

# West Virginia Colored Children's Home Huntington/Guyandotte, WV

This Classical Revival-style institutional building was constructed in 1922 to provide social housing, social services and education for the state's black children in need. A cemetery where the Home's children are believed to be buried is near the main building. The building is slated to be demolished.



## West Virginia Colored Children's Home



**Community:** Huntington/  
Guyandotte (Cabell County)

**Site:** West Virginia Colored  
Children's Home

**Date:** 1922

**Significance:** Originally established as the Colored Orphans Home in 1899, the current building served black children in need from 1923 until the end of segregation in 1956.

**Endangerment:** The Cabell County Board of Education is planning to demolish the building to make room for a new middle school.

**Resources:** A local advocacy organization has been formed to save the Home, and supporters are asking for consideration of an alternative building site for the new school or incorporation of the existing structure into a new school campus

**Next Steps:** Save the building from being demolished.

**Future:** Place it back into use as housing or educational use.

**Nominated by:** *Citizens for the Preservation of Prester's Mission, the Historic Orphanage, and Neighborhood Schools*

*WVCCH photographs courtesy West Virginia Division of Culture & History - State Historic Preservation Office*

The 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 the 2011 Endangered List, or if you would like to suggest a site for next year, see [www.pawv.org](http://www.pawv.org).

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