

WILKES COLLEGE

(Buildings)

Wilkes College received its charter on June 26, 1947, and in naming the college, the officials and trustees have honored JOHN WILKES, English patriot and defender of American freedom.

JOHN WILKES was responsible for the establishment of three of the fundamental rights that belong to Americans today; freedom from arbitrary arrest; freedom of the press; and the right of electors to choose their representatives without dictation from any authority.

(3/20/59)

PICKERING HALL.....

181 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Former property of the late Dr. S. P. Mengel. Pickering Hall was purchased by the college in 1949 and renovated into classrooms and offices.
This building was named after the famous soldier, Timothy Pickering, who was an early supporter of the Revolutionary movement in Massachusetts. He led a contingent from Massachusetts to join Washington's Army in the winter campaign of 1776-77 in New York and New Jersey.
He was Adjutant General of the U.S. Army and later, Quarter Master General. His Letters constituted an invaluable Commentary on the course of the Revolution.

Pickering Hall is presently being used by the Commerce and Finance department at Wilkes.

GIES HALL.....

191-195 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Members of the Board of Trustees gave the former Stoddart Home to Wilkes College in 1945.
The Board of Trustees approved the naming of this building -- "Gies Hall" -- in memory of the late Professor Paul Gies, who for more than a decade served as a director of the music department at Wilkes. Head of the music department at this time was Donald Cobleigh, who previously served as director of the famed Dartmouth Gies Club.

Today Gies Hall is used mainly as a Conservatory for Music ... in addition to providing classrooms for other fields of study.

GYMNASIUM

274 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The new \$250,000 physical education plant on S. Franklin St., was completed in September of 1950. The building has been considered as one of the most modern in the state.
More than 125 lbs. of steel was used in the construction.
The Gym is 100 by 200 feet and has a playing floor of 98 by 144 feet, large enough for three basketball courts.
The seating capacity is flexible, accommodating from 1200 to 220 persons.
Large shower and dressing rooms are located on both the first and second floors (rear). In the front are offices and a conference room.
A kitchen has been installed to provide facilities for food preparation for the many special dinners sponsored each year by civic organizations of Wyoming Valley.

GORE HALL

275 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Wilkes purchased the late Stella Wadham's home in September 1956 and renamed the building Gore Hall after Obidiah Gore Jr., who was born at Norwich, Conn., in April, 1744. He migrated to Wyoming Valley between 1760 and 1770.
At the time of the invasion of the British Tories and Indians, Obidiah was with the continental Army as First Lieutenant and participated in the leading campaigns of war, including the Sullivan Expedition of 1779 against the Iroquois Indians.
After the war of Independence, Obidiah moved to Queen Ester's Flats, present town of Athens, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Today Gore Hall is used as a men's dormitory.

HOLLENBACK HALL

192 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
This home was bequeathed to Wilkes College by Miss Anna Hollenback in 1953. A friend of Wilkes College from its founding, Miss Hollenback also contributed scholarship funds to the college.
Hollenback Hall is presently used as a Guidance and Placement Center by Wilkes.
During 1953-1954, the building was also used as a Branch Office of the Veterans Administrative Guidance Program.
Hollenback Hall also houses offices of many faculty members.

CAFETERIA.....

The Coach House of the Fred Morgan Kirby property was the cafeteria at Wilkes. In the fall of 1955, a 40 by 42 ft. addition was made to the cafeteria, to accommodate from 500 to 550 students.
The extension, constructed of brick and steel, is two stories high, and parallels the walk from the cafeteria entrance to the Kirby Hall library. Large picture windows beautify the exterior and furnish the interior with ample light.
Huge round cherry tables and Federal chairs enable eight students to dine together at one table. Knotty pine paneling and colorful modernistic wall paper complete the attractive picture.
The first floor has additional dining area and also a reception lounge and large rest rooms.
The bottom level of the original cafeteria is used by the dormitory students and the remaining three segments are used by the day students.

LIBRARY.....

202 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
In 1941, Wilkes College received as a gift the former residence of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Morgan Kirby from Allan Kirby.
The building was named the Kirby Home for Education and has been used as the college library. Up to 1947, only 2 rooms occupied the library; the remainder was used for classrooms and lounges.
The three floor structure has 18 large rooms and 3 smaller rooms. Between 4 to 7 thousand books are housed in the library in addition to over 400 periodicals.
The staff includes 4 full-time members and 18 student part-time workers.

CHASE HALL

184 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Chase Hall, home of the late Fred M. Chase, was presented to Wilkes in 1937 by Rear Admiral Harold R. Stark as a memorial to Mr. Chase and his wife, who was Admiral Stark's sister.
The building was the first to be donated to the college, and at that time Wilkes was known as Bucknell Junior College, being affiliated with Bucknell University.
Mr. Chase built this three story building about 1917. He was then president and general manager of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. At the time of his death, 1921, he was Vice-President of Coxe Brothers & Co; Vice-President and general manager of Wyoming Valley Water Supply Co; and a director of Miners National Bank.
Chase Hall was first used as an administration building, and in addition it housed the cafeteria, the language department, and provided space for recreation centers.
Today, Chase Hall houses the offices of the President, the Deans and all administrative offices.

- CHASE THEATER..... Rear 184 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Acquired by Wilkes in 1937 along with Chase Hall.
Formerly a garage, the building has been converted into a little theater for the college Thespians.
Numerous one-act plays are presented in Chase Theater by the Cue 'n' Curtain Drama Group of Wilkes.
- WARNER HALL 170 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The former home of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. McLaughlin Jr., was acquired by the college in 1955.
The new building was named the Daniel Roberts Warner Hall and is presently used as a Boys' Dormitory.
The three story building provides ten bedrooms and three baths.
- ASHLEY HALL..... 164 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
This building was received by Wilkes College from the heirs of the Ashley estate, Mrs. Marion A. Ahlborn, Dr. Henry A. Carr, and Mrs. Roccena Wolfe. (1946)
For a time, Ashley Hall was used as a guidance center. Today it is used as a Boys' Dormitory.
- BUTLER HALL..... 158 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
This building was given to Wilkes College in 1946 by members of the Board of Trustees.
It was named for the American officer, Zebulon Butler, colonel commanding the patriots slain at the Wyoming Massacre. Today Butler Hall is used as a Boys' Dormitory.
- BARRE HALL..... 154 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
This building was donated to Wilkes College in 1945 by members of the Board of Trustees.
It was named after Isaac Barre, noted Englishman friendly to the colonies whose name is linked with John Wilkes' in the naming of the city of Wilkes-Barre.
Barre Hall was first used for classrooms and faculty offices. Today it is used as a Boys' Dormitory.
- STARK HALL Center of campus between West South and West Northampton Streets, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The new science building of Wilkes College — Stark Hall — was completed and dedicated in 1957. This building adjoins the former Lecture Hall.
The building was named after Admiral Harold R. Stark, former local resident, now retired, in recognition of his extensive generosity and service to the college.
The cost of the building (\$1,050,000) was financed principally through anonymous contributions. The building was erected to provide facilities for laboratories, classrooms, and research for the departments of physics, chemistry and biology.

PRESIDENT'S HOME..... 146 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The president's residence was given by a friend of the College.

CONYNGHAM HALL..... 120 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The Conyngham property was given as a gift to the college on August 19, 1937, by Mrs. Bertha Robinson Conyngham, widow of the late John N. Conyngham.
Conyngham Hall was the second building given to Wilkes, when the college was still affiliated with Bucknell University. The Conyngham residence was built by Mr. Charles Parrish, noted coal-mining figure of Wyoming Valley. Formerly used for Chemistry and Engineering, Conyngham Hall is now used by several departments -- mainly Commerce and Finance and the evening school division.

The two-story garage behind the main building provides additional classroom facilities.

WEISS HALL..... 98 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The Dobson Building was donated to Wilkes College by Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Weiss in 1957.
The building was named Weiss Hall and is presently used as a Girls' Dormitory.
Mr. Weiss is founder of the Triangle Shoe Company and a trustee at Wilkes College.

CATLIN HALL..... 92 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The Reynolds Home was purchased by the college in 1957 and renamed Catlin Hall after George Catlin, one of our great native painters, who devoted himself to the Indian cause. He was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1796.
Catlin Hall is considered to be one of the oldest buildings in this area. It dates back to the early 1840's.

Catlin Hall is presently being used as a Girls' Dormitory.

STERLING HALL..... 72 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Wilkes acquired this building through a bequest of Colonel Walter C. Sterling in 1949.
The building was made into a Girls' Dormitory.
The lacy ironwork on the exterior of the building, is typical of that found in New Orleans.

McCLINTOCK HALL..... 44 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
The McClintock residence was donated to Wilkes College in 1951, by Attorney Gilbert S. McClintock, chairman of the Board of Trustees.
The building was erected around 1841.

Today, McClintock Hall is used as a Girls' Dormitory.

GLEN ALDEN PROPERTY

...Isaac Chapman Hall.....34 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
...Charles Parrish Hall...16 South River St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Wm
Wilkes College acquired the Glen Alden Property on May 6, 1958 through generous contributions including gifts from the Albert A. List Foundation, Inc., and RKO Theatres Foundation. The property includes the 5-story building at 16 South River St., the adjoining President's home at 34 South River St., and a large parking lot behind both buildings. The Glen Alden Building was formerly the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company Offices. The building was erected on the former site of the old Wyoming Valley Hotel. The Glen Alden Building will be renamed Charles Parrish Hall after a noted leader in the development of hard coal. The President's home will be renamed Isaac Chapman Hall.

Future plans call for Chapman Hall to be used as a Girls' Dormitory, and tentative plans for Parrish Hall may include the college finance offices, a snack bar, the bookstore, the Polish Room, and classrooms -- perhaps the Commerce and Finance Department.

W
Weckesser Hall.....78 West Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Duguebanne
This property was given to Wilkes College in 1938 by Mr. & Mrs. F. J. Weckesser.

OT
The building was first used as a "Collegium Musicum;" which was the first of its kind in this section of the state. The late Professor Paul Gies, director of music, had on display his collection of old instruments. A Library of Recordings was also available for use in various courses. This building was used for a time, as the residence of the college president and his wife -- Dr. & Mrs. Eugene S. Farley.

Today, Weckesser Hall is used as a Girls' Dormitory.

STURDEVANT HALL.....129 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

OT
This building was purchased by the college in the summer of 1952 from the heirs of Miss Jessie Thomas Sturdevant.

It is estimated that the building was erected during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

Reverend John Dorrance, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, purchased the building in 1841 and during this period, the building occupied the edifice now the Osterhout Library.

Sturdevant Hall presently houses the Education Department.

HARDING HALL

111 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The Board of Trustees purchased the Harding residence in 1954.

Funds for the furnishings of the building were provided by Attorney Gilbert S. McClintock, chairman of the Board, and Marian Martin Winsor, granddaughter of Judge Harding. Judge Harding built this home over 179 years ago; and today, the Harding Home is regarded as a landmark of Wyoming Valley. Harding Hall was first used as a snack bar for students and faculty.

Today the building houses the college bookstore and a students' lounge.

ART BUILDING

159 South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Wilkes College purchased the Contessa Elena De Sylva residence in 1956.

The first floor is devoted to the Art Department.

The second floor houses the offices of faculty members, and the third floor is devoted to the staffs of both the college newspaper The Beacon and the college yearbook The Amnicola.

(Old Harding)
Hall

11. Baltimore Company (1840's)

34 South River Street

✓ McClintock Hall (1840)

44 South River Street

McClintock Lg. gif
" sm. gif

Constructed by attorney Andrew McClintock in Greek Revival style, McClintock Hall has borne witness to both phases of River Street's existence. In 1863, McClintock, made wealthy by the growth of the mining industry, engaged New York architects Calvert Vaux and F. C. Withers to remodel his house. The spare structure was soon transformed into the first High Victorian Gothic house in Wilkes-Barre, boasting a polychromed brick arcade which made the house as fashionable as any of its neighbors. Next door, McClintock's small Italianate law office, now The Baltimore Company, is a quaint survivor from Wilkes-Barre's

days

as a sleepy county seat.

