Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

WEST VIRGINIA	
CABELL	
FOR NPS USE ONI	_Y
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	DESCRIPTION				
			(Chec	ck One)	
	CONDITION	☐ Excellent ☐ Good 🛣	Fair 🗌 Det	eriorated 🔲 Ruins	Unexposed
-	CONDITION "	(Check One)		(Ch	eck One)
		🔀 Altered 🔲 U	Inaltered	☐ Moved	X Original Site

In Huntington Coin Harvey is remembered by the house he designed and built at 1301 Third Avenue, often described as "among the city's loveliest and most charming buildings." It dates back to 1872 Admirers of the old William H. Harvey home pointing out that almost all of the very old houses in the city have been torn down to make way for new buildings and parking lots, fear it may soon suffer a similar fate unless some means are found to save and preserve it.

William H. Harvey and his brothers Clate, Harry C. and Thomas H. Harvey, came to Huntington from Buffalo in Putnam County about 1869, and two or three years later persuaded their father, Robert Trigg Harvey, to come down also, William had visited Louisiana, and when he came to build a home here, he designed it on the classic lines he had admired in a house in New Orleans. At least that is the way some old timers have remembered it.

The old house now is much altered. The graceful spiral stairway of ornamental worought iron from the ground level to the front porch disappeared some 75 years ago, along with the balcony, also of wrought iron, that ran along the west side. There have been additions in the rear and changes made in the interior to convert it into a five-unit apartment house now owned by E. J. Kaiser of Mahood Road, Huntington.

Originally, on the first floor, about three feet below ground level, were the dining room and kitchen, along with a library or study. On the second floor, about eight feet above the ground level, there was a hallway on the west side whose floor-to-ceiling windows looked out onto the wrought iron balcony. On the east side of the house were a parlor and bedroom, but two other bedrooms were added not long afterward. The date of the building, 1874 is carved in bold letters on the facade. The walls are said to have been built of oak planks - some say oak blocks - spiked together and covered with stucco of such enduring composition that hardly a flake or chip has fallen away these eighty-five years.

Meanwhile, in Huntington, the house had become involved in litigation, in the course of which it was sold to Sparrow M. Nickerson of New York, who, in turn, sold it to Robert Trigg Harvey, father of William Hope Harvey. A few years later, Mr. Harvey sold the house to Frank B. Enslow, who then lived next door at 1303 Third Avenue.

Mr. Enslow added the two bedrooms on the upper level at the back, removed the wrought iron stairway and replaced it with theppresent wooden steps, and took down the wrought iron gallery on the west side. He lived there for a number of years before building his fine home at 1307, now owned and occupied by the Steele Funeral Home. Since Mr. Enslow, owners or tenants have included Samuel H. Nigh, Colonel J. C. Bebee, Hugh B. Hagen, Dr. C. M. Hawes, W. O. Sydnor, Dr. Earl Gerlach, William J. Rogers, not necessarily in that order, and perhaps others.

The interior of the original portion of the house remains intact and is in a very good state of preservation. The outstanding architectural features include: the stained glass windows, the cast iron mantel in the partie, the beamed ceiling in the dining room, the ornamental carved spindles about the arched doorway between the entrance hall and parlor.

The original floors were replaced a few years ago. However, the present floors are made of oak about 3" wide and are appropriate for the period of the house.

9/11GV

PERIOD (Check One or More as.		184 C	20th Century
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	<u> </u>	2011 Century
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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known)		(0,1,10)
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The significance of	this house resta	on several intere	sting facts:
•			a man remembered i

in the very difficult, if gay, nineties,

(2) The house has political significance as Mr. Harvey was nominated for the presidency of the United States by an independent party in 1932.

- (3) The house has architectural interest because it has often been described as being an "architecturally perfect" house. It is also described as among the city's loveliest and most charming buildings.
- (4) It has art interest because the beautiful arched windows have stained glass at the top, which has been described as a work of art. The cast iron mantel in the parlor is painted to resemble marble. This technique is practically a lost art.
- The house has interest in urban planning as it is adjacent to a massive downtown urban renewal area, and if it can be preserved it is in an ideal location for a historical restoration project that could be developed into a major tourist attraction. It is also next door to the Frank B. Enslow home, a brick Victorian structure which has been described by Mr. (Peter Denys Myers, National Park Service, as being the most outstanding residence in Huntington, The Coin Harvey Home and the Enslow Home (currently Steele Funeral Home) collectively would make a very interesting historical complex.

The fame of William Hope Harvey lives in history as the gifted economist best known for his spectacular defense of his theory of free coinage of silver as a panacea for the nation's troubles in the very difficult, if gay, nineties.

His name also lives in the beautiful and extensive recreation resort area at Monte Ne, Arkansas, where he erected a pyramid, not to be opened for a thousand years, and dedicated to the decline and impending collapse of civilization as he knew it. When he died in 1936 he was buried at the base of the pyramid.

It may be that William Hope Harvey never lived in the charming house he built; some of his descendants believe it is quite probable that he did not He left Huntington in 1872 or 1873 to practice law in Gallipolis, Ohio, and thence went to Delaware, Ohio, where, in 1876, he married Miss Anna R. Halliday. The wedding ceremony was held in the evening of the day of her graduation from school. Their children were Robert H., Thomas W., Marie Hope and Annette Harvey.

Meanwhile, William Hope Harvey left Delaware, Ohio, in 1878, and went to Chicago to engage in business, and thence to Colorado in hope of improving

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1. <u>Sunday Magazine</u> "A Relic of Its Time", by James R. Haworth The Herald Advertiser Huntington, West Virginia, June 25, 1967 Page Two.
- 2. <u>Cabell County Annals and Families</u>, George H. Wallace, Garrett and Massie, publishers, Richmond. P. 245.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE WEST VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	
CABELL	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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(Number all entries)

his health. Near Silverton, in the southwestern part of the state, he opened a silver mine. The venture succeeded well enough, but there was a "money panic" on at the time and little profit resulted from his production and sale of silver. From this experience he began to develop the economic theories that won for him enduring fame and riches as well.

These rewards came from a series of books and pamphlets written and published by him. The books were sensationally successful. Some of the better known titles were "Coin's Financial School", published in 1894 from which he became famous as "Coin" Harvey; "A Tale of Two Nations", in 1894; "Coin's Financial School Up To Date", 1895; "Patriots of America", 1895; "Coin on Money", 1899; "Trusts and Imperialism", 1899; and "Common Sense", 1920.

The books were published by the Coin Publishing Company of Chicago, where Mr. Harvey had gone after leaving Colorado, and a short stay at Ogden, Utah. In addition to writing and publishing, he lectured extensively on his favorite topics of economic reform. His views were shared by William Jennings Bryan and Mr. Harvey became his enthusiastic supporter in his 1896 campaign for the presidency. But William McKinley and the Gold Standard won nevertheless. That circumstance may have been in Mr. Harvey's mind when he constructed his towering and substantial pyramid at Monte Ne, Arkansas, and dedicated it to the decline and fall of civilization.

He himself was nominated for the presidency of the United States by an independent party in 1932, but the Interests and the Trusts got the most votes and the Masses went down to defeat.

Be all that as it may, the home "Coin" Harvey built in Huntington is one of the few of its age remaining.

Can it be saved?

