

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88000677

Date Listed: 6/7/88

North Street Historic District
Property Name

Wetzel
County

WVA
State

Multiple Name

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.

Patrick W. Andrus

Signature of the Keeper

6/7/88

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

The nomination selects Commerce, and Transportation as Areas of Significance, but then selects Criterion C to reflect these areas of significance. Joyce Kilburn of the WVA SHPO agreed on 6/7 that this should be changed to Criterion A.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic North Street Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number North Street _____ not for publication

city, town New Martinsville N/A vicinity of

state West Virginia code 54 county Wetzel code 105

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wetzel County Courthouse

street & number Main and Washington Streets

city, town New Martinsville state West Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Resource Survey of New Martinsville: M. Pauley & M. Gioulis has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date Spring, 1987 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation, W. Va. Dept. of Culture & History

city, town Cultural Center, Charleston state West Virginia 25305

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The North Street historic district in New Martinsville, Wetzel County, West Virginia consists of three blocks of North Street extending roughly from Maple Street east to the tracks of the B&O Railroad. The district includes the buildings that front on North Street. The east boundary is the railroad tracks which form a "natural" barrier. Further to the east, on the other side of the tracks, the development period is considerably later than in this portion of New Martinsville. On the west the boundary consists of a number of intrusive structures and open spaces that do not contribute to the significance of the area. This area forms the historic entrance into town and the north boundary of the original plat. It is also the later, ca. 1900, entrance into town for railroad travel, since the depot and hotels were located here.

The district consists of 23 sites. Many are single family residential structures dating from ca. 1880 to ca. 1920. The commercial structures in the district relate to North Street as the historic entrance into town and to transportation on the railroad and the turnpike. They date predominantly from ca. 1890 to 1900. The residential structures are predominantly two story frame buildings of Victorian-era styles such as Stick Style, Four Square, or Queen Anne. The commercial structures include an older Colonial Revival warehouse building, a Queen Anne style railroad structure which was at one time a hotel, and a Revival Style two story brick lodge building. There are some outbuildings in the district which relate to the structures with which they are associated and contribute to the historic district. These are mostly one story garage buildings. One structure in particular on the northern edge of the district, along the railroad tracks, relates directly to the commercial impact of the railroad on New Martinsville. This is the one story frame warehouse of the New Martinsville Grocery Company.

Some of the more prominent structures in the district include the Old Hospital Building, No. 15. This is a two story frame building with a gable roof and German siding. There are gable dormers on the front of the building, a partial returned cornice with brackets, and projecting hoods over the windows. This was formerly the hospital. It was constructed ca. 1890. The New Martinsville Grocery Company building on Maple and North Streets, No. 3, is another significant structure. It is a three story brick commercial structure with a shallow hip roof, intersecting gables at the center of each of the major facades, shallow arched windows and a recessed arched entrance in the center bay of the facades. It has a raised rusticated stone basement and stone hoods over the windows and recessed entrances. Also associated with the New Martinsville Grocery Company is the small gable frame warehouse, No. 14, on the railroad tracks, constructed ca. 1895. Another structure associated with the railroad is the former Cottage Hotel, No. 23. This is a large two story Queen Anne/Shingle Style structure with a hip roof, Palladian windows in the dormer, and a square tower in the corner dating from 1890. The Moose Club, No. 1, is a good example of the early 20th century revival architecture that was popular for social clubs of the era. It is a two story brick structure with Romanesque detailing, such as heavy rustication on the recessed entrance, arched window openings on the first floor with carved garlands and two squat Doric columns that flank the entrance. The neon sign over the entrance is a later, though significant, addition to the building.

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A number of the structures in the district are indicated on an 1899 "bird's eye view" of the town published by T. M. Fowler and James B. Moyer. Two of the residences, that of A. C. Ruby, No. 8, and of architect James P. Chaplin, No. 7, are individually sketched on that map.

A complete listing of all of the sites in the district follows. The numbers refer to the site numbers indicated on the sketch map of the historic district.

1. The Moose Club. This is a two story blond brick commercial structure with a raised basement and recessed entrance behind a rusticated arched porch. There are squat Doric columns flanking the entrance porch and a central paired window in the second floor facade with an overhanging cornice with scroll brackets. The first floor has three windows on each side of the central bay with arched tympanae that contain decorative carved garlands with a center "M". The east side entrance has rusticated quoins and fluted brackets with a stone transom panel that also contains the carved "M" motif. The Moose Club is Romanesque Revival Style architecture, ca. 1915, Contributing.

