of 36	Second Floor Interior, stairs to Third Floor, Camera facing South
Photo 25 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showroom, Camera facing North
Photo 26 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showing office door, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 27 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showing office windows, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 28 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showroom, Camera facing Southwest
Photo 29 of 36	Second Floor Interior, showroom, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 30 of 36	Third Floor Interior, showing storage space, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 31 of 36	Third Floor Interior, showing stairs to Second Floor, Camera facing South
Photo 32 of 36	Third Floor Interior, storage space, Camera facing Northwest
Photo 33 of 36	Basement, showing wooden beams, Camera facing Southeast
Photo 34 of 36	Basement, showing hydraulic elevator pistons, Camera facing South
Photo 35 of 36	Basement, detail of hydraulic elevator, Camera facing Southwest
Photo 36 of 36	Basement, showing hydraulic elevator pistons, Camera facing Northwest

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      21



Photo 1

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      22



**Photo 2**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      23



**Photo 3**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      24



Photo 4



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      25



Photo 5

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      26



Photo 6



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      27



**Photo 7**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      28



**Photo 8**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      29



**Photo 9**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      30



**Photo 10**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building
Name of Property
Barbour County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      31



**Photo 11**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      32



Photo 12

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      33



**Photo 13**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      34



Photo 14



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      35



Photo 15



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      36



Photo 16

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      37



Photo 17

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      38



Photo 18



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      39



**Photo 19**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      40



**Photo 20**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      41



Photo 21



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      42



Photo 22

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      43



Photo 23



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      44



Photo 24

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      45



Photo 25



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      46



Photo 26

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      47



**Photo 27**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      48



**Photo 28**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      49



Photo 29



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      50



**Photo 30**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      51



**Photo 31**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      52



**Photo 32**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      53



Photo 33



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      54



**Photo 34**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      55



Photo 35



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

The Golden Rule Building

Name of Property

Barbour County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      56



Photo 36



**SITE SUMMARY:**

**PARCEL ADDRESS:**

122 SOUTH CRIM AVENUE  
BELLINGTON, WV 26250

**PARCEL SIZE:** 0.482 AC. +/-

TAX MAP SHEET 10

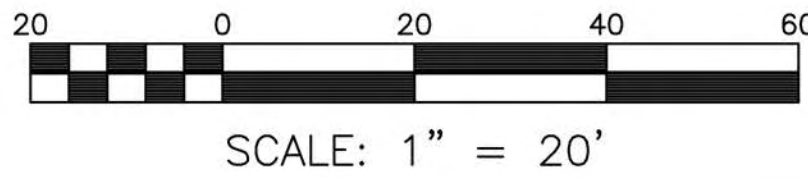
PARCELS 107,108 & 108.1

1. AERIAL MAPPING PROVIDED BY GOOGLE 2018.

2. PROPERTY LINES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE  
BASED ON A PARTIAL SURVEY BY PRECISION  
SURVEY COMPANY DATED 5/16/2018.



The Golden Rule  
122 Crim Avenue  
Bellington, Barbour County  
West Virginia 26250



**GOLDEN RULE BUILDING - SITE PLAN EXHIBIT**





# Plat of Survey for



**Woodlands Development Group, Inc.**

**Belington Corporation District, Barbour County, W.Va.**

Being All of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 which were conveyed by Flatts Rental, Inc. To Woodlands Development Group, Inc. by Deed dated 3/16/2018 and Recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Barbour County, W.Va. in Deed Book 497 Page 542.

**Tax Map Sheet 10 - Parcels 107, 108 & 108.1**

Block 6 Section 1- Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7  
Rt. 250 - South Crim Avenue, Belington, W.Va.

Building Location :

39 01 24  
79 56 11

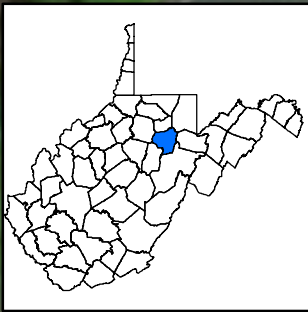
8 - 56° West



D & E College, Campus  
Meridian, taken w/teledyne  
Survey # 1850 in 8/2009.



