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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

(Form To bood). Type an entried.	
1. Name of Property	
historic name Robert W. Hazlett House	
other names/site number	
2. Location	······································
street & number 921 North Main Street	N /A not for publication
city, town Wheeling	N/A vicinity
	110 code 069 zip code 26003
3. Classification	
Ownership of Property Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property
x private building(s)	Contributing Noncontributing
public-local district	1 0 buildings
public-State site	sites
public-Federal structure	structures
object	objects
	0 Total
Name of related, multiple property listing:	Number of contributing resources previously
N/A	listed in the National Register <u>N/A</u>
4. State/Federal Agency Certification	
Anomination request for determination of eligibility meets National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the N	and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
Signature of certifying official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the N	lational Register criteria.
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
5. National Park Service Certification	
I, hereby, certify that this property is:	Butered in the
	Fational Rogistor
entered in the National Register.	Rue 5/2/91
See continuation sheet.	uspyin - 12/1
determined eligible for the National	
Register. See continuation sheet.	
determined not eligible for the	
National Register.	<u> </u>
removed from the National Register.	

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

OMB No. 1024-0018

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APR 04 1991

NATIONAL REGISTER

Domestic/multiple dwelling
Social/clubhouse
and a second
aterials (enter categories from instructions)
undation <u>coursed</u> , <u>dressed</u> <u>sandstone</u> alls <u>wire-cut</u> <u>brick</u> : 1 & 2
slate, patterned, clipped: 3 of asphalt rolled roofing
her

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

A high-style example of a Second Empire, city residence, the Hazlett House survives between two historic districts, in an area that does not qualify as an historic district. It is on Wheeling's main north-south street, Main Street (photo 4). The house presents the grandeur expected from the residence of one of Wheeling's most prominent doctors and businessmen. The house is intact and relatively unaltered, except for a rear porch, added after 1902 [Barthel] (photo 3). It is presently used as headquarters for Friends of Wheeling, Inc., a private, not for profit, historic preservation organization and four apartments.

Sited on the National Road and just north of the Wheeling Suspension Bridge, this structure now faces a commercial street that once was lined with fine residences of the mid- to late 1800s. This building is set directly on the sidewalk edge as are its neighbors. There is a concrete street curb and sidewalk about 8' wide. In the rear, the lot slopes steeply to a former railroad grade and the Ohio River. On the south there is driveway access to the back of the lot (photo 5). Windows and the two rear doors access this side of the house (photo 2). The north side has no exterior openings and faces the neighboring apartment building. The Sanborn Map (1902) notes a square building in the rear, center of the lot. This may have been a carriage house.

The three-story, fourteen plus room residence displays fine workmanship in its interior and exterior construction details. The house is 3D feet wide with three bays x 112 feet with a front block of 45 feet, wing of 55 feet and second storey porch of 12 feet. The front block of the house has three rooms, the rear wing has front and back room divided by a service area. The house has a full basement. Exterior foundation walls are ashlar sandstone with bushhammered faces and chisel-cut edge dressing. The interior basement walls are rubble sandstone with brick foundations under bearing walls and brick chimney piers. The front of the house has 10'-0" ceilings on the first two floors; 9'-6" ceilings are in the two floors of the wing. The attic floor has 9' ceilings. The exterior walls are covered in face brick, softer and more hand-made looking on the sides and rear with untooled, flush joints; harder with smooth finish and butter joints on the front facade. The front block has a Mansard roof third floor with clipped and fish scale shingles, grey, red and white in a diamond pattern. The roof of the front block, rear wing and porch is rolled roofing.

The exterior expresses high-style Second Empire details with molded brick, incised sandstone door and window lintels and elaborate wooden cornice decoration (photo 1). The central feature of the facade is a second and third storey, hooded, projecting bay of brick decorated with molded brick and with sandstone banding at lower lintel and United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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sills. The bay is supported on an egg-and-dart decorated brick corbel and has a heavy, draped, elliptical hood cornice supported on four wooden brackets (photo 6). This projecting bay was a distinctive feature of the architect, Edgar W. Wells. The front facade is further enhanced by vertically sawn sandstone window sills and incised flush sandstone lintels. The faces of the front windows are chamfered-cut brick. The front doorway is trimmed the same as other front windows. There are three steps from the entry way to the sidewalk.

The south facade has a raised entryway with stoop between the front block and rear wing and a hooded rear doorway reached by a stoop. Basement windows have window wells and are a half-storey above grade. The rear of the wing has a stone-faced basement entry and a later, Craftsman-style second-storey porch addition supported on bungaloid piers. Windows in the front block are with 1/1 double hung sash. The rear wing has 2/2 double hung sash, except on the rear second story porch.