2. This is a two story glazed brick commercial structure with multipaned metal commercial windows and a central entrance. ca. 1935, Contributing.

3. New Martinsville Grocery Company Building. 200 North Street. This is a three story brick warehouse/office building with gabled projections in the center bays of the principle facades. There are Palladian windows in the gable ends and the windows of the center bays are arched with stone surrounds. The building sits on a raised rusticated stone basement and the entrances are recessed behind stone arches. Colonial Revival Style, ca. 1900, Contributing.

4. 208 North Street. This building is a two story frame residential structure with a gable roof, lap siding, one-over-one windows, and a one story front porch. The front gable end has decorative wood shingles. There are wooden decorative hoods over the windows with dentils. The foundation is of ashlar stone. Stick Style, ca., 1910, Contributing.

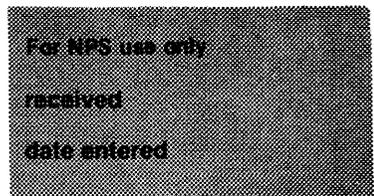
5. 210 North Street. This is a one story frame gable structure that resembles a small office building. It has German siding, jig sawn brackets at the corner of the cornice and sawn barge work. There is a one story porch with square posts. ca. 1910, Stick Style, Contributing.

6. 210 North Street. This is a one story gable garage with German siding. ca., 1910, Contributing.

7. James P. Chaplin Residence. This is a two story frame house with a painted slate hip roof, beaded horizontal board siding, corner pilasters with Ionic capitols, and a wrap around porch on the first floor. There are gambrel roof dormers. The

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windows are multiple panes and the first floor windows have diamond shaped panes on the upper sash. The porch has a pedimented entrance bay and the porch roof is supported with fluted Ionic columns. This was the home of James P. Chaplin, a noted Wetzel County late 19th and early 20th century architect and builder. He designed the Wetzel County Masonic Temple (1913) in the New Martinsville Downtown Historic District. Colonial Revival, 1895, Contributing.

8. A. C. Ruby Residence, 200 North Street. This is a two story Queen Anne Style frame residence, home of a prominent turn-of-the-century New Martinsville merchant. There is a squat hexagonal tower in the corner with a hexagonal pointed roof and a wrap-around porch on the first floor. The porch has a pediment over the entrance bay and Doric columns. The entrance door has stained glass sidelights. There is also a decorative wrought iron fence at the sidewalk that appears to have been contemporary with the residence. ca., 1890, Contributing.

9. This is a one story blond brick garage with a hip roof that is an ancillary building of No. 10. ca., 1920, Contributing.

10. This is a large two story frame residence with a hip roof, hipped roof dormers and corbeled chimneys. There is a one story front porch with paired Doric columns supported on a brick parapet. The residence has a wide plain frieze at the roof line and a three sided bay on the side. The structure is located on a large landscaped lot with three outbuildings, Nos. 9 and 11, and brick entrance piers at the sidewalk. These form entrance gates for a pedestrian pathway and the driveway. Four Square, ca. 1920, Contributing.

11. A one story gable cellar house with a stone foundation and German siding. ca., 1920, Contributing.

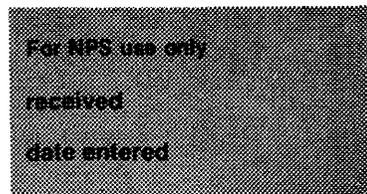
12. The Wetzel County Health Department. A two story commercial structure with a flat roof and a second floor porch. The building has German siding and some storefront alterations on the first floor. This structure is indicated in the 1899 Fowler drawing. Commercial, 1890, Contributing.

13. "The Hotel", 242 North Street. This was a former hotel for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. It is a large two story frame structure with a hip roof with many dormers. The building has irregular massing. The main style of the building is Shingle, though the storefronts have been altered. The Thomas Drug storefront consists of a Classical Revival ashlar sandstone facade with a slightly projecting crown molding over the entrance doors. There is a second floor porch at the front elevation. ca., 1890, Contributing.

14. New Martinsville Grocery Company storage building. A one story gable roof barn/warehouse with German siding. The lettering still remains on the side of the building, though it is very faint. ca., 1890, Contributing.

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15. Old Hospital/Library Building, southwest corner of North Street and Maple Avenue. This is a two story frame building with a gable roof with three gable dormers on the front elevation. It has German siding and a partial return on the cornice in the gable ends. It is Greek Revival Style, ca., 1902, Contributing.