**Precision Survey Company**



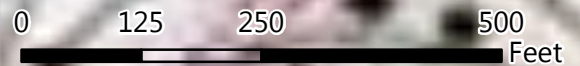
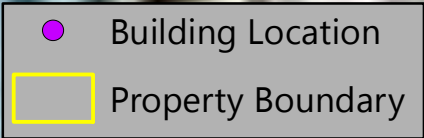
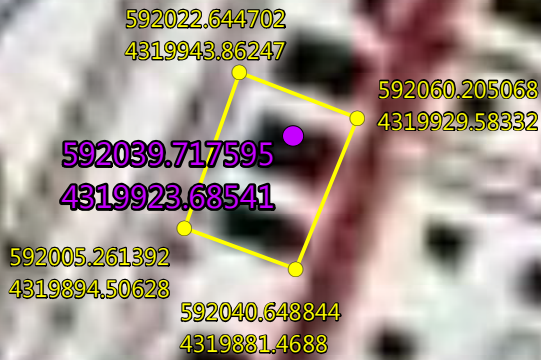
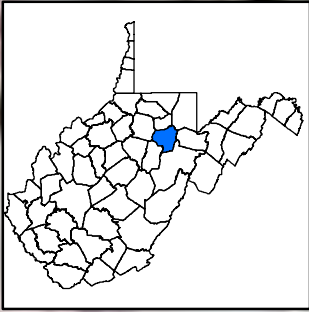
Acres: 0.5  
Quad: Belington  
Date: 1/18/2019

## Site Location

The Golden Rule Building  
Belington - Barbour County - West Virginia





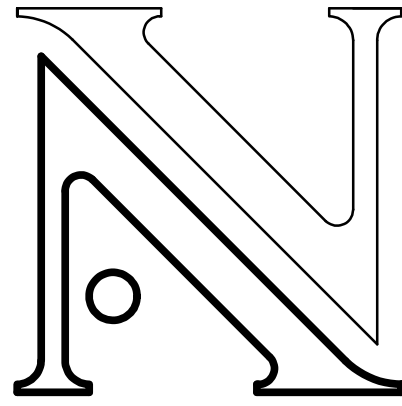


Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

Acres: 0.5  
Quad: Belington  
Date: 1/18/2019

Site Location  
The Golden Rule Building  
Belington - Barbour County - West Virginia





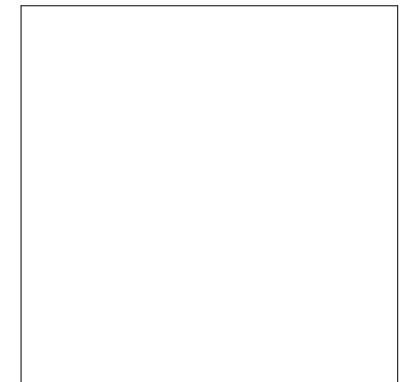
VANNOSTRAND  
ARCHITECTS

29 E. MAIN STREET, STE. 4  
P.O. BOX 572  
BUCKHANNON, WV  
26201

304-473-0555 (tel)  
304-473-0781 (fax)

