

EAST WHEELING HISTORIC DISTRICT

Wheeling, Ohio County



The integrity of the East Wheeling Historic District is currently threatened by the demolition of 34 structures. Residents are engaged in a legal battle with the City of Wheeling, which has declared eminent domain on two streets in the district in order to clear them for the construction of a new sports complex. The dwellings in the district historically housed workers, managers, and owners of Wheeling's steel, iron, and coal industries at the peak of the city's prosperity, and they continue to house local residents. The district boasts 19th century residences in Greek Revival, Italianate, and Victorian styles. If the property owners can maintain control of their buildings, they have planned an adaptive reuse project that will preserve many of the buildings and create a recreational space with community gardens and a cafe on the interior of the two streets.



ENDANGERED PROPERTIES

Of West Virginia

2012

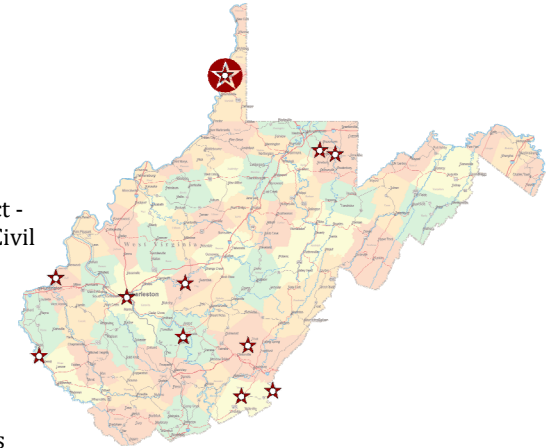



PAWV ENDANGERED LIST 2012



East Wheeling Historic District

Wheeling, Ohio County



Site: East Wheeling Historic District - PAWV will assist specifically with Civil War Twins (c. 1860s), James Tiu home (mid-19th century), and Jerome Poynton home (1870)

Description: Twenty-three residential buildings are located within the East Wheeling Historic District. These residential buildings consist of a mix of Victorian-era buildings, including Italianate, Colonial Revival, Greek Revival, Second Empire, and Queen Anne. The majority of these residential buildings are two-story, two-bay brick structures.

Community: Wheeling, Ohio County

Period of Construction: 1850-1910

Significance: All the homes were occupied throughout the 19th and 20th centuries by workers, managers, and owners of Wheeling's burgeoning steel, iron, and coal companies. The neighborhood was a major city center for religious, social, and cultural establishments. Residents of affluent and working-class backgrounds lived in the East Wheeling Historic District and contributed to the community development of Wheeling.

Endangerment: Demolition - All of the buildings located primarily on 15th and 16th Streets have been seized by the City of Wheeling's eminent domain to clear the area for a new sports complex.

Resources: Private owners have the resources to preserve and rehabilitate these buildings if allowed to maintain ownership.

Next Steps for 2012: The court ruled in favor of the City of Wheeling's eminent domain, and the City Council approved a design process for the sports complex. Property owners are appealing the decision while residents, historians, and PAWV field representative Lynn Stasick document the buildings before their scheduled demolition.

Goal: If the court ruling is overturned, property owners aim to restore and preserve many of the residential buildings and create a recreational green space within the confines of the two streets. Additionally, PAWV aims to learn from this experience and work more closely with planners to stop the destruction of architectural memory from happening in other state historic districts.

Nominated by: Jerome Poynton, Helen Adelson, and Snookie Nutting



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**NATIONAL
TRUST
FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Preservation Alliance of West Virginia is the statewide grassroots organization devoted to preserving West Virginia's history and culture. In partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, PAWV provides assistance to help save endangered sites. For more information on this year's Endangered List, or if you would like to suggest a site for next year, see the Preservation Alliance website at: www.pawv.org.