✓ 12. Sterling Hall (1860)

72 South River Street

This cubical Tuscan villa was constructed for banker Walter Sterling, probably by Philadelphia architect Samuel Sloan. The elaborate cast-iron ornament was

made

possible by the mass production of the Industrial Revolution; forged in an anthracite-fueled foundry, it is an excellent example of the way in which Wilkes-Barre's coal was helping to transform America.

13. Rifkin Hall (1873)

80-84 South River Street

A High Victorian Gothic mansion designed by architect Bruce Price for the

Murray

Reynolds family. Price married into a prominent local family, and his

commissions

comprised a veritable "who's who" of Wilkes-Barre society. He would eventually leave Wilkes-Barre for New York City, becoming one of the most prominent turn-of-the-century architects in America. This was once also the home of

Colonel

Robert B. Ricketts, a Battle of Gettysburg hero, lumber baron, and early conservationist, who donated Rickett's Glen State Park to the people of Pennsylvania.

✓ 14. Catlin Hall (1843)

92 South River Street

Weiss Hall (1850)

98 South River Street

Along with McClintock Hall, the next two buildings help to illustrate the continuing desirability of River Street as an elite address, even as styles and generations changed. Weiss Hall was once almost identical to its Greek Revival neighbor. In 1886, however, new owner E. L. Brown had it remodeled by

architect

Albert Kipp into a turreted, richly textured Queen Anne showpiece. The transformation led to new commissions for Kipp throughout the neighborhood,

including the rowhouses on the other side of Northampton Street.

✓ 15. Chase Hall (1918)

184 South River Street

Kirby Hall (1872)

202 South River Street

Bedford Hall (1876)

96 West South Street

At the intersection of South River and West South Streets sit three more great legacies of Wilkes-Barre's anthracite elite. The Tudor Revival mass of Chase Hall, built for the president of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, sits next to architect F.C. Withers' Kirby Hall, a High Victorian Gothic house built for a local industrialist; in 1905, it became the residence of Fred M. Kirby, dime store magnate and philanthropist on a grand scale. Across the street, the spindly

towers

of Bedford Hall reach for the sky. Bruce Price's finest essay in the High Victorian Gothic was constructed for attorney and industrialist George Bedford.

✓ 17. Max Roth Center (1895)

215 South Franklin Street

Originally a dentist's residence, this house was built to the designs of J. H. W. Hawkins. The structure is an intriguing mix of styles, showing the influence both

of

Boston architect H. H. Richardson in the rusticated walls and Syrian arches, and of Chicago architect Louis Sullivan in the intricate naturalistic ornament in the window frieze.

✓ 20. Weckesser Hall (1916)

170 South Franklin Street

A massive mansion designed in the French Chateausque style by New York society architect Charles H. P. Gilbert for Frederick J. Weckesser, an executive of the F. W. Woolworth Company. Now this grand home is a part of the Wilkes University campus, and serves as meeting rooms and offices for the President

and

other university administrators.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SOME OF THE WILKES COLLEGE DORMITORIES

CATLIN HALL

The house was built by Elisha Reynolds in 1843, as you can see by the date on top of the rain leader, with the Reynolds "R" under it. He built with care and thought, for stability and beauty. The bricks, brought from Philadelphia by the Canal, were carefully selected for their color, a purplish tint, so that in 1906 when Col. Reynolds made some additions, it was necessary to color the bricks that were used that they should blend with the old ones. The front door is the original and also the silver door knob now in use. The Reynolds Home was purchased by the college in 1957 and renamed Catlin Hall after the noted and highly controversial painter of his time, George Catlin. In 1959 Life magazine published a series of color plate articles which included a double page spread of Catlin's paintings. Catlin Hall is considered to be one of the oldest buildings in this area.

HOLLENBACK HALL

This home was bequeathed to Wilkes College by Miss Anna Hollenback in 1953. A friend of Wilkes College from its founding, Miss Hollenback also contributed scholarship funds to the college. Hollenback Hall was at one time the Guidance and Placement Center. During 1953-54, the building was also used as a branch office of the Veterans Administrative Guidance Program.

McCLINTOCK HALL

The building was erected around 1841 and donated to Wilkes College in 1951 by Attorney Gilbert McClintock. Attorney McClintock was a staunch friend and advisor of the college. During the later years of his life, he was known as "Mr. Wilkes-Barre" and his intimate friends respected him as such. The bulk of this estate was bequeathed to Wilkes College and he also left all prints, books, paintings, and manuscripts to the college.

STERLING HALL

Wilkes acquired this building through a bequest of Col. Walter C. Sterling in 1949. The building is said to have been constructed earlier than 1896. This building, with its lacy ironwork reminiscent of the New Orleans Latin Quarter, extended the campus into the first block of South River Street.

STURDEVANT HALL *W*

This building was purchased by the college in the summer of 1952 from the heirs of Miss Jessie Thomas Sturdevant. It is estimated that the building was erected during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

WECKESSER HALL *W*

This building stands as a monument to the industrial and mercantile strength of Wyoming Valley and to the man who built it and bequeathed it to Wilkes College--Frederick J. Weckesser. Until the day of his death, he was closely associated with the founding and progress of the great F. W. Woolworth empire. Today, Weckesser Hall embraces the office of the President of the College and other administrative offices. Mr. Weckesser was born in Clayton, New York, of German parentage. In 1899, he came to Wilkes-Barre to become general manager and buyer of the Kirby store, the only store in the entire Woolworth chain still to retain the Kirby name.

WEISS HALL *W*

This building once belonged to W. F. Dobson, but was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Weiss and given as a gift to the school. It is now understood that the building will bear the Weiss family name. Mr. Weiss, founder of the Triangle Shoe Company in this city, is a trustee of Wilkes College. Weiss Hall was built in the early 1900's.

ESTIMATE OF DAMAGE
TO WILKES COLLEGE PROPERTIES

<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Property</u>
	113 West River Street
	117 West River Street
40,000	(2) { Barber Shop
	{ Museum House
50,000	262 South River Street
50,000	252 South River Street
50,000	248 South River Street
	{ 250 South River Street
50,000	Ross Hall
75,000	Sullivan Hall
50,000	76 West South Street
75,000	(2) Ross Street Dorms
30,000	(2) Wright Street Homes
50,000	280 South Franklin Street
125,000	Gymnasium
50,000	Miner Hall
50,000	Gore Hall
500,000	Book Store
1,000,000	New Men's Dormitory - Dining Hall
50,000	Dana

<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Property</u>
50,000	Doane
1,250,000	Eugene S. Farley Library
50,000	Pickering
50,000	Hollenback
100,000	Franklin
50,000	Kocyan
300,000	Weckesser
50,000	Narding
100,000	Sturdevant
50,000	Stocum
150,000	Athletic Facilities - Kingston
400,000	Parrish Hall
	Parrish Annex

Dormitories - \$800/room \$25,000 to \$50,000 dorm/building

	Chapman
25,000	McClintock Annex Snack Bar
50,000	Guidance and Placement
50,000	McClintock
50,000	Sterling
50,000	Catlin
50,000	Weiss
100,000	Weiss Annex - Catlin Annex
50,000	Susquehannock

<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Property</u>
30,000	Shawnee
50,000	Delaware
50,000	Chesapeake
60,000	Conyngham Annex
50,000	Chancellor's Residence
	New Construction Area
50,000	50 South River Honor Dorm
1,500,000	Stark Hall of Science
200,000	Chase Hall
20,000	Chase Annex
40,000	Church Hall
200,000	Kirby Hall
150,000	Commons
150,000	Bedford Hall
1,750,000	Dorothy Dickson Darte Music Hall - CPA
50,000	50 West River Street
50,000	50 West River Street
\$9,720,000	

Fire damages Wilkes dorm

A Wilkes College dormitory in Wilkes-Barre was heavily damaged by fire early Monday morning. The building was vacant since the 34 students who normally reside there are on spring break.

Fire Chief Leo Ryan said the first alarm was turned in at 7:35, but noted the fire may have been smoldering for at least three hours before it was noticed.

Chief Ryan said the fire started in the basement of Barre Hall at West River and West Ross streets, a 3½-story, brick building. Flames heavily damaged the first floor and ate their way through partitions to the attic.

In addition to the damage on the first level, the remainder of the structure sustained heavy smoke and water damage.

Chief Ryan described the fire as "stubborn" in nature due to the fact the structure is brick and firefighters had to use axes and other devices to get at the flames.

A second alarm was turned in at 7:54, followed by a third alarm at 8:09, mainly for manpower. Fifteen off-duty firemen were summoned to the scene.

The fire chief also noted that some stained-glass windows had to be broken to gain access to the flames.

Chief Ryan noted that although the exact cause of the fire was not immediately determined, it is believed it was electrical or overheated piping.

Jane Lampe-Groh, dean of student affairs at Wilkes, said that 34 students who normally reside in Barre Hall left on Friday for the spring break. The building had been secured on Saturday at noon, she noted.

No injuries were incurred by firefighters battling the stubborn blaze, which was tapped out later in the morning.



Smoke fills morning air

Citizens' Voice/Jack Kelley



TIMES LEADER PHOTOS/RICHARD SABATURA

BATTLING THE BLAZE — Wilkes-Barre firefighters battle a fire at Barre Hall on the corner of West River and Ross streets in Wilkes-Barre Monday morning. Thirty-four Wilkes students who are housed in the dorm were not there because of spring break.

Students housed in dorm are on spring break

Fire damages Wilkes' Barre Hall

By TRACY JORDAN
and JERRY LYNOTT

Times Leader Staff Writers

WILKES-BARRE — When 34 Wilkes College students return from their spring break vacation next week, they will have to get used to new quarters after a fire damaged Barre Hall early Monday.

"We plan to house them in existing space on campus or at the Sheraton (Crossgates Hotel)," said Dean of Student Affairs Jane Lampe-Groh after spending most of the day searching for alternate accommodations.

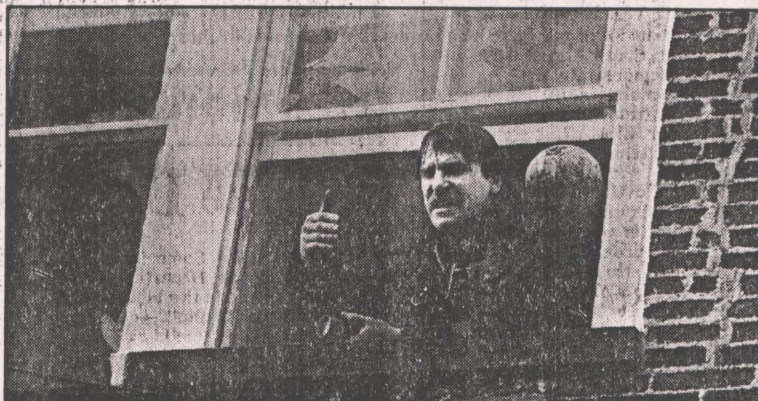
College officials manned the phones Monday notifying students of the accident and housing changes.

Students left over the weekend for spring break and are to return on March 28 when classes resume.

Monday morning, the empty dormitory at the intersection of West River and Ross streets spewed a billow of smoke as fire spread through the joists of the three-story brick building, damaging much of the first floor and basement.

Wilkes-Barre's fire inspector, Donald Wittkopp, said the fire started between the first floor and ceiling joists in the basement. He said it was either caused by a malfunction in the furnace which caused it to overheat or by faulty electrical wiring.

"The fire was definitely not suspi-



ABOVE IT ALL — A Wilkes-Barre firefighter talks to others on the ground from a third floor window.

cious," he stressed.

Most of the flames were contained to the first floor but some did extend to the third floor and firefighters had to chop down walls to get at them, Wittkopp said.