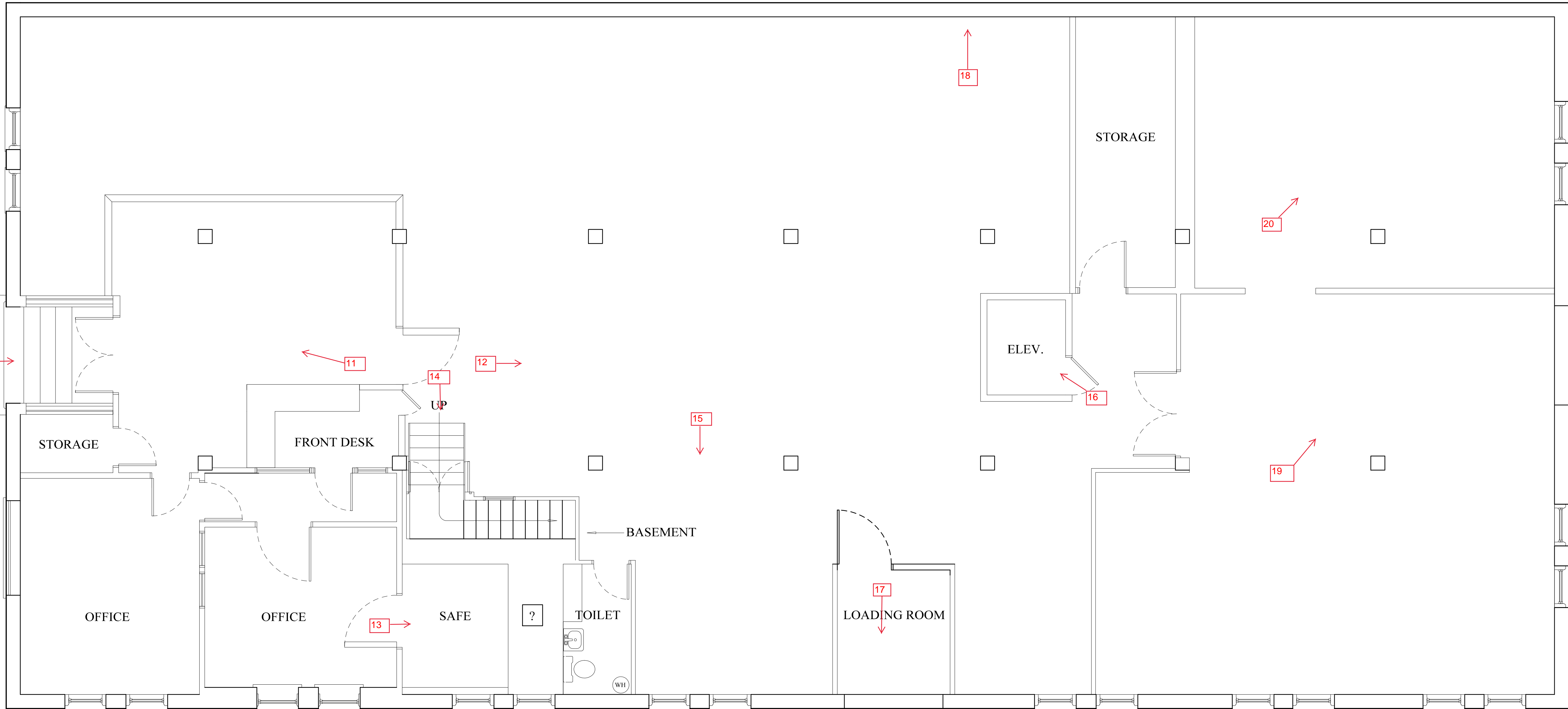
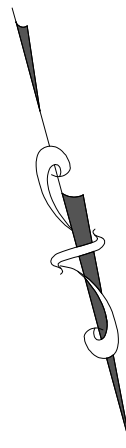
...  
BUILDING REHABILITATION  
**GOLDEN RULE COMPANY BUILDING**  
700 CRIM AVENUE  
BELINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

rev	date	description



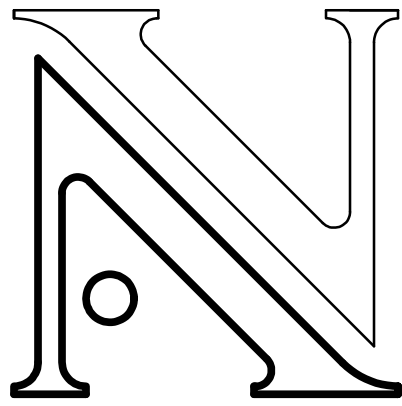
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drawn: ...  
checked: BVN  
date: ...  
scale: AS SHOWN

SHEET  
**A.1**  
1 OF 3



1st FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

The Golden Rule  
122 Crim Avenue  
Belington, Barbour County  
West Virginia 26250



VANNOSTRAND  
ARCHITECTS

29 E. MAIN STREET, STE 4  
P.O. BOX 572  
BUCKHANNON, WV 26201  
304-473-0555 (tel)  
304-473-0781 (fax)

BUILDING REHABILITATION  
**GOLDEN RULE COMPANY BUILDING**  
700 CRIM AVENUE  
BELINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