The front block of the building has three chimneys with three corbel courses, three stepped-in courses, and a top stone cap. Two of the chimneys in the rear wing have four corbelled courses and stone caps. The newest chimney, for the porch, has wire-cut glazed brick and a stone cap.

The building plan is that of a shot gun with front parlor; second parlor; back hall; dining room, butler's pantry and breakfast room each behind the other (see plan). There is a north side entry hall that rises through the full three storey height of the building in the front block. Most floor surfaces are not exposed. In the first and second floors; hardware is brass cast with foliate motifs in knobs; plates and hinges.

There is a full basement with sandstone walls. Brick bearing walls run under the hall/parlor wall, main block/wing wall and dining room/butler pantry wall. The room at the end of the wing has a winding stair to the butler pantry (closed off). This room has plaster walls and a beaded board ceiling. The basement entry and three windows with adequate light suggest this may have been the original kitchen. Basement windows are casement windows.

The entry hall has oak woodwork, stair newel and balustrade. The front doorway has a transom and double oak doors. All woodwork has carved Queen Anne details of bands, suns and sunflowers. The door facings continue past the lintel in projecting decorative straps. The aesthetic, cast iron, gas-fired fireplace with overmantle has asymmetric bird and plant decoration in the Anglo-Japanese style (photo 7). There is a spindle screen separating the entry to the front parlor from the staircase (photo 8). The straight run of stairs ends at a back hall at each floor. The stairway and hall balustrades continue to the third floor. The stairs are panelled below the balustrade. At each floor, there are two steps that separate the front block of the house from the rear wing. The hall has a lincrusta wainscot of geometric and foliate detail.

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The front and second parlors have mahogany door and window facings similar in detail to that in the hall. There are mahogany panels below each window. Windows have interior; mahogany shutters. The double pocket doors separating the two rooms have lincrusta upper panels stained mahogany color. Fireplaces have marbleized iron mantles and encaustic tile surrounds and hearths (photo 9). Each room has a lincrusta band of leaves at a height of 5' around both rooms. There is a small plaster cornice.

The dining room has mahogany woodwork. The doors have rosewood grained panels. Window facings are mitered. There is lincrusta wainscot, lincrusta medallions above the wainscot, a small plaster cornice from which springs a coved ceiling with rope plaster details and baroque, plaster corner elements. The gas fireplace has an iron mantle with painted panels in the Anglo-Japanese style.

The back of the wing has been altered for bathroom, kitchen and bedroom. These rooms likely were butler's pantries and kitchen or breakfast room. The general plan and most doors, window facings, panels below windows, and baseboards are original.

In general; the second floor reflects the room arrangement of the first floor. A bathroom occupies the space above the entry way, a dressing room is behind it. The front rooms have similar base moldings and door and window architraves as the first floor front rooms. Woodwork is deeply cut mahogany; windows have mahogany shutters. The matched mantles are mahogany with incised decoration. Floors are not exposed.

Much of the second floor wing has oak-grained woodwork. There is a doorway spindle screen that separates the back passage from the back hall. The nursery has walnut woodwork and three pieces of original nursery paper, "Ding Dong bell." Both the nursery and kitchen have fireplaces with wooden mantles. The second story porch is reached by two sets of French doors. It has a frieze with shelf above the six windows. The triple-hung sash has slag glass in diamond panes in the top sash. The wide jambs are plain, floor to ceiling. In between the windows are Craftsman-style iron sconces with frosted globes. The ceiling has beaded boards. The mantle is wooden. Exposed floors are oak.

The third floor, rear, hall window has an elaborate, carved jamb with 8" decorated skirt. The third floor room arrangement reflects that of the second floor. The woodwork is painted white. The deep, dormered window wells are untrimmed except for a heavy sill. The mantle is black marble. The hardware is hollow metal knobs. The floor is oak.

B. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
nationally 🔄 statewide 🔀 locally
an a
Applicable National Register Criteria
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)Period of SignificanceSignificant DatesArchitecture1880's-1910's1887
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N/A
Significant Person De Brahamt We Up al ett Architect/Builder
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except for

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9. Major Bibliographical References	
Atlas of the City of Wheeling. Philadelphia	a: L. J. Richards & Co. 1889.
Barthel, O. H., H. E. Halfpenny, Thomas W. H of <u>Wheeling</u> , Philadelphia: A. H. Mueller.	lassen, Joseph B. Doyle. Atlas of the City 1901.
Cranmer, Gibson Lamb. <u>History of Wheeling G</u> Company. 1902.	ity. Chicago: Biographical Publishing
Gilchrist, Joseph. Map of City of Wheeling.	Wheeling: F. W. Beer & Co. 1870.
History of the Voper Qhio Valley. Madison,	WI: Brant & Fuller. 1890.
Insurance Maps of Wheeling, West Virsinia.	New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1902.
Brouious documentation on file (NDS), N/A	X See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register	Other State agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government University
Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering	Other Specify repository:
Record #	N/A
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property2 acres	
UTM References A 1,7 52,34,80 443,44,80 Zone Easting Northing C	B B C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
	See continuation sheet
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Certifying official has considered the	-	ationally		jstatew			•	
Applicable National Register Criteria	XA	В	XC	D				
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)		В	□с	D	Ē	□F □G		
Areas of Significance (enter categorie Social History	s from i	nstructio	ons)		Period 18	of Significance 80's-1910's	5	Significant Dates 1887
Architecture			_					
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		<u>.</u>						
Significant Person Dr. Robert Robert Haz		azlet	tt		Edg		s, archi	tect contractor