"There's a lot of work and repair to be done," he said.

Smoke damaged much of the building and the basement and first floor sustained lots of water and fire damage.

Wittkopp said.

The college's assistant director of public relations, Ken Swisher, said it would be several days before school officials could estimate the fire loss.

Five engines and two trucks responded to the blaze which broke out at 7:35 a.m.

The fire was tapped out at 11:13 a.m. and within an hour the 25 firefighters had left the scene, Wittkopp said.

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Citizens' Voice/Jack Kelley

Flames damage Wilkes dormitory

A Wilkes-Barre firefighter breaks the window in a Wilkes College dormitory Monday morning which was the scene of a fire.

The dorm, empty at the time, since students are on Easter break, was heavily damaged. Fire details on page 5.

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When Horses Were Housed

BUILDINGS & PROPERTY

CARRIAGE HOUSES

Independent, August 31, 1964



The recent see-saw battle in City Hall over a man stabling a horse and two ponies at the rear of his Park Ave. residence brought a flood of reminders from many readers that "not too many years ago" there were upwards of 50 horses stabled at the rear of the city's finest residences in just the first several blocks of South Franklin and South River Sts.

Many of the coach houses remembered by readers still stand—and most have been put to good use. These coach houses were built to conform with the elegance of the main house and were finished in just as good taste. In addition to

stable facilities and parking area for carriages and coaches, these coach houses also included comfortable quarters for coachmen and other domestic help.

The recent Park Ave. controversy brought charges of horses being detrimental to the public health and safety and causing disease and insects to invade the neighborhood. No such charges are on record in the files of the not too far off days when horsepower was just that.

Typical of the coach houses still standing on original sites in the finest residential sections of the city are those pictured.

in the Best Part of Town



At left is the coach house of the Weckesser residence, now Weckesser Hall of Wilkes College on South Franklin St., which is used as a faculty lounge and dormitory area.

Second from left is the coach house of the former F. M. Kirby residence, South River and West South Sts. The main house is now Kirby Hall of Wilkes College and the coach house has been utilized for The Commons, the college dining hall.

Third picture from left is the coach house of the Elisha Reynolds house on South River St. The main house is now

Catlin Hall of Wilkes College and the coach house is preserved by the college as a storage building.

Grandest coach house of all in the city history is pictured at far right. This was built before the turn of the century along with the present W. H. Conyngham town house at 130 South River St. This coach house now used as a garage, had facilities for a dozen fine horses, room for numerous types of coaches and other horse-drawn vehicles and had elaborate living quarters for members of the household staff.

—(Photos by Paul Bieley)

When Horses Were Housed

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—(Photos by Paul Bielej)

File

KIRBY HALL, the Wilkes College library, was presented to the College by Allan Kirby. The library houses over 50,000 volumes in addition to 500 periodicals.

W CHASE HALL, the administration building, was donated to the College by Admiral Harold R. Stark, U.S.N. as a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Chase.

W STARK HALL, named after Admiral Harold R. Stark, was presented to the College through the generous gifts of anonymous friends. Stark Hall houses the departments of Physics, Engineering, Biology and Chemistry.

W GYMNASIUM, the Wilkes gymnasium considered one of the most modern in the state, was completed in 1950. The gymnasium, 100 x 200 feet has a playing floor of 98 x 144 feet, large enough for three basketball courts, seating capacity flexible - accommodating from 1200 to 2200 persons.

W PARRISH HALL, the former Glen Alden Coal Company building, was acquired in May, 1958. This imposing five story building houses the Finance department, the departments of Political Science, Commerce and Finance, Business Administration and Psychology. Chapman Hall, the next building, is a woman's dormitory.

McCLINTOCK HALL, - formerly the residence of the late Attorney Gilbert S. McClintock, once Chairman of the Board of Trustees, is now a woman's dormitory. McClintock Hall was erected around 1841 and until 1951 was the permanent residence of the well-known McClintock family.

McClintock Hall - this is the interior of McClintock Hall, former residence of the late Gilbert S. McClintock once Chairman of the Board of Trustees. It is now a women's dormitory and is typical of the gracious home atmosphere of the dormitory life at Wilkes.

Buildings - Howarth Property - Bloomsburg Press June 15, 1961

Wilkes College Buys Another Home

The former residence of Dr. John Howarth, Wilkes-Barre, has been acquired through sale by Wilkes College, according to an announcement of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, college president. The building will be used as a men's dormitory. This property, as well as other properties acquired over the years, is in keeping with the policy of the college to expand with enrollment demands.

Buildings - Howard Property - Hazleton Standard Sentinel - June 14, 1961

Wilkes College Acquires Property

The former residence of Dr. John Horworth, 115 South Franklin street, Wilkes-Barre, has been acquired through sale to Wilkes College, according to Dr. Eugene S. Farley, president of the college. It will be used as a men's dormitory.

The Horworth property, as well as other properties acquired over the years and still more to be added in the years to come, is in keeping with the policy of the college to expand with enrollment demands.

John Whitby, Wilkes registrar, reports the 1961 fall enrollment will exceed that of previous years. The 1960-61 student population totaled 1,150.

The Horworth residence will accommodate 20 men students and will require very little renovation for this purpose. The former Z. Platt Bennett residence at 180 South River street, acquired by Wilkes College several years ago, heretofore used as an apartment for faculty members, will be utilized next year as a woman's dormitory. This, too, will accommodate 20.

Mr. Whitby reports out-of-state students will arrive in the fall from New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Pennsylvania cities. Foreign students now enrolled and expected to be enrolled list as their native countries Greece, Latin American countries, Korea, Nigeria; Kenya, South Africa, and Austria.

Buildings - Howorth Property - Times Leader - June 13, 1961

Wilkes Acquires Howorth Property

S. Franklin Street Home Will Be Used As Men's Dormitory

The former residence of Dr. John Howorth, 115 South Franklin street, city, has been acquired through sale to Wilkes College according to Dr. Eugene S. Farley, president of the college. It will be used as a men's dormitory.

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• 115 S. Franklin :

original Slocum Hall
1963-1964 & 1970-73

• 180 S. Franklin :

Bennet Hall 1961-62

Denison Hall 1962-66

UMW Sells District 1 Office Building To Wilkes

The international union of the United Mine Workers of America, through its president, W. A. Boyle, announced today that it has sold its District 1 Headquarters Building, 165 South Franklin street, to Wilkes College. The purchase price was not announced.

Under terms of the sale, the union will be allowed to use the first floor of the building until July 1, 1969. In the interim period, the union intends to arrange to lease other premises.

Since establishment of a provisional status in District 1 on August 2, 1968, there has been a consolidation of offices and a reduction in personnel to provide for economy in the management of its business administration. District 1 headquarters have been owned by the international union since July, 1959.

Dr. Eugene S. Farley and Atty. Joseph J. Savitz, represented the purchaser, Wilkes College. The sale for the unit was handled through Edward J. McGuire, realtor of the Edward J. McGuire Company, 118 North Franklin street, Wilkes-Barre.

The building purchased by Wilkes College from the UMWA is a three-story brick structure.



TLEN 1-31-69

Wilkes Acquires Dr. Miner Home

Wilkes College has acquired the old Miner home at 264 South Franklin Street.

The college, however, obtained only 90 feet of the 160 feet frontage of the property since the family is building a home on the adjacent plot.

The home was occupied by the late Dr. Charles H. Miner and was built by his father, Charles A. Miner, some 91 years ago.

Dr. Miner was recognized as a distinguished physician and served as State Secretary of Health during the administration of Governor Pinchot. He served also as Luzerne County Director of Health.

Since the death of Dr. Miner the home was occupied by the former Grace Lea Showmaker.

Miner Hall
1962-68

WILKES COLLEGE P.R.O.

WILKES-BARRE, PA., Jan. () - - Wilkes College, here, recently added two new buildings to its fast-growing campus with a gift and a purchase.

The gift came from Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Weiss, who bought the former W. F. Dobson home in Wilkes-Barre and donated it to Wilkes. The purchase was made by the college itself, which bought the adjoining Dorrance Reynolds property.

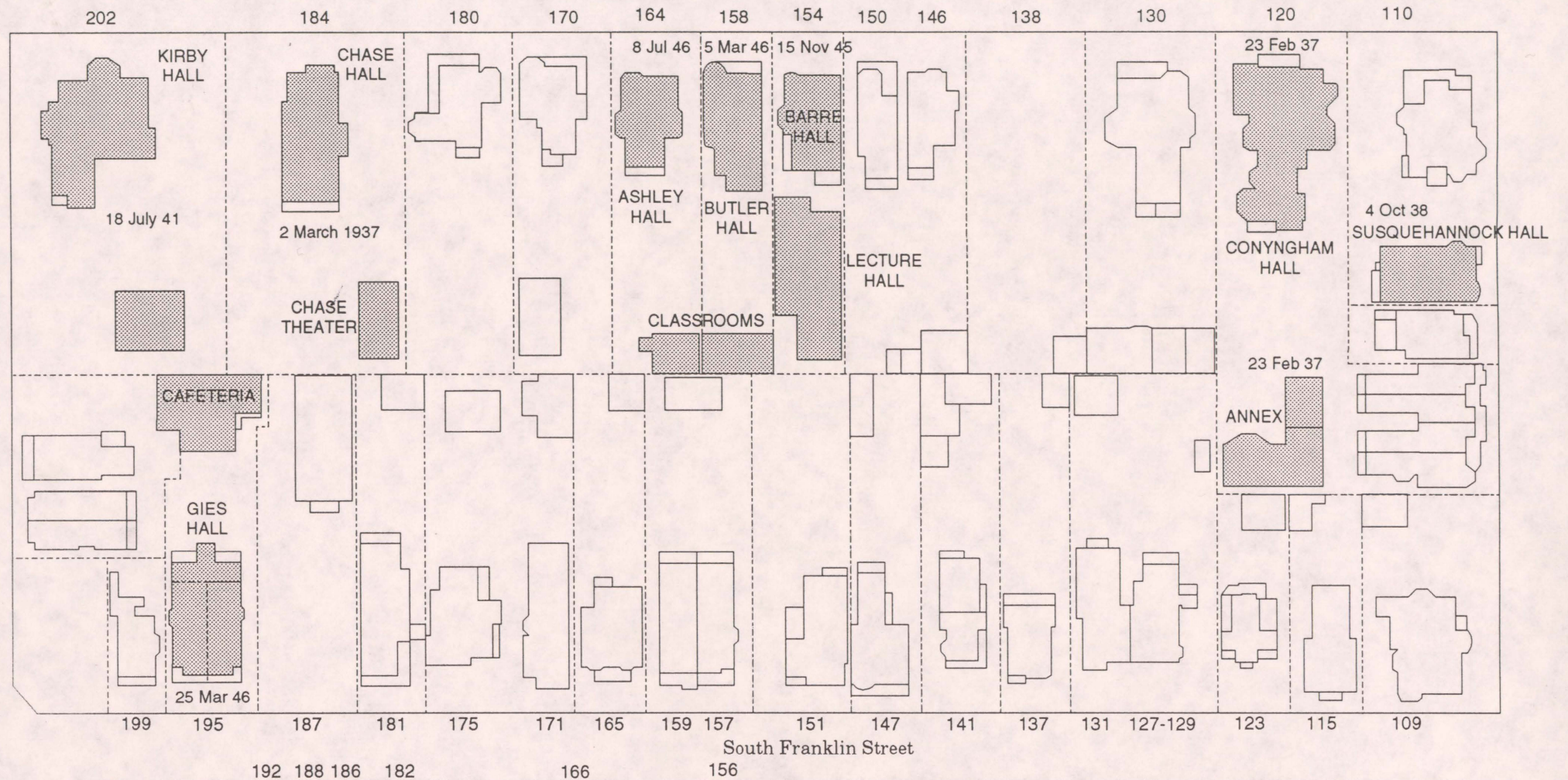
The buildings stand side by side on the college's South River Street campus, which faces the Susquehanna, with the building donated by the Weiss' expected to bear their name. Mr. Weiss is a member of the Wilkes Board of Trustees and founded the Triangle Shoe Company in Wilkes-Barre.