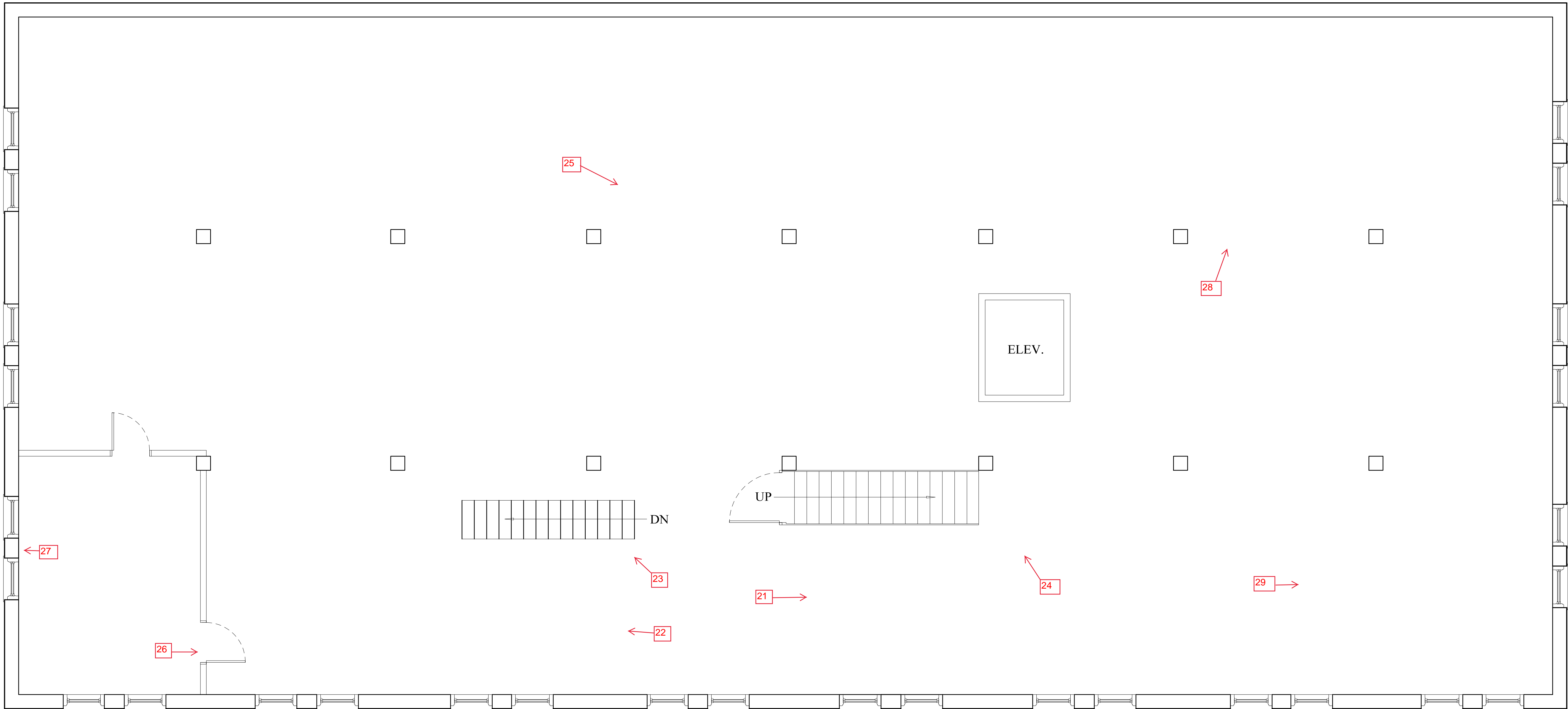
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checked: BVN  
date: ...  
scale: AS SHOWN

SHEET

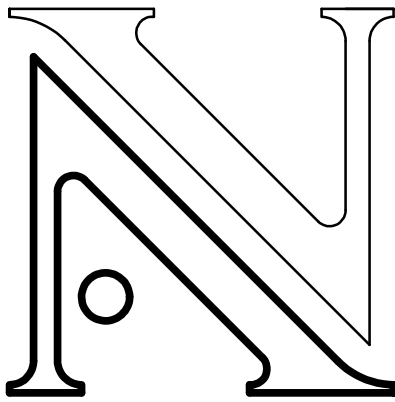
A.2

2 OF 3



 **2nd FLOOR PLAN**  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

The Golden Rule  
122 Crim Avenue  
Belington, Barbour County  
West Virginia 26250



VANNOSTRAND  
ARCHITECTS

29 E. MAIN STREET, STE. 4  
P.O. BOX 572  
BUCKHANNON, WV  
26201

304-473-0555 (tel)  
304-473-0781 (fax)

...