16. 201 North Street. This is a fine example of a Queen Anne Style brick residence. It is two stories, constructed of red brick with irregular roof massing and has a slate roof. There is a corner octagonal turret, or tower, with a steeply pitched roof capped by a pointed finial. The main roof is of Gambrel Style hips that have molded metal flashing and cresting at the ridge. There is a wrap-around one story veranda that is typically Victorian. Each major elevation has a projecting gable with a recessed triple window in the pediment area and shingle siding that wraps around to the windows. There is a hip roof dormer on the east side elevation and a tall two story portico/port-coche on that side. A tall corbeled and fluted chimney soars above the roof line. The second floor has a segmented round arched window above the entrance. The veranda has a pedimented entrance bay with decorative garlands in the tympanum. This structure is also noted in the 1899 Fowler etching. ca., 1890, Contributing.

17. This is a one story gable Colonial Revival garage with a center monitor on the site of No. 16. ca., 1910, Contributing.

18. 211 North Street. This is a two story cross gable frame residence with German Siding. The roof is slate with metal cresting. There is a one story porch on the east side of the front elevation in the crook of the "L". The gable ends have elaborately carved spindle work in the barges with dropped finials in the centers. Eastern Stick Style, ca., 1890, Contributing.

19. Molded concrete block hip roofed garage building with metal shingle roof. This is an ancillary building associated with No. 18. ca., 1900, Contributing.

20. Small square molded block storage building with hip roof and metal roof shingles. ca., 1900, Contributing.

21. Gas Office. This is a one story raised basement commercial structure constructed of striated brick with a flat roof and a corner entrance. It was formerly the Gas Company's headquarters. The corners have raised parapets imitative of battlements. Commercial Style, ca., 1935, Contributing.

22. This small one story gable frame structure has probably always been an office of some sort. It is currently a barber shop. It has German siding and a molded concrete block foundation. The entrance is in the center of the front facade. The roof is metal shingles and is hipped. There are carved star shaped corner blocks in the door and window trim. ca., 1900, Contributing.

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23. 229 North Street. This is the former Cottage Hotel. It is a large two story Shingle Style structure with a broad gable roof with intersecting gables and irregular massing. There is a corner square tower with a pyramidal roof. The siding on the first floor is lap and in the gable ends it is shingles. There is a Palladian window in the east gable. On the east side there is a projecting three sided bay. This elevation faced the railroad depot. ca., 1890, Contributing.

The North Street Historic District of New Martinsville contains the surviving building fabric of what was once the "gateway" to downtown New Martinsville for the majority of people arriving in the city by train, and is reflective of the era when the railroad was the area's dominant mode of transportation.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates 1884-1935 **Builder/Architect** Not Known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The North Street Historic District, along both sides of North Street near the downtown business district of New Martinsville, county seat of Wetzel County, West Virginia, is significant as the historical area of commercial development associated with the coming of the railroad to Wetzel County, an event pivotal to the historic development of the area, as well as the railroad's economic significance to New Martinsville as a whole.¹

Explanatory Note

¹New Martinsville, County Seat of Wetzel County, West Virginia, had existed for approximately 150 years as a community, deriving its principal economic viability from the Ohio River traffic. Its downtown commercial area along Main Street paralleled the river, while the towers of both county courthouse buildings rose a mere stone's throw from the river, symbolic of that close link. In 1884, however, the Ohio River Railroad line reached New Martinsville and, over the course of a very few years, altered the orientation of commercial travel into and out of New Martinsville, although the Ohio River continued to play an important role in the economic and social life of the community. In 1890 the Ohio River Railroad was absorbed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which began active operation of the line in September, 1901.

The avenue from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad line into New Martinsville proper quickly developed along North Street. The main highway into the community entered from the east along North Street and then turned onto Main Street and thus into the downtown area. This street consequently developed a number of commercial structures related to railroading activity, as well as becoming the site for prestigious homes of affluent merchants. Such prominent individuals as architect James P. Chapline and merchant A. C. Ruby had large homes constructed along North Street, the better to receive fresh news, visitors, and goods. Along North Street were found (and some of these structures survive (see Part 7)), the town's first hospital, the town library, the New Martinsville Grocery Company Warehouse, fraternal and social organizations, grocery and hardware stores, and two hotels to serve railroad workers, salesmen, and other travelers. The North Street district relates directly, then, to the significance of the impact of the railroad on New Martinsville.