Present plans call for the Weiss building to be used as a women's dormitory, while the college will not take over the Reynolds building, which it purchased, for at least a year.

Acquisition of the Weiss building will bring to three the number of women's dormitories on the South River Street campus. The college also plans to convert another campus building into a men's dormitory by next fall.

Purchases and gifts such as the two newest buildings fall into the college's current 25th Anniversary Development Program, presently highlighted by construction of a near-million-dollar science building in honor of former Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Harold R. Stark.

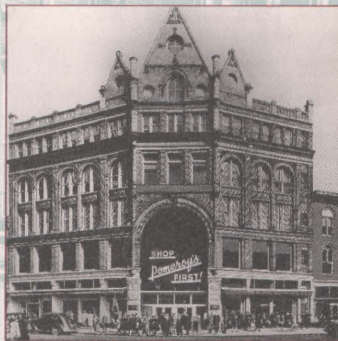
South River Street



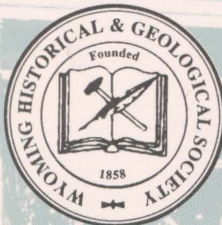
WILKES COLLEGE
1948

Walk Wilkes-Barre

*a self-guided
tour of the
historic center
of Wilkes-Barre,
Pennsylvania*



SHOP
Pomeroy's
FIRST!



*There are cityscapes
that seem some to
mourn and some to
sing. This was one that
sang Low hanging
clouds, yellowish or
black, or silvery like a
fish, mingled with a
splendid filigree of
smoke and chimneys
and odd sky lines
Wilkes-Barre gave evi-
dences of a real charm."*

-Theodore Dreiser

Hoosier Holiday

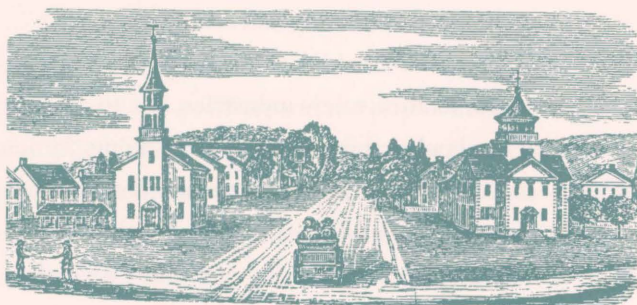
(1916)

WELCOME to downtown Wilkes-Barre!

Wilkes-Barre was laid out in 1770 by settlers newly arrived from Connecticut. Following New England custom, the new town was planned around a square – the community's civic center. The boundaries of the original town were the present-day North and South Streets, Pennsylvania Avenue, and the Susquehanna River, the approximate area covered in this walking tour.

The northern terminus of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Wilkes-Barre was the center of the Wyoming coal field, and the ultimate goal of the Corridor's canals and railroads. This brochure offers you only a sample of the city's rich architectural heritage. For more information, you may consult the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society and its publications, which include *Wilkes-Barre Architecture: 1860-1960* and *The Luzerne County Courthouse*.

In the eighteenth century, Connecticut claimed all of what is now Pennsylvania's northern tier. The "deep, strong, black" soil of the Susquehanna River plains attracted Yankee farmers to this valley, called Wyoming – a Native American name for "Large Plains." Pennsylvania also had claims to this region, and, in addition to Revolutionary War conflict, the Wyoming Valley was the scene of bitter turf wars between the two colonies in 1771 and 1784, even though the Decree of Trenton in 1782 awarded the territory to Pennsylvania.

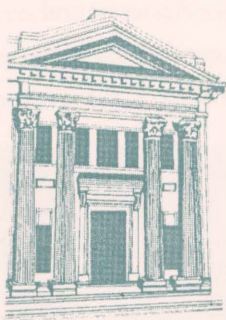


1. Public Square

Our tour begins here, at the historic centerpiece of Wilkes-Barre's downtown. At various times in its history, Public Square held a fort, a church, a school, and the Luzerne County courthouse and jail. As Wilkes-Barre grew, the area around the Square buzzed with commercial activity. In 1909, the old courthouse was demolished and the Square became a park. Today, Public Square has fountains, sculptures, an amphitheater, and a monument to the two British Members of Parliament who championed the American Colonies' desire for independence: John Wilkes and Colonel Isaac Barre, the city's namesakes.

The Square continues to be the scene of ceremonies and celebrations throughout the year. In May you'll find the Fine Arts Fiesta (Pennsylvania's oldest arts fair) here, and summer and autumn Thursdays bring the Farmers Market, a beloved Wilkes-Barre tradition, to this wonderful space in the heart of our city.

On the south side of Public Square is a trio of highly individual buildings:



2. First National Bank (1906)

59-63 Public Square

At the turn of the century, many financial institutions built new buildings which looked like Roman temples, leading the great modern architect Louis Sullivan to suggest angrily "that the banker wear a toga, sandals, and conduct his business in the venerated Latin tongue." The

banks, however, admired the look of tradition and security provided by these structures, designed in the *Neoclassical*

Revival style. This banking temple, designed by Wilkes-Barre architect Albert H. Kipp, is a wonderful example.

3. PNC Bank Building (1928)

69 Public Square

Can you find the coal miners among the enormous sculpted figures, called telamons, which appear to support the ceiling of this building's banking hall? They are a stark reminder of the economy that produced this soaring skyscraper. New York architect Bertram Cunynham designed this fourteen-story building, rising from a fortresslike *Romanesque* base to an airy penthouse reminiscent of an Italian villa. The foyer ceiling has fine decorative reliefs in the *Art Deco* style of the later 1920's.

4. F. M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts (1937)

71 Public Square

This Depression-era movie palace, clad in brightly-colored *terra cotta*, is lavishly decorated in *Art Deco* style.

When it opened as the Comerford Movie Theatre, patrons could see movies such as "Alexander's Ragtime Band" for fifty cents. The inclusion of the theatre on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981 inspired a group of private benefactors to restore and reopen it as a civic center. Check out the Kirby's varied performance schedule; there's something for all tastes, and the atmosphere can't be beat!



5. Chamber Building (1895)

2 Public Square

Public Square was set diagonally into the city grid, and the prominent lots that resulted at the intersections have challenged the creativity of generations of architects. New York architect P. J. Lauritzen, designed this five-story dowager for the Jonas Long's Sons Department Store. He dealt with the oddly shaped site by creating a dramatic three-story entrance arch to mark the corner and draw in shoppers. The store later became Pomeroy's – the name by which it was known by twentieth-century consumers. In 1994, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber renovated the building for office and retail use.

SOUTH TOUR

Walk down West Market Street to the corner of Franklin Street.

6. PNC Bank Building (1908)

11 West Market Street

First Union National Bank (1914)

26-28 West Market Street

Mellon Bank Center (1911)

8 West Market Street



Historically, the intersection of Market and Franklin Streets has been the financial center of Wilkes-Barre. The three large banks at this corner date from the era of the City Beautiful Movement, when American architects inspired by Imperial Rome transformed Victorian industrial centers into “White Cities” reflecting the nation’s

new-found status as a world power. Local architects McCormick and French designed two of the buildings – the PNC Bank Building, like other turn-of-the-century “skyscrapers,” is an abstracted *classical* column, with a base (the banking hall), shaft (the office floors), and capital (the top floor), while the First Union Bank is a solid, marble-clad vault.

Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago designed the Mellon Bank Center, a landmark on the Wilkes-Barre’s skyline. Burnham had been chief architect of Chicago’s 1893 Columbian Exposition – the event from which the City Beautiful Movement originated. The *coffered polychrome* ceiling of its banking hall is especially handsome.

7. Hotel Sterling (1897; 1928)

47-65 West Market Street



At one time, the Sterling was Wilkes-Barre’s largest and most luxurious hotel, and its guests included movie stars and nationally-known politicians.

Architect J.H.W. Hawkins had planned a brick Victorian castle, but the hotel’s developers convinced him to change the design midway. The result – modeled after a flat-roofed *Renaissance* palazzo, and clad in rough-faced limestone – marked the end of the Victorian era in Wilkes-Barre’s architecture. The 14-story tower was added during the Roaring Twenties by New York architects Warren and Wetmore, the designers of Grand Central Terminal.

8. Market Street Bridge (1929)

This stunning gateway into the central city was also inspired by the City Beautiful Movement; Carrere and Hastings, architects of the New York Public Library, designed it. The beauty of the Market Street Bridge and the proud eagles that guard its entrance towers have made it a well-loved landmark; it is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Since 1819, this has been the site of several spans across the Susquehanna, and as early as 1912, Frederick C. Olds had plans for a riverside park on the west side and a monumental bridge to link Wilkes-Barre with still rural Kingston. In 1922, F. M. Kirby, a partner in the F. W. Woolworth Company, hired the renowned Olmsted Brothers to design a park, which he then donated to the city of Wilkes-Barre. A quick walk across the Market Street Bridge will bring you to Kirby Park and its neighbor, Nesbitt Park. Together, they offer a full array of recreational amenities: athletic fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, jogging trails, a concert pavilion, and the 60 wooded acres of the Kirby Park Natural Area. Stroll to the river for a great view of downtown.

9. River Common

A great legacy of Wilkes-Barre’s New England founders, the River Common’s parkland extends along the Susquehanna from North Street to South Street. Fort Durkee, the stronghold of the Connecticut settlers, and Fort Wyoming, built by the Pennsylvanians, faced each other at the south end of the Common and are denoted by historical markers. Near South Street a marker commemorates George Catlin, painter of the American Indian, who was born in Wilkes-Barre.

Today, the gardens at the north end of the Common are a popular spot for wedding pictures. A memorial statue of Ellen Webster Palmer is located here. Mrs. Palmer

established the Boys' Industrial Association to help the "breaker boys" – some only six years old – who once labored in the mines. A plaque on the stone wall honors Edith Brower, whose efforts helped secure the use of the Common as a public park.

10. Guard Center (1909)

16 South River Street

Chapman Hall (1911)

24 South River Street

The Guard Center building was constructed in just ninety days during the winter of 1908 to house the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company, one of eight major coal operators dominating the industry at the turn of the century. Its imposing granite columns signify the important role that the coal companies once played in the life of the city. Wilkes-Barre architects Welsh, Sturdevant and Poggi designed this *Neoclassical Revival* structure.

Coal company president Frederick Huber commissioned the same architects to design his home next door in 1911. The *Craftsman Style* detailing of the three-story mansion hints at the influence of contemporary *Prairie School* architects like Frank Lloyd Wright; however, the house's massing is resolutely traditional.

In the early 1800's, River Street was Wilkes-Barre's commercial hub: its gateway, via the Susquehanna, to the world. The street was dotted with taverns and shops as well as houses; there were boat landings and warehouses on the River Common. After the construction of the canal to the rear of the town, commerce shifted away from the river, and the neighborhood became the preserve of the great family houses of the nineteenth century – residences made possible by the tons of coal moving on the canals to market. Wilkes University, founded in 1933, owns most of the remaining mansions on South River Street, and uses them for residence halls, offices, and classrooms.

11. Baltimore Company (1840's)

34 South River Street

McClintock Hall (1840)

44 South River Street

Attorney Andrew McClintock's small *Italianate* law office, now the Baltimore Company, is a quaint survivor from

Wilkes-Barre's days as a sleepy county seat: Next door McClintock's house has borne witness to both phases of River Street's existence. Originally, the house was designed in the *Greek Revival* style. In 1863, McClintock, made wealthy by the growth of the mining industry, engaged New York architects Calvert Vaux and F. C. Withers to remodel his house. The spare structure was soon transformed into the first *High Victorian Gothic* house in Wilkes-Barre, boasting a *polychrome* brick arcade which made the house as fashionable as any of its neighbors.