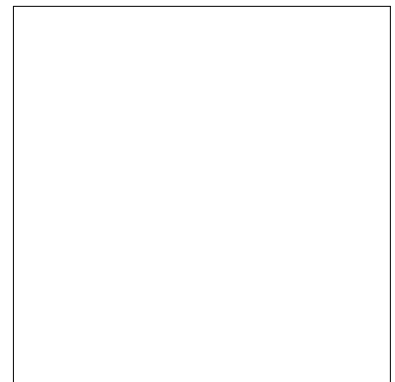
BUILDING REHABILITATION

**GOLDEN RULE COMPANY BUILDING**

700 CRIM AVENUE

BELINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

rev	date	description

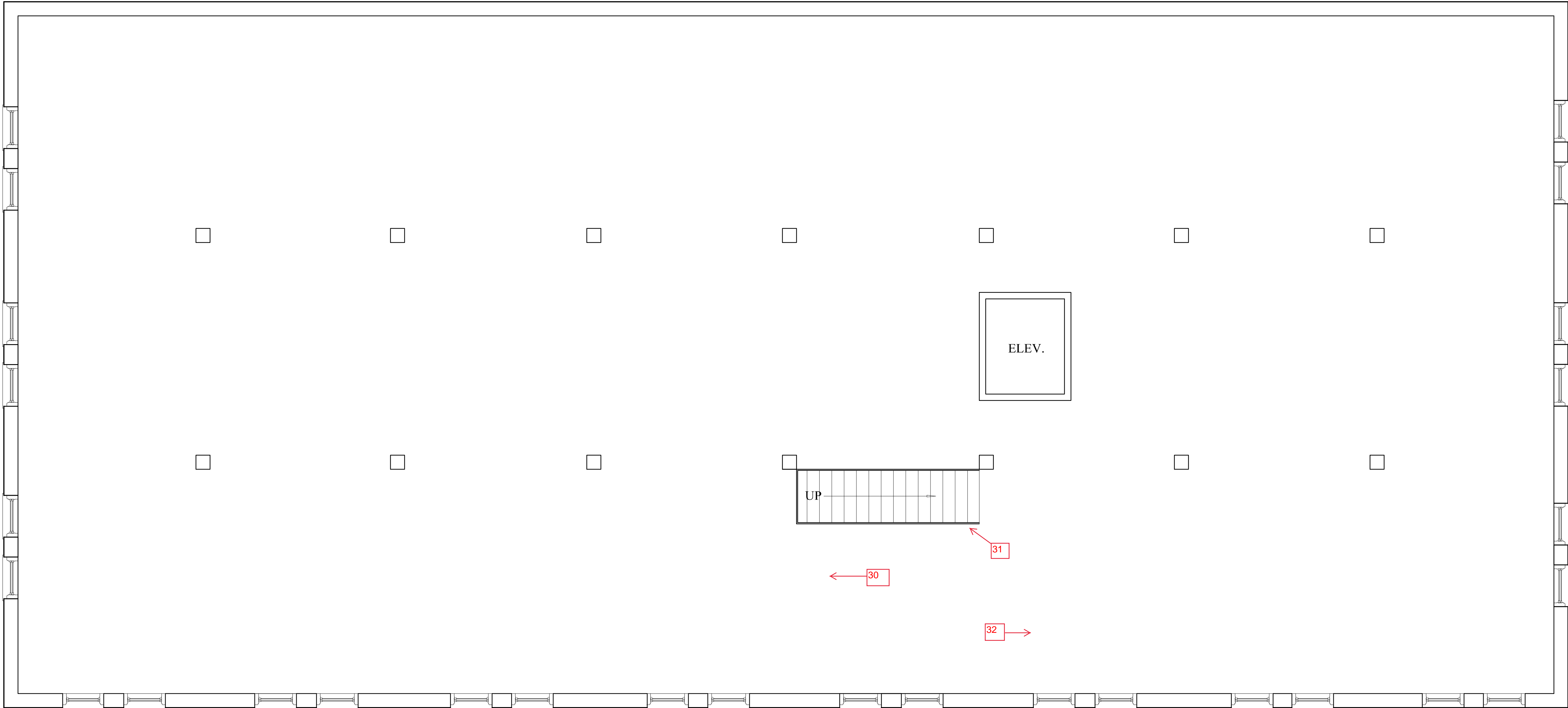



job: ...  
drawn: ...  
checked: BVN  
date: ...  
scale: AS SHOWN

SHEET

**A.3**

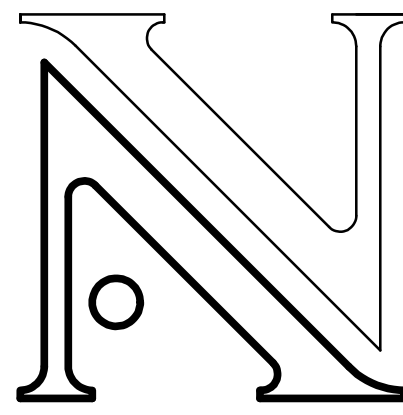
3 OF 3



 **3rd FLOOR PLAN**  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

The Golden Rule  
122 Crim Avenue  
Belington, Barbour County  
West Virginia 26250





VANNOSTRAND  
ARCHITECTS

29 E. MAIN STREET, STE. 4  
P.O. BOX 572  
BUCKHANNON, WV  
26201

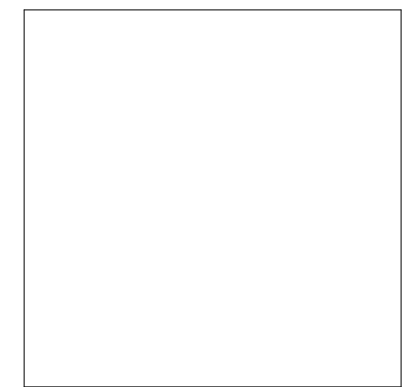
304-473-0555 (tel)  
304-473-0781 (fax)

...  
...  
...  
...

26201

BUILDING REHABILITATION  
**GOLDEN RULE COMPANY BUILDING**  
700 CRIM AVENUE  
BELINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

