

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN CLATOR HOUSE

HABS No. WV-260

HABS
WVA
35-WHEEL,
40-

Location: 73-75 Nineteenth Street (north side of Nineteenth Street
between Jacob Street and W.V. Route 2 Overpass).
City of Wheeling
Ohio County
West Virginia

U.S.G.S. Wheeling Quadrangle, West Virginia
Universal Mercator Coordinates 17.524100.4434400

Significance: An example of an Italianate vernacular double row house. Located in the Fulton Area of Wheeling amidst several industrial businesses and probably constructed for the purposes of workers' housing.

Description: A two-story brick residence, built as a double row structure, four bays wide. The building faces south on Nineteenth Street and is built up to the front property line and covers the entire width of the lot for approximately the front half of the lot. It is located in the middle of a series of double row buildings beginning at the intersection of Jacob Street. The foundation is rubble stone with a cut stone rectangular facing. The front is painted brick, laid in a running bond pattern.

The windows are one over one double hung wood sash. Each window has a projecting limestone sill and a wooden pediment type lintel that projects beyond the brick face. The lintels have a top stepped-down trim, end side brackets, and a triangular top in the center with a bull's eye trim. There is a matching lintel on each side of the entry doors similar to the windows. The door openings are flanked with wood pilasters that are incised with vertical grooves. The tops of pilasters have a curved bracket to the cornice lintels. The entry doors are wood with top glass panel and two vertical wood panels below. There are two cost stone steps from the raised threshold to the front walk.

There are one and two-story rear additions of varying depths. The additions are covered with wood clapboard siding.

There is a projecting wood cornice at the roof line with sixteen shallow wood brackets applied to the soffit. The fascia is a modest stepped-down trim. The roof is a pitched shed type, covered with rolled asphalt paper.

The floor plan on the first and second floors of the brick portion of the building are reflected on both sides with one room wide and two rooms deep. There is a corner turned stairs in the rear room of each that is not the original. The fire places have been bricked in and the mantels removed.

There is an addition on both side units at the rear. In 73 Nineteenth Street, it is one room deep and used as a kitchen, while in 75 Nineteenth Street it is two rooms deep. There is a small wood addition that matches on the second floor and contains a small bedroom and bath.

The floors are hardwood on the first floor which were a later addition. They are soft pine wood on the second. The stairs are not the original and were probably added in the 1940s. There is an open railing around the second floor to the stair well. The window and door casing is ribbed with corner blocks and some bull's eyes. The doors are not original and have five horizontal panels.

History: Probably built in the 1870s. The architect and builder are unknown.

The Fulton Area of Wheeling was first platted in 1838 and was separated from Wheeling Creek and downtown Wheeling by a steep hillside called "Wheeling Hill." This area contains many units of workers' housing probably due to the industries that developed along Wheeling Creek and the flat floodplain on the East Side of Wheeling Hill. Some of these industries included the Shenk, Weimers and Zoeklers Meat Packing, the Wheeling stockyards and the Blaw Knox foundry.

In the immediate area of the 73-75 Nineteenth Street property there were several additional industries. On the southwest corner of Nineteenth and Jacob Street, across the street from this property, is a brick building which was initially a zinc factory in the 1870s and was later owned by Hazel-Atlas Glass to produce metal lids. At it's peak, this

industry alone employed over 5,000 persons. This building is now part of Penn Wheeling Closure and was recently nominated to the National Register. Further down Nineteenth Street is a brick building which once housed Sterling Products, a pharmaceutical company which at one time manufactured Bayer Aspirin. This building was also recently nominated to the National Register. In the vicinity was also located, at one time or another, Reymann Brewing Company, Central Glass and a steel plant across Wheeling Creek. The close proximity of all of these major Wheeling industries lends credence to the supposition that the residential structure at 73-75 Nineteenth Street was built as workers' housing.

According to the Ohio County deeds, the original owners of this property (comprised of two residential dwelling units) were John and Mary Clator. Subsequent to their ownership, each dwelling unit was sold individually to new owners. In 1878, Susan Haslan purchased #73 and was the sole owner until 1906 when George J. Rogers acquired it. Within less than one month's time, the property was sold again to Robert T. Hewitt et al. In 1952, Louis J. and Elizabeth M. Reinacher acquired #73 and retained it until 1967 when Walter E. and Virginia C. Schlosser bought it. In 1985, the residential dwelling unit at #73 Nineteenth Street was acquired by its present owner, the Penn Wheeling Closure Corporation.

