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not for publication

code

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

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

## 1. Name

historic Elmhurst

and or common The William and Carol Lynn Residence

West Virginia code

#2

### 2. Location

street & number 1606 Pleasant Avenue

Wellsburg

\_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

54

state

city, town

2

# 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	public	X_ occupied	agriculture	museum
$\underline{X}$ building(s)	X private	unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	work in progress	educational	X private residence
site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	<u>N/A</u> in process	X yes: restricted	government	scientific
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
		no	military	other:

county

Brooke

#### 4. Owner of Property

name William and Carol Lynn

street & number 1606 Pleasant Avenue

Wellsburg

city, town

Wellsburg vicinity of state West Virginia 26070 city, town Location of Legal Description 5. Brooke County Court House courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Main and Seventh Streets street & number Wellsburg state West Virginia 26070 city, town **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. Pleasant Avenue Survey yes <u>X</u> no title has this property been determined eligible? X\_ local Winter-Spring, 1985 date federal state county Wellsburg Landmarks Commission depository for survey records

For NPS use only received

date entered

state West Virginia 26070

### 7. Description

X excellent deteriorated	ck one Check one unaltered X original altered moved	
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#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Elmhurst is a Greek Revival structure built of brick over a stone ashlar foundation with tooled surfaces. It was constructed in 1848 as the mansion/farmhouse of William H. Tarr. The long side of this Greek Revival country home faced the edge of the bluff and looked out on the "County Road" (now Pleasant Avenue).

This classic rectangular mansion had a back ell which has only recently been extended. The hip roof has a center platform. The five-bay front of the mansion is emphasized by a single bay portico with Tuscan columns. The windows on both stories are the same size and double-hung. The lintels are simple and the windows have no shutters.

The central bay has a trebeated entrance with narrow side lights. This is balanced on the second story by a three-part window in the central bay.

Originally Elmhurst had a three-bay portico with a hip roof. The original portico burned about 50 years ago and was replaced with a single bay portico in the same style. The portico and the eaves of the house have a dentiled cornice portico and all trim is painted white.

The three-bayed end walls are surmounted by tall twin chimneys. On the southeast back corner of Elmhurst, and separated from it, is a new brick garage. The brick ell has also been extended about 15 feet to the rear. The brick carriage house, which was built in the 19th century in the southeast corner of the grounds, was remodeled as a residence almost one-half century ago and has been sold separately from Elmhurst.

The graceful sloping drive climbs above the bluff on which Elmhurst sets and goes all around the house. The plantings are graceful and pleasant.

Elmhurst is in excellent condition. It remained in the hands of the family which built it from 1848-1983 and has always been well cared for.

In the 1920's when the original portico burned and was replaced, the original ell was also enlarged and modified. The change is appropriate in style and unobtrusive. A car port has been constructed at the rear of the ell.

#### CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

On the spacious landscaped grounds with an informal garden are two dependencies. The earlier structure, a small barn, dates from the turn of the century. More recently a two-car brick garage was erected near the rear of the house on the northeast quadrant. Both structures are unobtrusive, though the barn is appropriate to semi-rural homes like Elmhurst.

Contributing Building1(house)Contributing Dependencies1(small barn)Non-Contributing Building1(car garage)

Total Contributing Resources 2

1

## 8. Significance

	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric X agriculture X architecture art x commerce X communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	military music t philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify) history
Specific dates	1848	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William H. Tarr House is significant because its first owner, more than perhaps anyone else, laid the economic and commercial foundation for the growth of Wellsburg. He chose Greek Revival architecture as appropriate to his country home and estate because as a Jeffersonian he idealized the Greek quest for independence. Successive generations of the same family -- the Jacobs and the Paulls -- were also outstanding West Virginia leaders in journalism, industry, philanthropy and politics.

William H. Tarr built this Greek Revival mansion in 1848 to replace his country home, --Van Swearingen's Fort -- which stood about 50 yards north of the northwest corner of Elmhurst. He was the son of Peter Tarr who constructed the first iron furnace in the Upper Ohio Valley. William and his brother, Campbell, made their fortunes in commerce on the Ohio River in the early decades of the 19th century. They were active land speculators, entrepreneurs, farmers and investors. William Tarr was probably Wellsburg's most successful and prominent citizen when Elmhurst was built.

Elmhurst was designed as the country home and retreat of a busy and successful Wellsburg citizen. Mr. Tarr maintained his substantial townhouse in Wellsburg throughout his life -- even after Elmhurst was built.

After the Civil War, Elmhurst became the suburban home of John Gabriel Jacob and his wife, Isabella Tarr Jacob. Although this couple was active in philanthropic and financial affairs -- really the first citizens of Wellsburg -- J.G. Jacob is best known as the long-time editor of the Wellsburg Herald, the author of The History of Brooke County, and a highly opionated, but extremely honest, Union man.

Throughout most of the 20th century Elmhurst was the residence of the Paulls -- founders, major owners and presidents of Wellsburg's largest industry, Eagle Manufacturing Company. James Paull, the last Tarr descendant to live in Elmhurst, was a long-time member of the West Virginia Senate. He also was a principle benefactor of education and public works.

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List all states a	ind countie	s for properties overla	pping state or	county boundarie	es .
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Continuation sheet	Elmhurst	Item number	10	Page 2

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The grounds of Elmhurst, covering 3.28 acres, provide a setting within a broad tree-shaded lawn on the crest of a hill, thus justifying the inclusion of the generous acreage in the nomination. The grounds, historically, have always provided an open appearance or setting that emphasizes the house.