rev	date	description

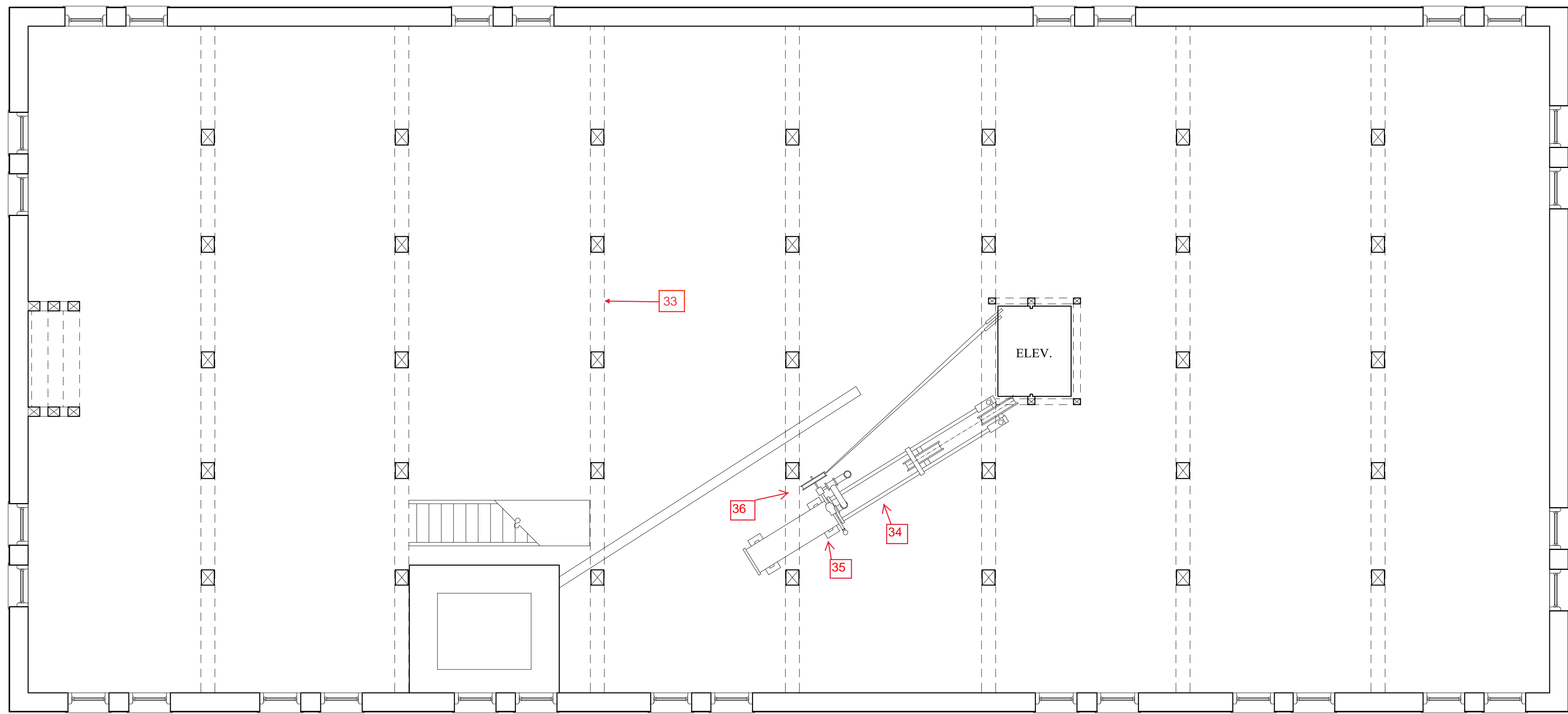