12. Sterling Hall (1860)

72 South River Street

The elaborate cast-iron ornament of this house, reminiscent of New Orleans, was made possible by the mass production of the Industrial Revolution; forged in an anthracite-fueled foundry, it is an excellent example of the way in which Wilkes-Barre's coal was helping to transform America. Philadelphia architect Samuel Sloan designed this cubical Italian villa for banker Walter Sterling.



13. Rifkin Hall (1873)

80-84 South River Street

This *High Victorian Gothic* mansion was designed by architect Bruce Price for the Murray Reynolds family. Price married into a prominent local family, and his commissions comprised a veritable "who's who" of Wilkes-Barre society. He would eventually leave Wilkes-Barre for New York City, becoming one of the most prominent turn-of-the-century architects in America. This was once also the home of Colonel Robert B. Ricketts, a Battle of Gettysburg hero, lumber baron, and early conservationist, who donated Ricketts' Glen State Park to the people of Pennsylvania.



14. Catlin Hall (1843)

92 South River Street

Weiss Hall (1850)

98 South River Street

Along with McClintock Hall, the next two buildings help to illustrate the continuing desirability of River Street as an elite address, even as styles and generations changed. Catlin and Weiss Halls were once almost identical *Greek Revival* neighbors. In 1886, however, new owner E. L. Brown had architect Albert Kipp remodel his house, now known as Weiss Hall, into a turreted, richly textured *Queen Anne* showpiece. The transformation led to new commissions for Kipp throughout the neighborhood, including the rowhouses on the other side of Northampton Street.

15. Chase Hall (1918)

184 South River Street

Kirby Hall (1872)

202 South River Street

Bedford Hall (1876)

96 West South Street

At the intersection of South River and West South Streets sit three more great legacies of Wilkes-Barre's anthracite elite. The *Tudor Revival* mass of Chase Hall, built for the president of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, sits next to the former residence of Fred M. Kirby, dime store magnate and philanthropist on a grand scale. Kirby purchased the mansion in 1905, three decades after architect F.C. Withers had designed it for a local businessman. If Kirby Hall is open, go inside to enjoy its aristocratic interior.

Across the street, the spindly towers of Bedford Hall reach for the sky. Architect Bruce Price's finest essay in the *High Victorian Gothic Style* was constructed for attorney and industrialist George Bedford.

16. Temple Israel (1925)

236 South River Street

This is the home of the Wyoming Valley's Conservative Jewish congregation, which was first established in 1922. The Byzantine Revival copper-domed exterior, typical of many synagogues of the period, is faced with buff tapestry brick and trimmed with granite and *polychrome terra cotta*; the interior is remarkable for its woodwork and domed stained glass ceiling. Ralph M. Herr was the architect.

17. Max Roth Center (1895)

215 South Franklin Street

In designing this elegant townhouse for a dentist, local architect J. H. W. Hawkins was influenced by two of America's greatest architects. The intricate naturalistic ornament in the window *frieze* is an echo of Chicago architect Louis Sullivan's designs, while Boston architect H. H. Richardson inspired the *rusticated* walls and stubby Syrian arches.

18. Congregation Ohav Zedek (1930)

242 South Franklin Street

During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, American architects struggled to find an architectural language appropriate to the synagogue: the *Moorish Revival* style, with its "Middle Eastern" overtones, was one common design response. Local architect Austin Reilly designed this colorful synagogue for Wilkes-Barre's largest Orthodox Jewish congregation, founded by a group of Hungarian Jews. *Moorish Revival* horseshoe arches, rendered in *terra cotta* tile, highlight the façade, which is crowned by a large curved gable.

19. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (1845)

190 South Main Street

Take the short "detour" to view the oldest church in Wilkes-Barre. This simple *Greek Revival* structure, built by German immigrants, is one of the traditional focal points of what was once a largely German neighborhood.

Return to Franklin Street ...

20. Weckesser Hall (1916)

170 South Franklin Street

This massive *Chateau-esque* mansion is the result of a dime store merger. Frederick J. Weckesser was a top executive of Wilkes-Barre's Kirby five and dime chain. After he directed the 1912 marriage of the Kirby and Woolworth empires, Weckesser commissioned New



York society architect C.H.P. Gilbert to design this mansion. Gilbert's selection was not surprising; the architect's earlier work had included a similar Fifth Avenue mansion for F.W. Woolworth himself. Today, Weckesser's grand home serves as the administration building for Wilkes University.

21. American Red Cross (1911)

156 South Franklin Street

Beer paid for this *Colonial Revival* mansion, designed by Wilkes-Barre architects Knapp and Bosworth for George Stegmaier, descendent of the Wilkes-Barre brewing family. The scale of the Stegmaier residence, exemplified by its grand *portico*, is indicative of the success achieved by the brewing industry in the anthracite coal fields.

22. Luzerne County Medical Society

126 South Franklin Street (rear)

Wilkes-Barre's own *Pantheon* is tucked away behind a *Second Empire* house on Franklin Street. In 1914, architect Brice Hayden Long designed this *Colonial Revival* building, modeled loosely on Rome's great round temple, for the county's doctors. The first floor contains a medical library, while a wonderful circular auditorium, lit from above by a skylight, occupies the second floor. The Medical Society still calls this home, and visitors are welcome during business hours.

23. Moses and Gelso Law Offices

120 South Franklin Street

Wilkes-Barre architects Olds and Puckey designed this urbane 1907 *Beaux Arts* mansion – reminiscent of a Parisian townhouse – for department store magnate Henry Lazarus. The prim brick façade, garlanded in limestone, rises to a *balustrade* below a steep *mansard roof*.

24. Young Men's Christian Association (1934)

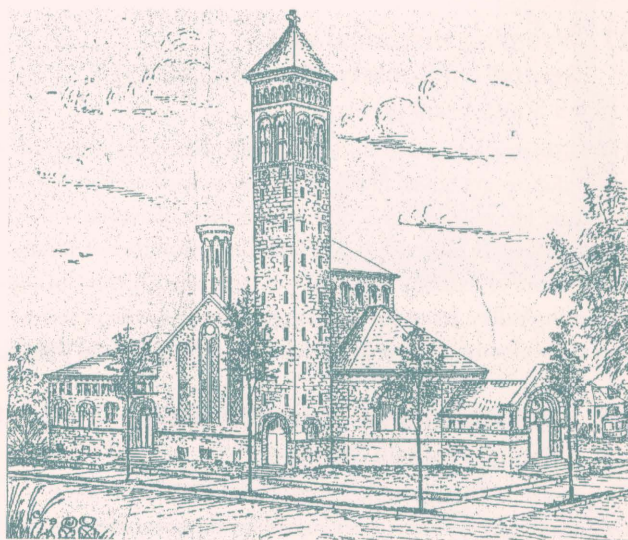
40 West Northampton Street

This fortress of a building is really the welcoming home of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA. Wilkes-Barre architect Thomas Foster modeled the exterior after the palaces of medieval Florence, and the result is a fine example of the historical eclecticism popular in the 1920's and 1930's. Handsome interior tile work and details echo its Mediterranean

influences. Foster, a versatile architect, also designed the collegiate Gothic First Baptist Church on South River Street. (Restrooms and vending machines are available to the public.)

25. First Presbyterian Church (1889)

97 South Franklin Street

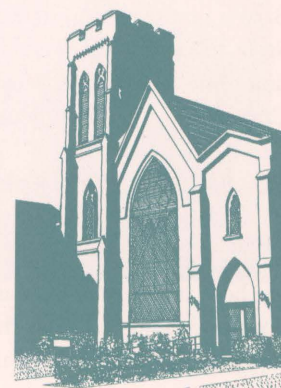


This massive edifice for the Valley's oldest congregation (founded 1779) is clad in Laurel Run redstone, a popular local building material. Look around downtown, and you will see the distinctive purple stone everywhere. Don't let this church's rugged *Romanesque* exterior fool you, however; with this commission, New York City architect James Cleveland Cady introduced large-scale steel frame construction to the valley. Cady also designed the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

26. Osterhout Free Library (1848)

71 South Franklin Street

There is nothing as permanent as a temporary building! That is certainly true of Wilkes-Barre's unusual *Gothic Revival* public library, which was originally built as the First Presbyterian Church. In 1889, when Isaac S. Osterhout, a local merchant,



left his estate "to establish and maintain in the city of Wilkes-Barre a free library," famed librarian Melvil Dewey, inventor of the Dewey Decimal System, recommended that the old church building be utilized as a "temporary" library until a permanent replacement could be built. In 1981, the Library added a children's wing, designed by Eyerman Csala Hapeman.

27. Wyoming Historical and Geological Society Museum (1893)

69 South Franklin Street

The Historical Society, founded in 1858, currently occupies two buildings on South Franklin Street, as well as the Sweetland Homestead across the Susquehanna River in Wyoming. In its museum behind the Osterhout Free Library, three floors of exhibits highlight the fascinating history of the Wyoming Valley, from the prehistoric period to the present. You are welcome to visit the exhibits and the museum shop.

28. Bishop Memorial Library (c. 1875)

49 South Franklin Street

This house, a late example of the Italian Villa style with *Queen Anne* revisions, is a reminder of quieter times on South Franklin Street. Designed by architect Willis Hale, it now houses the research library and administrative offices of the Society, and it is also open to the public. Don't miss the restored Victorian garden in the back — it is a wonderful refuge in the midst of downtown's bustle.

29. WBRE-TV and WYOU-TV (1960)

62 South Franklin Street

Samuel Moskowitz, a pioneer of contemporary architecture in the Wyoming Valley, designed the studios for Wilkes-Barre's first television station. Inspired by the *International Style*, this is an elegant combination of aluminum, glass, limestone, and marble. Moskowitz also designed the Jewish Community Center on South River Street.

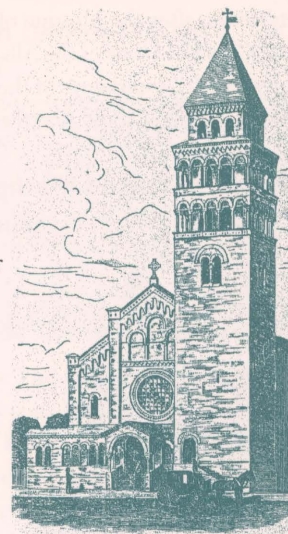
30. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (1896)

35-41 South Franklin Street

With a *campanile* presiding over South Franklin Street as if it had been transported from an Italian hilltown, St. Stephen's is a downtown landmark. This church, built of locally-quarried yellow stone, was modeled after the colorful Gothic churches

of Northern Italy. It was the second church that Philadelphia architect Charles M. Burns designed for the site: the first, built in 1885, burned in a spectacular Christmas Day fire in 1896, leaving only the tower standing.

Go inside, if you can. The interior has *polychrome* brickwork and reliefs by sculptor J. Massey Rhind; an impressive *hammer beam truss*, capped by carved wooden angels, supports the roof. It is a favorite venue for concerts; the acoustics and pipe organ are superb!

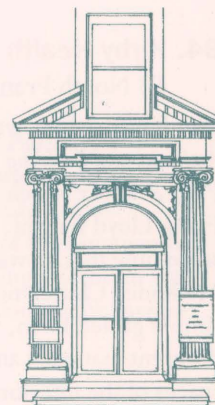


NORTH TOUR

31. PG Energy Building (1910)

30 North Franklin Street

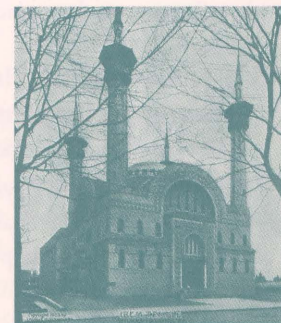
Rows of intricately carved dolphins seem to spew water from the top of this *Neoclassical Revival* office building. They playfully declare the purpose of the structure over which they stand guard, for it was designed for the Spring Brook Water Supply Company by architects Welsh, Sturdevant, and Poggi.