That significance cannot be understated. Most of the major merchantile business' were founded in New Martinsville after the coming of the railroad, particularly after the Ohio River Railroad was absorbed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. The major banking institutions all grew up in the same period and what was for long New Martinsville's leading industry, the New Martinsville Glass Company, was founded in 1900 and would not have been possible but for the transportation facilities that had become available by that time. The Wetzel County Hospital which was founded in 1902

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Attached Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 4 acres

Quadrangle name New Martinsville, W. Va.-Ohio

Quadrangle scale 1:24'000

UTM References

A

1	7
5	1
1	1
9	7
0	0

4	3
8	7
9	4
0	0

B

1	7
5	1
1	1
8	7
0	0

4	3
8	7
9	4
0	0

C

1	7
5	1
1	1
8	8
0	0

4	3
8	7
9	0
0	0

D

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1	1
7	4
0	0

4	3
8	7
9	2
0	0

E

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5	1
1	1
7	6
0	0

4	3
8	7
9	0
0	0

F

1	7
5	1
1	1
7	6
0	0

4	3
8	7
8	9
0	0

G

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1	1
7	5
0	0

5	3
8	7
8	6
0	0

H

1	7
5	1
1	1
9	3
0	0

4	3
8	7
8	4
0	0

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the point where the first unnamed alley north of North Street meets the western right-of-way of the line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad; thence in a line 300 feet due west along the south side of said unnamed alley; thence 75 feet due south to

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael J. Pauley, Historian & Michael Gioulis, Preservation Consultant

organization Pauley & Gioulis date November 30, 1987

street & number 4651 Victoria Road telephone (304) 744-9342

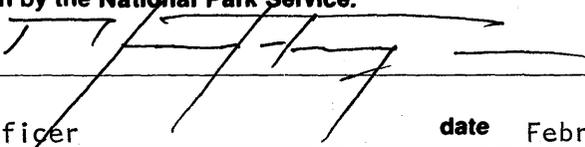
city or town Charleston state West Virginia 25313

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

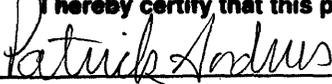
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date February 1, 1988

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

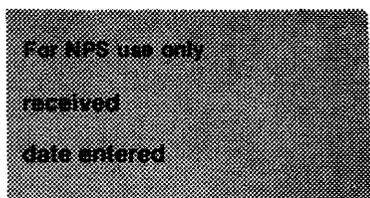
 date 6/7/88
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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because of the need for medical care, was made possible by the relative ease with which patients could reach the facility by rail. It was located, quite naturally, on North Street.

The North Street Historic District is a compact, intact enclave that is reflective of the vital role that the railroad played in the history and development of Wetzel County's largest city and county seat. While architecture is not marked as an area of significance, the North Street Historic District contains architectural types that are representative of both the commercial and residential aspects of that era. Although the railroad still runs through the city, it no longer stops here, and thus, the North Street Historic District is a visible reminder of a now vanished way of life for this part of northern West Virginia.

The North Street Historic District of New Martinsville, Wetzel County, West Virginia, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Eligibility Criteria C. It contains 23 properties, all of which are considered to contribute to the ambiance of the historic district.

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Fowler, Thaddeus M. and Moyer, James B., Bird's Eye View of New Martinsville: Map, 1899, West Virginia University History Collection, Morgantown, W. Va.

Hardesty, H. H., Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia; Containing . . . Histories of Tyler and Wetzel Counties, Chicago, Ill., H. H. Hardesty, 1883.

History of the Upper Ohio Valley, Madison, W. Va., Brent & Fuller, 1891.

History of Wetzel County, West Virginia, 1983, Wetzel County Historical Society, Walsworth, Salem, W. Va., 1983.

McEldowney, John C., Jr., History of Wetzel County, West Virginia, (n.p.), 1901.

West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia, Richwood, W. Va., J. Comstock, pub., 1975.

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the rear lot line of Property 8; thence in a line 450 feet due west to the western end of the lot of Property 1; thence 100 feet south to the north side of North Street; thence 100 feet due east along the north side of North Street; thence 175 feet due south to the rear lot line of Property 15; thence in a line 600 feet due east to the western right-of-way of the line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad; thence in a line 325 feet due north along the western right-of-way of the line of the railroad to the point of beginning; encompassing the intact historic fabric of the railroad-related structures within the North Street Historic District.