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This prominent, single family dwelling fulfills National Register criteria A and C. As the home of one of Wheeling's most distinguished doctors and businessmen, this building illustrates the historic context of Wheeling as a major consumer of decorative interior furnishings and construction products of the best tastes of the late 1800s. This also is a fine, relatively untouched, local example of high-style Second Empire architecture designed by one of Wheeling's most prominent architect and constructed by a prominent local contracting firm.

Along the Ohio River, Wheeling was known as a major port and supply center during the nineteenth century. First as the western terminus of the National Road, in 1818, Wheeling became a major outfitting center for persons continuing down the Ohio-Mississippi River system or traveling over-land into Ohio. With the arrival of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in the 1850s, trade increased and industry flourished. Wheeling supplied iron products, especially nails, but also stoves and mantles. The city's stores supplied lincrusta and encaustic tiles. Its lumber yards offered rich imported woods and locally produced finishing woods. Its supply yards had sandstone, marble, plain and molded bricks. Wheeling citizens eagerly had residences built in the most fashionable styles, as did Dr. Robert W. Hazlett have this house built in 1887, shortly after his retirement from the full time practice of medicine.

Typical of many Wheeling building lots, this one [the north half of lot 13, Old Town] had been previously occupied. Hazlett occupied a building on the site and kept his offices there in 1884-86, prior to increase in property value from construction of this house [Wheeling City Directories]. Tax records note that it had a building evaluated at \$3000 when full ownership of the lot was conveyed to Hazlett by Morgan Ott in 1877 [Taxes 1877]. A building is shown on an 1870 Wheeling map [Gilchrist]. It had a building on it that is recorded in the oldest surviving Land Book, 1845. Examination of the basement and exterior walls show this building, however, is all of a piece in Second Empire style, except for the somewhat later rear porch.

Robert Hazlett was born in Washington, PA. He attended Washington College, reading medicine in Wheeling before attending Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He

X See continuation sheet

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left his Wheeling practice in the winter of 1857-8 because of poor health. In wandering the hills of present-day West Virginia, he located and supervised the first drilling of oil there. He also found rich coal veins which he helped open. He serviced as a surgeon in the Union Army during the Civil War. While practicing medicine in Wheeling, following the war, he also was prominent in local banking and industrial investing. He retired from full time practice of medicine about 1880 [Cranmer]. This house also was occupied by his son Robert who was Ohio County engineer at least three terms. The son Robert was a prominent bridge engineer associated with Job Abbott, working in West Virginia, Ohio, Washington, DC and New York. He also was a partner in the construction of waterworks and electric railways in West Virginia [Cranmer].

Dr. Robert W. Hazlett engaged Wheeling architect Edgar W. Wells and the contracting firm of Klieves, Kraft & Company. The new house appeared on the 1887 tax rolls at an evaluation of \$7430. Edgar Wells was associated with the Klieves firm at the time of the construction. Wells attended Bethany College to learn design, drafting and civil engineering. He is known for the design and engineering of three city public schools, the Female College at Buckhannon, the Y. M. C. A building, various commercial buildings and the residences for George E. Stifel, Alfred Paull and Dr. Ackermann [Brant & Fuller]. Some of these buildings survive in three national historic districts. Three residences, the Ackermann, Bernard & Theodore Klieve, and Edgar Wells residences are all part of the Chapline Street Row Historic District. The three residential designs, like this residence, have a projecting bay on the upper floor. The contractors for the construction were the second generation of cabinetmakers who owned a plane-milling business in addition to the contracting firm. Klieves, Kraft & Company built many business blocks in addition to the residences mentioned above designed by Wells [Newton].

The building facade displays molded brick, colored slates, incised stone window cornices and heavy wooden roof cornice. The main facade design composition displays the breaking of the facade into compartments, typical of Queen Anne. In its interior this building displays the richness of moldings, paneling, cornices, carving, iron and marble mantles, encaustic tile work, and lincrusta that symbolizes the most elaborate Queen Anne houses in America. This house is the outward representation of all that an Ohio River Valley prominent citizen hoped to possess.