32. Irem Temple (1907)

52 North Franklin Street

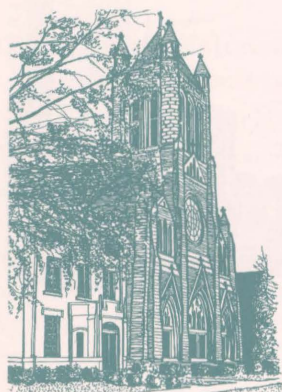
With four crescent-topped *minarets* piercing the skyline, this exotic fantasy on North Franklin Street probably provokes more comments than any building in the downtown. Wilkes-Barre's Shriners constructed the *Moorish Revival style* auditorium for their activities. For many years, Irem Temple was the city's premiere cultural venue. Architect F. Willard Puckey patterned



its design after the Mosque of Omar on the outside and after the Court of Lions of the Alhambra Palace on the inside. Incidentally, translators of the "Arabic" inscriptions above the main entrance would find them to be meaningless.

33. First United Methodist Church (1883)

45-53 North Franklin Street



The front of this imposing building rises like a mountain range from the sidewalk, reflecting architect Bruce Price's interest in evolving from his earlier, more spindly Victorian designs to something more simplified and modern. Price combined stylistic elements of French Gothic and *Romanesque* to compose the rugged façade of this building.

34. Kirby Health Center Annex (1883)

63 North Franklin Street

This house, which was publicized nationally in *American Architect and Building News*, began a phase of architect Bruce Price's career which greatly influenced the early work of Frank Lloyd Wright. Price designed it for his aunt at the same time that he was working on the very different Methodist Church next door. The architect started with a simple gabled form, which he pushed and pulled, using different materials and textures to express the varied spaces of the interior. With this residence, Wilkes-Barre was introduced to the *Queen Anne style*, which had a wide influence on domestic architecture in the area.

35. Pennsylvania Millers Mutual Insurance Company (1935)

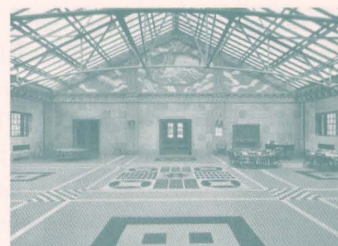
72 North Franklin Street

Though Wilkes-Barre's days as a farming town are long gone, this building, the headquarters of an insurance company founded for the purpose of insuring *gristmills* against fire, serves as a reminder of that time. The company recently demonstrated how the past and present can work together when it rehabilitated its original building, with its elegant combination of Art Moderne and *Colonial Revival* motifs, joining it to a new office wing in the back.

36. Kirby Memorial Health Center (1930)

71 North Franklin Street

Designed by Thomas Atherton, the Kirby Health Center is a magnificent example of simplified *Classical style*. Its interiors exhibit a fabulous use of the tiles and colors that were



avored in the 1920's and 1930's. The Center, another gift to the community from the generous Kirby family, is dedicated to Angeline Elizabeth Kirby; its purpose is "to promote the health of the people and the control and elimination of diseases." Many health services and organizations are housed in the Center and its annexes; visitors are welcome. The intricate tile work on the underside of the front *portico* is only a hint of what awaits you inside.

37. Stickney Block (1887)

108-118 North Franklin Street

With its striking front bays and Gothic *Palladian* windows, the Stickney Block is an urbane example of the rowhouses built throughout the city's fashionable neighborhoods during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. This handsome reminder of things Victorian was designed by William W. Neuer, a local contractor turned architect.

38. Beaumont Block (1893)

54 West Union Street

Dickson Row (1904)

60-64 West Union Street

The prolific architect Albert Kipp designed these two adjacent sets of rowhouses. The Beaumont Block, which now houses Luzerne County offices, is a solid work rendered in brick and Laurel Run redstone. A decade later, the architect drew upon more playful influences for the Dickson Row, constructed toward the end of his career. Steep "Dutch" step-end gables crown three of the houses, while the fourth wears a *mansard roof* and features French doors opening onto a front terrace.

39. King's College Administration Building (1913)

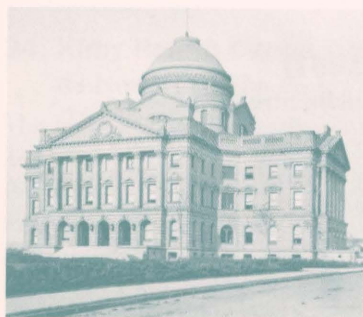
133 North River Street

King's College is a liberal arts school founded in 1946 by the Congregation of the Holy Cross, who also established the University of Notre Dame. The administration building was built as the headquarters of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. It was designed by Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago, also architect of the Mellon Bank Center.

Nearby, at the corner of Franklin and Jackson Streets, the college's Chapel of Christ the King houses a moving tribute to the tempestuous relationship between coal and the Wyoming Valley — a 4200-pound anthracite altar, created for King's in 1954 by the great African-American coal sculptor C. Edgar Patience, a Wilkes-Barre resident.

40. Luzerne County Court House (1909)

N. River and W. North Streets



Throughout its planning and construction, controversy and scandal swirled around the *Beaux Arts* courthouse. Pittsburgh architect F. J. Osterling originally designed it to be placed on Public Square. It was finally completed by

architects McCormick and French, who designed the lavish interior with its stunning rotunda. Step inside to see the history of the county illustrated in mosaics and murals. Built during the period of Wilkes-Barre's greatest prosperity, the Court House is now a treasured local landmark.

The site of the Court House was once the Public Basin of the Wyoming Division of the North Branch Canal. From 1834 to 1881, when the last canal boat left Wilkes-Barre, the canal was a major means of transporting coal and other commodities in and out of the Wyoming Valley.

Stroll onto the courthouse lawn to view the memorials to the county's war dead and the anchor of the USS Wilkes-Barre, a World War II cruiser. The nearby cast-iron deer is a relic of the 1850's, when the courthouse sat on Public Square. Local wags would commonly cite the deer as a source of courthouse gossip in newspaper columns. What does the deer say today?

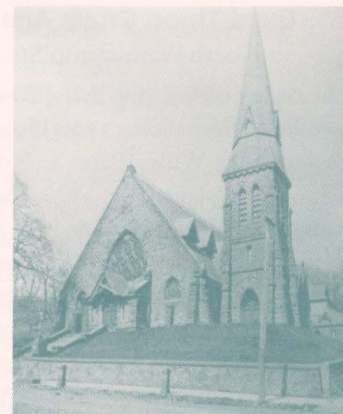
41. Memorial Presbyterian Church (1872)

29 West North Street

This beautiful church, built by a grieving father as a memorial to the three children he lost to a scarlet fever epidemic, was designed by Edward Kendall of New York.

Three gorgeous Tiffany windows in the baptistry depict the children so that they, "being dead, might yet speak."

Another large window, above the front entrance, symbolically illustrates the twelve Apostles. Built of Campbell's Ledge sandstone laid up in elaborate rubblework, with a rare stone spire and exceptionally well-detailed porches, domers, and cast iron *cresting*, Memorial Presbyterian is a *Gothic Revival* gem.



42. Polish Union Building (1936)

53 North Main Street

The surface of the streamlined classical Polish Union Building is embellished with *Art Deco bas-relief* carvings; note particularly the eagle — a symbol of Poland — over its central entrance. Joseph E. Fronczak of Buffalo was the architect for this, the headquarters of a national Polish fraternal organization. The Polish Union is only one of the many ethnic institutions founded by the immigrants who came to call Wyoming Valley home; two blocks away, at the corner of North Main and North Streets, inscriptions on another building proclaim its former role as the home of the Pennsylvania Slovak Roman & Greek Catholic Union.

43. Blue Cross Operations Center (1946)

30 North Main Street

The streamlined Operations Center, built as the Wyoming Valley Veterans Building, was the first major structure to be built here in a truly modern idiom. The horizontal bands of windows and rounded corners of this nine-story building are marks of the *International Style*. The architects were L. Vern Lacy and Thomas Atherton, founders of a local firm.

44. Quad Three Group (1925)

33-37 North Washington Street

Quad Three Group Annex (c. 1889)

39 North Washington Street

The eagle perched atop the offices of Quad Three Group testifies to the building's past life as the Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge. Wilkes-Barre architects Schmitt and Schroeder designed it in 1925. The intriguing little *Classical Revival* building next door, built as the offices of Wilkes-Barre's first electric utility, later served as the home of the Wilkes-Barre Press Club, a one-time haunt of local newspapermen. President William Howard Taft and Admiral Robert Peary, among others, enjoyed the hospitality within these walls during their visits to Wilkes-Barre. Quad Three Group, a local architectural and engineering firm, rehabilitated both buildings for its use in the 1980's.

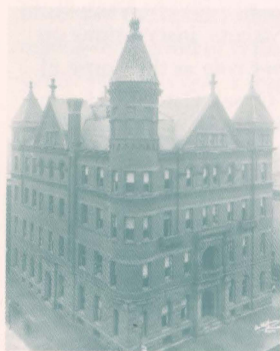
45. James Coughlin High School (1912)

80 North Washington Street

When it was opened, Coughlin High School was the city's only public high school. Within a decade, however, Wilkes-Barre's population growth necessitated the construction of two more high schools in other parts of the city. Wilkes-Barre architect Owen McGlynn won an architectural competition organized to select a design for the high school; years later, McGlynn's florid *Beaux Arts* building continues to serve its original purpose.

46. Wilkes-Barre City Hall (1893)

40 East Market Street



The honeybees illustrated in Wilkes-Barre's city seal, depicted in stained glass over the front door, are emblematic of the city's nineteenth-century boast that it was "busy as a beehive." The stained glass window is only one of the many interesting late Victorian details incorporated in this, Wilkes-Barre's first municipal building.

When it was built, City Hall presented an unusual combination of architectural styles: a redstone *Romanesque* base; Victorian banded brick and *terra cotta* upper floors

with gargoyles and balconies; and *Queen Anne* towers and gables at the roofline. Though its towers and gables are no more, City Hall remains a building of substance. The architects were William W. Neuer and Benjamin Davey, Jr.

47. Tri-District Health Center (c. 1950)

37 South Washington Street

Heroic *terra-cotta* reliefs depicting garment workers flank the entrance to the Tri-District Health Center of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union. Enormous mills built for silk and lace manufacture still dominate many Wyoming Valley neighborhoods, testimony to an industry drawn here by the massive supply of female labor. During the collapse of the anthracite industry after World War II, jobs in the dress factories kept many mining families from financial ruin.

48. St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church (1872)

134 South Washington Street

This noble building is the seat of the oldest Roman Catholic parish in Luzerne County, founded in 1842 by Irish emigrants fleeing famine and poverty in their homeland. Designed by E.F. Durang, a Philadelphia architect who specialized in Catholic churches, it has a stately *Baroque* façade and a grand interior boasting a *frescoed* ceiling and gilded columns. Its tower, however, is no more, having been felled by a tornado in 1890.

49. St. Nicholas German Catholic Church (1887)

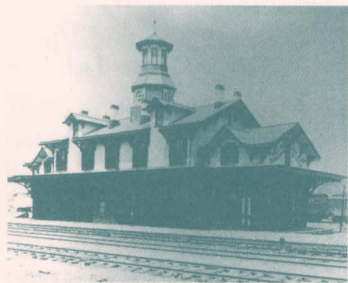
240 South Washington Street

This church is one of the greatest *High Victorian Gothic* structures in Wilkes-Barre. German-born architect William Schickel created a building whose details, such as the triple-entried frontispiece, or *westwerk*, and the single central tower, are typically German. For decades, people in central Wilkes-Barre set their watches, went to lunch, and closed shop by the clock on its steeple. The church's beautiful interior woodcarvings and stained glass windows merit your visit.