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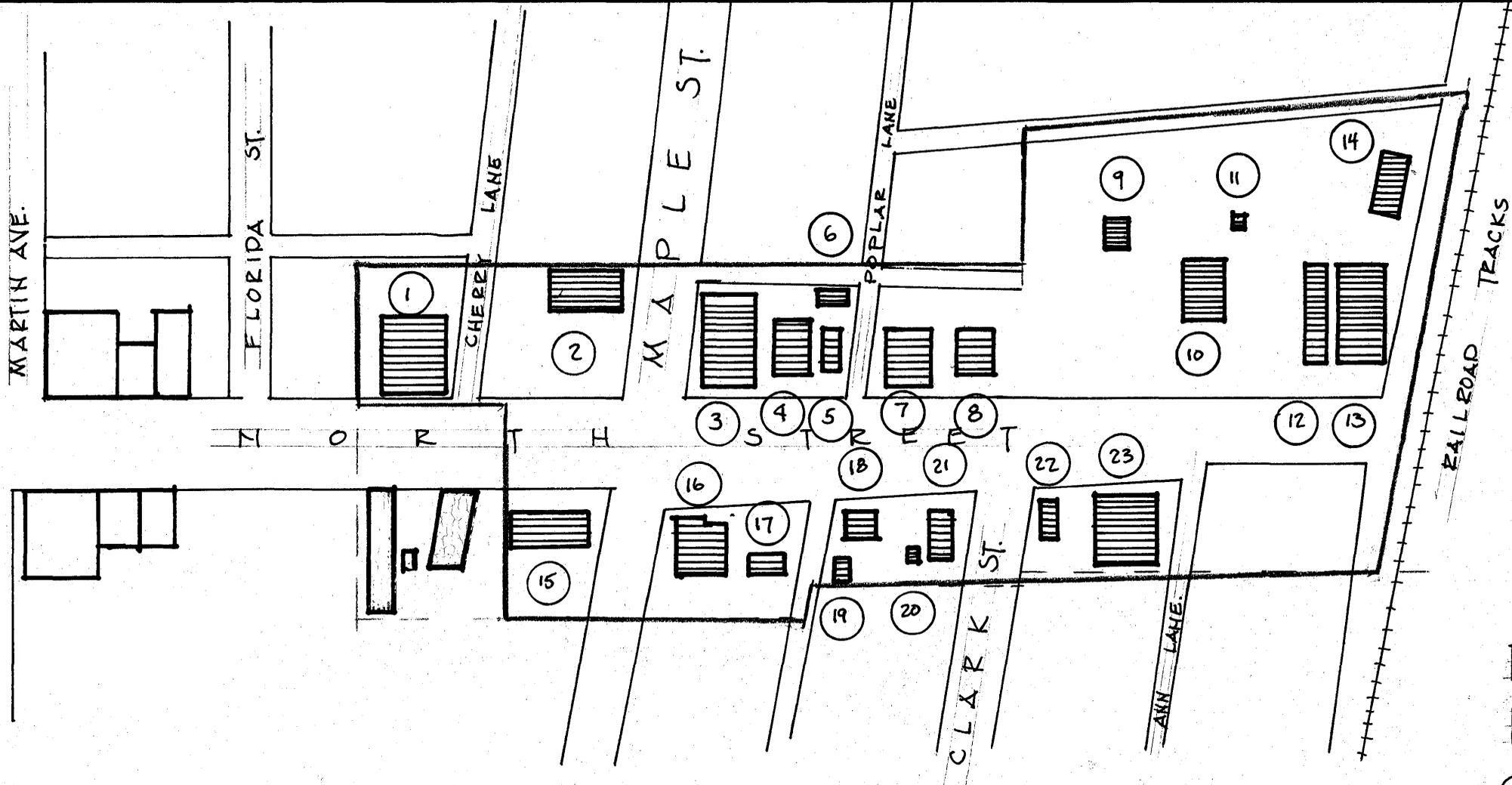
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The northern boundary of the district is the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a natural, if man-made, dividing line; along the eastern side of the district the structures on its eastern side face west, while those beyond the boundary line have a different directional orientation as well as are of differing architectural styles; along the southern boundary of the district the historic district boundary is determined by the abutement of intrusive, non-conforming elements; beyond the western boundary of the historic district are large open spaces that break with the continuity of the district's character.




 SCALE: 1" = 100'

- KEY:**
-  CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
 -  NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
 -  SITE NUMBER
 -  BOUNDARIES

NORTH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
NEW MARTINSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA
DECEMBER, 1987
MICHAEL GIOLIS, CONSULTANT