As original owners of #75 Nineteenth Street, John and Mary Claton sold the property to Edward Flaherty and his wife (name not recorded) in 1880. In 1894, Peter F. and Mary J. Farrell purchased the property and retained ownership until 1921 when it was transferred to John J. Farrell. In 1948, Helen C. Farrell acquired the residential unit at #75 Nineteenth Street and is listed as the current owner.

Sources: Ohio County Deed Books, Wheeling, West Virginia
Sanborne Map, c. 1952
Site visit in July 1992

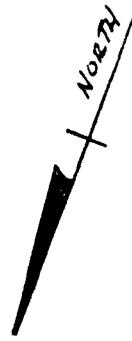
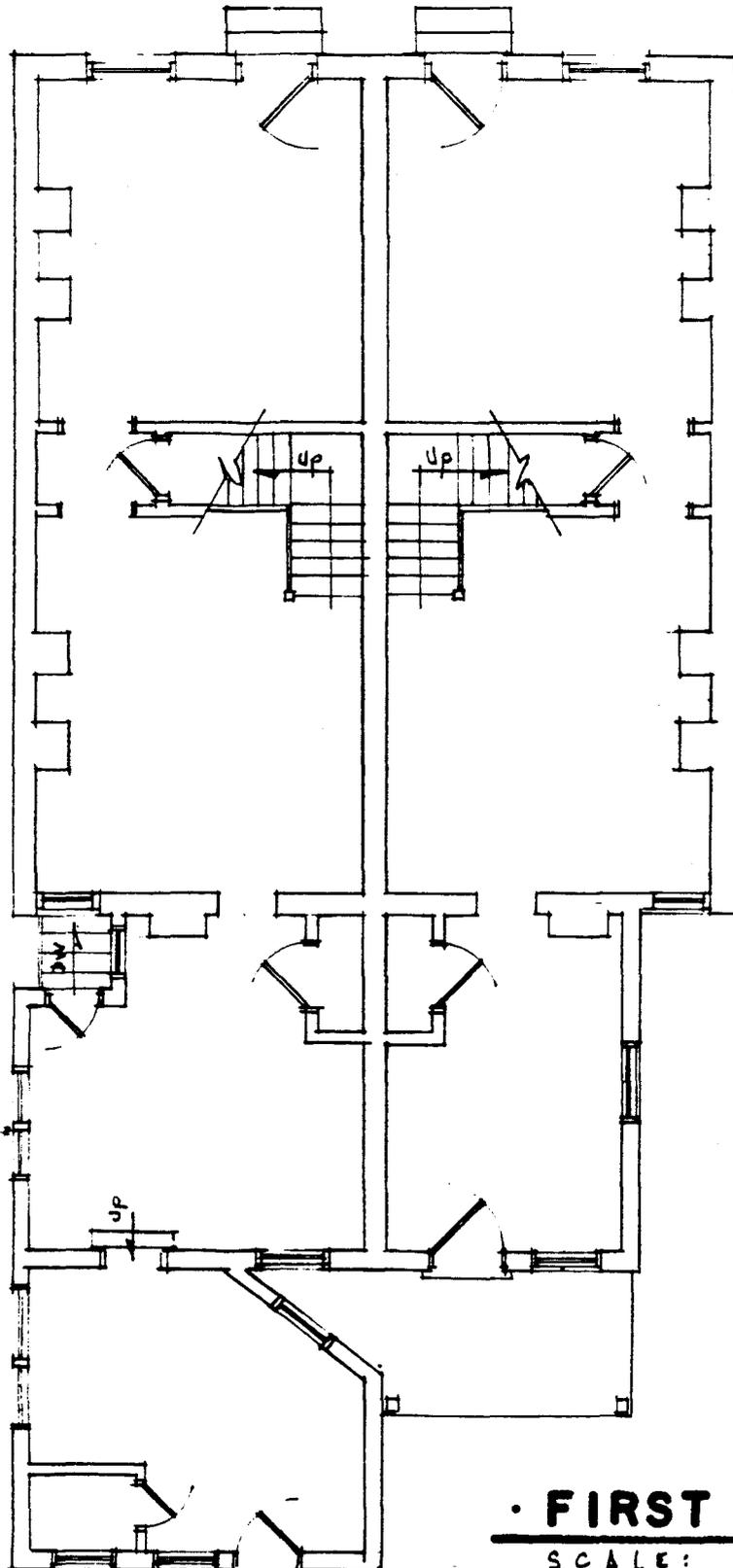
Katherine M. Jourdan, Director
Northern Regional Office
WV State Historic Preservation Office
August, 1992

Historians: Walter J. Haglund, AIA
Registered Architect
August, 1992
Mullin and Lonergan Associates, Inc.