50. Market Street Square (1868)

33 Wilkes-Barre Boulevard



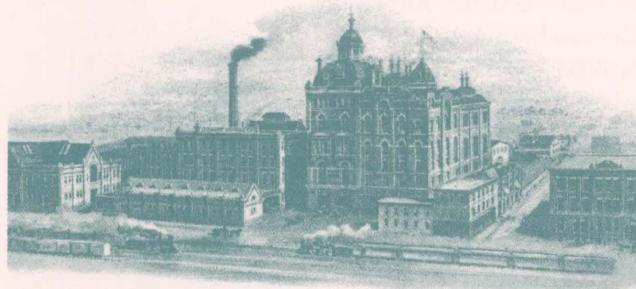
Originally built by the Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad, this **Italianate** railroad station closed in 1972. It has since been restored and returned to use as part of Market Street Square, a commercial

complex. The Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad was established by Philadelphia investors who conquered the mountains and tapped the Wyoming coal fields; today, its route forms the backbone of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor.

51. Stegmaier Brewing Company (1890-1913)

Wilkes-Barre Boulevard and Market Street

Brewer Charles Stegmaier came to Wilkes-Barre from Germany in 1851; in the 1890's, he hired Philadelphia architect A.C. Wagner, a brewery design specialist, to build the Stegmaier Brewery. This **cupola**-topped brewhouse became the city's last great Victorian red brick monument and an impressive reminder of one of the region's major industries. At the time it merged with Wilkes-Barre's Lion Brewery in 1974, Stegmaier was the third largest brewery in Pennsylvania, producing 800,000 barrels of beer annually. The Lion Brewery still brews beer at its North End brewery, while the Stegmaier now serves as a Federal office building — the result of an epic 20-year preservation battle.



GLOSSARY of ARCHITECTURAL TERMS

Art Deco: An architectural style, popular in the 1920's and 1930's, which featured streamlined forms, simple geometric motifs, and the common use of vivid colors.

Balustrade: A series of upright vase-shaped posts (balusters) used to support a rail.

Baroque: An architectural style that originated in 17th century Italy, following the revival of Classical architecture during the Renaissance. Baroque buildings used Classical orders and ornament in a lavish, sculptural manner.

bas-relief: A sculptural relief that projects very slightly from its background.

Beaux-Arts: A style which takes its name from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, a French school which dominated architectural training at the end of the 19th century. Beaux-Arts buildings, which were inspired by ancient Roman architecture, are characterized by symmetrical plans and grandly composed Classical details like paired columns, domes, arched openings, and grand stairways.

campanile: A bell tower, usually freestanding.

Chateausque: A revival style, popular during the early 20th century, which was derived from the architecture of French chateaus during the reign of King Francois I. Chateausque buildings combine Gothic and Renaissance features, and feature steep hipped roofs, decorative dormers and pinnacles, and masonry walls.

Classical: A broad term pertaining to the architecture of ancient Greece or Rome.

Classical Revival: A style, reviving the elements of ancient Greek or Roman architecture, which was very popular during the turn of the century. Banks, public buildings, and grand houses were often built in the Classical Revival style, which is not as grandiose as its companion Beaux Arts style.

coffering: A series of recessed box-like panels, or coffers, in a ceiling.

Colonial Revival: A style reviving architectural forms and elements originally found in the buildings of the English colonies. The Colonial Revival first became popular in 1876, when the Centennial focused attention on the nation's Colonial past.

Craftsman Style: A turn-of-the-century style emphasizing simple design, "honest" construction, and fine craftsmanship. Craftsman style buildings often feature hipped roofs with wide, open eaves, exposed structural elements such as beams and brackets, and geometric detailing.

cupola: A rounded tower-like device rising from the roof of a building, usually terminating in a dome.

fresco: The technique of painting on freshly spread wet plaster.

frieze: The flat, horizontal panel in the center of an entablature. By extension, any elevated horizontal decorative band or panel.

Gothic Revival: An architectural style reviving the forms and elements of medieval Gothic architecture. Gothic Revival style buildings are characterized by pointed arches and steep gabled roofs. The Gothic Revival style came to the United States from England at the beginning of the 19th century.

Greek Revival: An architectural style reviving the forms and elements of Ancient Greek architecture. The Greek Revival style was wildly popular in the United States during the early 19th century, and many buildings were built to look like Greek temples. More modest Greek Revival buildings feature pedimented gables, wide bands of trim under the cornice, and bold, simple moldings.

gristmills: Mills for grinding grain.

hammer beam truss: A roof truss design in which short horizontal beams, cantilevered outward from the top of the wall and supported by brackets, support the weight of the roof.

High Victorian Gothic: An eclectic interpretation of the Gothic Revival, popular during the mid-19th century, and inspired by the colorful Gothic buildings of Northern Italy. High Victorian Gothic buildings combine Gothic Revival forms with extensive polychroming and ornament.

International: A 20th-century "universal" architectural style celebrating modern structural principles and materials. International Style buildings reject the use of ornament; they are characterized by simple, geometric forms and the extensive use of glass, steel, and concrete.

Italianate: An architectural style inspired by the picturesque rural villas of northern Italy, and popular during the mid-19th century. Italianate buildings are characterized by low roofs, wide eaves with decorative brackets, tall round-headed windows with elaborately decorated hood moldings, and bracketed porches.

Mansard roof: A hip roof divided into two slopes — a steeper lower part and a shallower upper part. Named after 17th century French architect Francois Mansart, the Mansard roof is the hallmark of the Second Empire style.

minaret: a lofty, slender tower attached to a mosque, and topped by a projecting balcony.

Moorish Revival: An architectural style reviving the forms and ornament of Islamic architecture. Moorish Revival buildings are characterized by colorful and "exotic" decoration, horseshoe arches, and minarets.

Neoclassical Revival: Common in public buildings and grand houses, the movement is characterized by giant paired columns and an ashlar base with arched fenestration. It is characteristic of many of the buildings of the Federal Government of the United States.

Palladian: In the style of Italian Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio. This term is often used to refer to one of Palladio's favored motifs, in which a round-headed window is flanked by two smaller rectangular windows.

Pantheon: A building dedicated to all the gods; specifically, the ancient, circular, domed temple located in Rome, Italy.

polychrome: The use of many colors. During the 19th century, this term also referred to the use of different building materials with contrasting colors.

portico: A porch, with a roof carried by columns, which protects the main entrance to a building.

Prairie School: A group of turn-of-the-century Chicago architects, led by Frank Lloyd Wright, who consciously rejected revival styles in favor of buildings which reflected the rolling Midwestern prairie landscape. Prairie School buildings feature low horizontal lines, broad hipped roofs, and ganged casement windows.

Queen Anne: A late 19th century style that was inspired by late medieval English buildings grafting classical ornament with medieval forms. Queen Anne buildings incorporate many different materials and colors, such as combinations of brick, stone, and shingles. Other common features are steeply pitched roofs, elaborate chimneys, and corner turrets.

Renaissance: The European transition between medieval and modern times, noted for a flowering of arts and culture. It began in 14th century Italy, and lasted until the 17th century. The Renaissance was characterized by the revival of classical influence in architecture.

Richardsonian Romanesque: A uniquely American style, named for architect H.H. Richardson, whose strongly personal designs were widely emulated in the late 19th century. Richardsonian Romanesque buildings feature very heavy, rusticated masonry walls and irregular massing, combined with round Romanesque arches and short, thick columns.

Romanesque: An architectural style that developed in early medieval Europe prior to the growth of the Gothic style. Romanesque buildings are characterized by round arches and vaults, the use of piers in place of classical columns, heavy masonry construction, and profuse ornament.

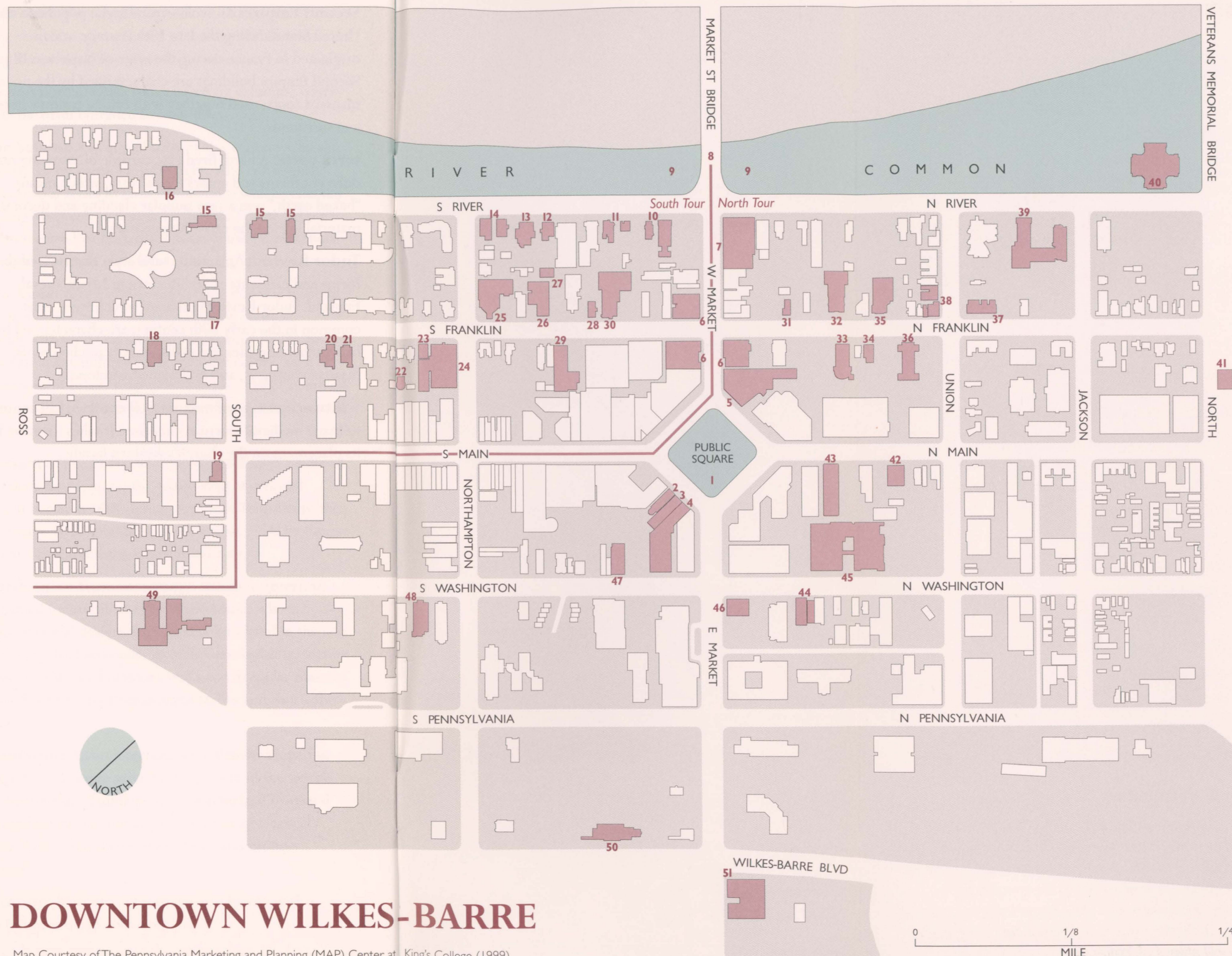
rustication: Masonry cut into massive blocks with a rough finish, and laid with deep joints.

Second Empire: An architectural style, popular in the United States during the late 19th century, which originated in France during the reign of Napoleon III. Second Empire buildings are characterized by the use of mansard roofs, used together with ornate window hoods and surrounds.

terra cotta: A hard, fired clay, capable of assuming many different forms and colors. Terra cotta, which means "baked earth," was a very popular cladding and decorative material during the early 20th century.