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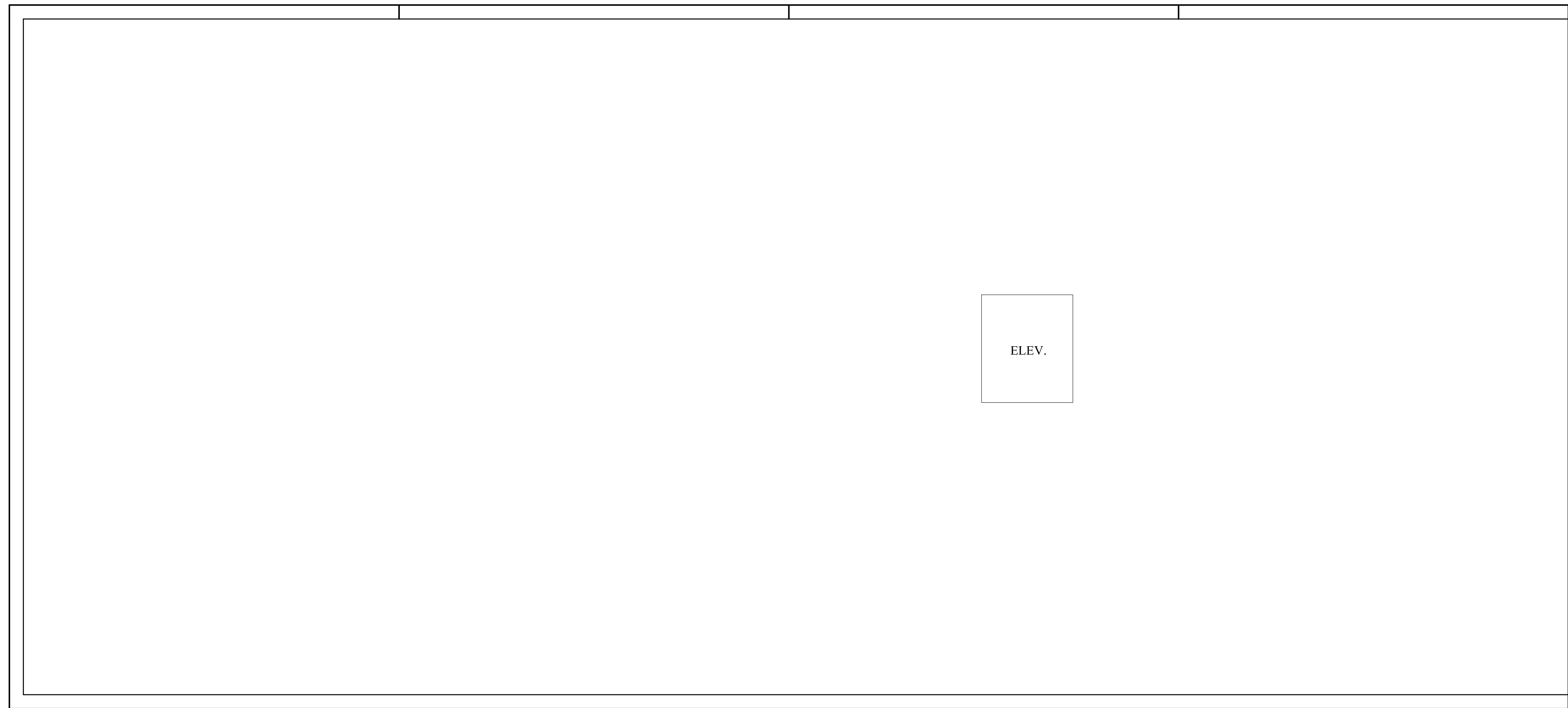
SHEET