Marjorie Williams
Planner
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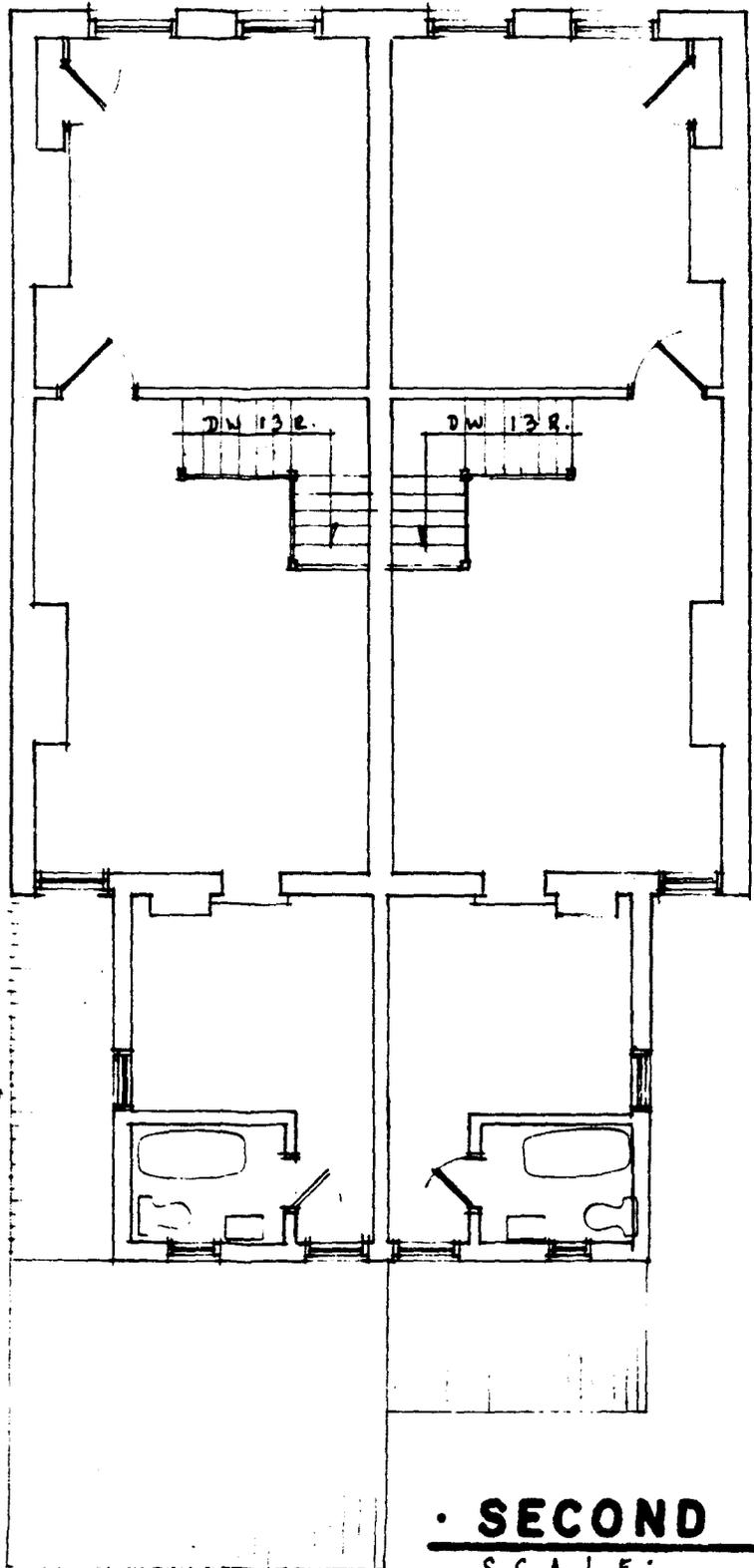


• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •

SCALE:

$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

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• SECOND FLOOR PLAN •
SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$