AB.3

3 OF 4



 **BASEMENT PLAN - EXISTING**  
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



 **ROOF PLAN - EXISTING**  
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

The Golden Rule  
122 Crim Avenue  
Belington, Barbour County  
West Virginia 26250













200

FRANCIS Available

SECURITY  
CAMERA IN  
USE









GOLDEN RULE CO. DISTRIBUTORS

UPPER  
NERS  
ALG  
NG  
ETT  
URE  
NG  
RTT  
ING

















WORKING  
CLOTHING  
AFFORDABLE



**THE GOLDEN RULE CO.**  
DEPARTMENT & FURNITURE STORE

FURNITURE  
FLOOR COVERING  
WORK CLOTHING

**BEDDING**  
**MEN'S SHOES**  
**HOUSEWARES**

Since 1929

*Quality and Quantity*

**AT AFFORDABLE PRICES**

*Irish Setter*

*Catnapper*  
*It's All in the Name!*

SIGNS BY SELBY'S







PUT POP IN HIS PLACE  
A CATNAPPER  
FATHER'S DAY  
SALE

THE RITES  
SA  
your right  
values in rock  
and modul  
Cathie

SALE

SALE

FURNITURE  
DISPLAY ROOM

NO  
SMOKING

10 YEARS  
of FRIENDLY  
COURTEOUS  
SERVICE

Special  
Sale!  
Special  
Sale!























































NO  
ADMITTANCE

SMOKING  
STRICTLY PROHIBITED  
ON THESE PREMISES





hair  
screen  
screen







































THE WARNER ELEVATOR CO. M.F.C. CO.







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination	
Property Name:	Golden Rule, The	
Multiple Name:		
State & County:	WEST VIRGINIA, Barbour	

Date Received:	Date of Pending List:	Date of 16th Day:	Date of 45th Day:	Date of Weekly List:
3/11/2019	4/1/2019	4/16/2019	4/25/2019	4/26/2019

Reference number:	SG100003667
Nominator:	SHPO

Reason For Review:

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal	<input type="checkbox"/> PDIL	<input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue
<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo
<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource	<input type="checkbox"/> Period
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> TCP	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLG	

☒ Accept      ☐ Return      ☐ Reject      4/23/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:	
-------------------------------	--

Recommendation/ Criteria	
-----------------------------	--

Reviewer	<u>Barbara Wyatt</u>	Discipline	<u>Historian</u>
Telephone	<u>(202)354-2252</u>	Date	<u></u>

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.





March 6, 2019

**The Culture Center**  
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.  
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

**Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner**

Phone 304.558.0220 • [www.wvculture.org](http://www.wvculture.org)  
Fax 304.558.2779 • TDD 304.558.3562

EEO/AA Employer

Ms. Joy Beasley, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmark Programs  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

For your review, we are submitting National Register of Historic Places registration forms for the following properties:

*The Honorable Joseph M. McWhorter House, Roane County, West Virginia*  
*The Golden Rule, Belington, Barbour County, West Virginia*  
*South Wheeling Historic District, Ohio County, West Virginia*

These nominations have been processed in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 60 and approved by the West Virginia Archives and History Commission. **The enclosed discs contain the true and correct copies of the nominations for the abovementioned properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.**

Should you have any questions please contact Jeffrey S. Smith, National Register Coordinator, at 304.558.0240, extension 121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan M. Pierce".

Susan M. Pierce  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

SMP/JSS