Tudor Revival: An architectural style that revived the forms and elements of architecture in late medieval England. Tudor Revival buildings, which were most common in the early 20th century, are characterized by half-timbered gables and walls, steeply pitched roofs, massive chimneys, and multipaned windows.

westwerk: A type of monumental entrance hall common to many medieval German churches. It takes its name from its placement on the church's western facade.



DOWNTOWN WILKES-BARRE

Map Courtesy of The Pennsylvania Marketing and Planning (MAP) Center at King's College (1999)

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PNC Bank

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Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Class of 1999

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Penn State Geisinger Health Plan

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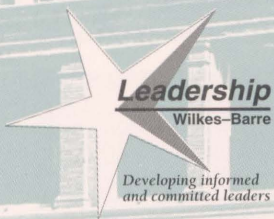
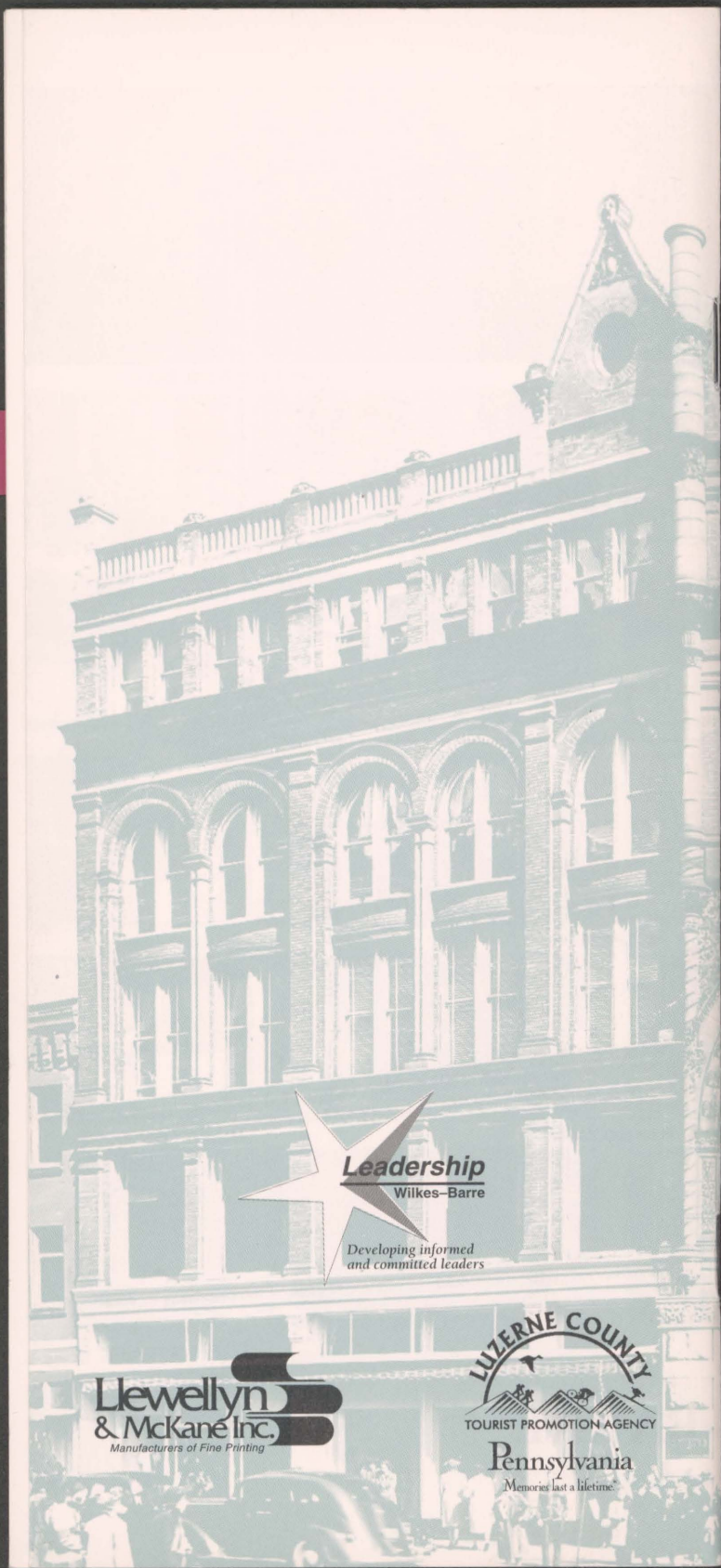
The Hillier Group

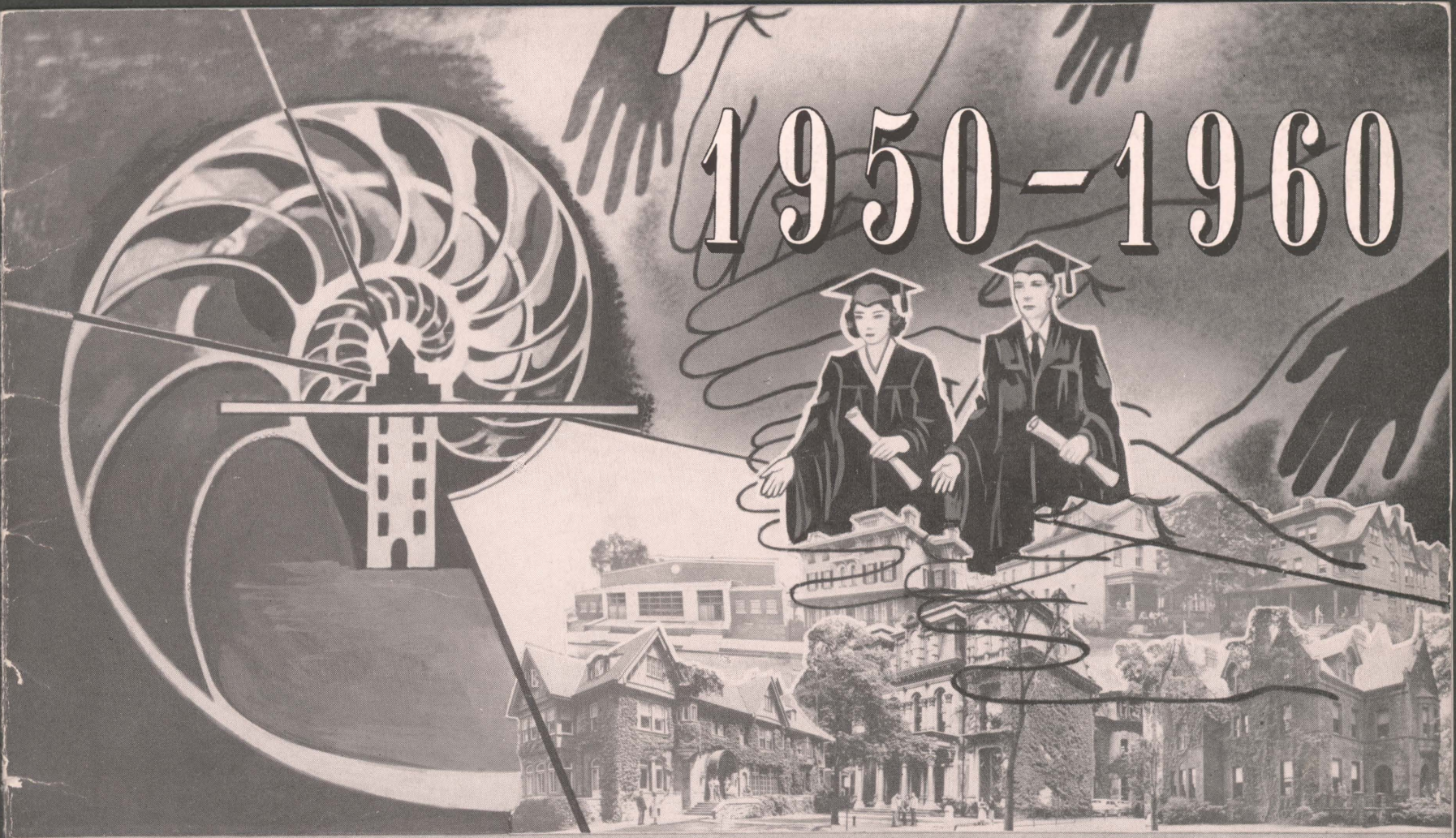
The Times Leader

Thomson Consumer Electronics

Special Recognition

For his tireless efforts to complete this guide, special recognition is given to Larry Newman, Principal of Urban Workshop. Many years of Larry's work culminate in this guide. He is historian, writer, mentor, and genuine ambassador of Wilkes-Barre; Larry's voice echoes throughout this tour. The residents of this great valley will always be grateful.





1950-1960

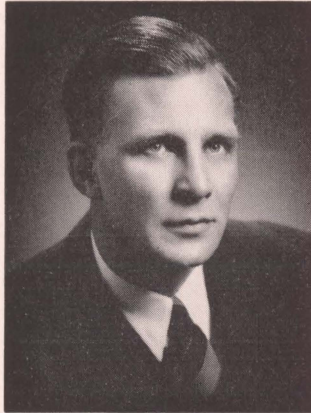
NEW VISTAS FOR WILKES COLLEGE

WILKES COLLEGE

SOUTH RIVER STREET
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA

Founded 1933
Chartered 1947





DR. EUGENE S. FARLEY
President

The story of a college cannot be told by facts and figures. It unfolds with the lives of those who have been influenced by their association with it. ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧

*For
the
Future*

In the midst of World War II and at the end of one decade of service, Bucknell University Junior College reported the development of its first ten years—and indicated its needs for the next ten years. At that time the endowments, buildings, equipment, and faculty required for the adequate education of our young people seemed fantastic. Seven years after this report we find that developments have exceeded our vision. Once again the College must examine its status so that it may plan for another period of growth and service.

The growth of the last seven years has demonstrated that vision and generosity are the essential ingredients of growth. Had we failed to foresee the needs of the community, or had we failed to struggle to satisfy them, a liberal college for people of all backgrounds and all faiths could not have been established in Wyoming Valley. The vision of generous men and women has enabled a dream to become a reality.

The fascination of the College is that, with growth come increased responsibility and opportunity. As the College has grown, its responsibilities and its opportunities have been enlarged.

Today Wilkes College looks back, only that it may look forward more clearly. The program of the past demonstrates the progress that is possible in the future. If we retain our convictions and faith, and continue to serve students, community, and neighbors, the impossible again becomes the possible.

In Three Decades

To give new opportunities to the young people of Wyoming Valley and to release the powers of intelligence that are the hope of our civilization, Bucknell University Junior College was established in 1933.

The opening of the College was seized by students as an opportunity for self-improvement, and as students demonstrated their sincerity and appreciation, community leaders stepped forward to offer a hand. Men and women imbued with faith in young people, broadened this opportunity by expanding the College. By their generosity and faith they translated an experiment in education into a thriving college committed to the service of students and to the service of the community of which the College is a part.

Because an opportunity was offered, many alumni are now engaged in constructive work that would have been beyond their aspirations had not opportunities for college study been brought to their door.

The results of these efforts are presented as a guide for the future growth of Wilkes College.

Our Greatest Resource

There is neither wealth nor well being in the inanimate resources of the earth. It is only when constructive intelligence is used to release these materials that they become sources of well being.

This simple lesson is proved wherever we look. Many backward areas possess great natural resources that are untapped because men have been exploited and their powers of constructive thought have never been released. In other areas of the world, men with free minds have, by cooperative effort, created prosperous societies. The difference between poverty and well being has resided in the minds of men more than in the resources of the earth. Men possessing freedom have released their own talents. These talents in their turn have been used to release energies from the earth for the use of mankind.

Where men have been exploited material progress has been retarded. Where men have sought to help one another and, through education, to pass on their great ideals, well being has been created.

In this day it should be apparent to all that the greatest resources of mankind lie in the minds and hearts of men, and that the future belongs to that people which best prepares its youth.



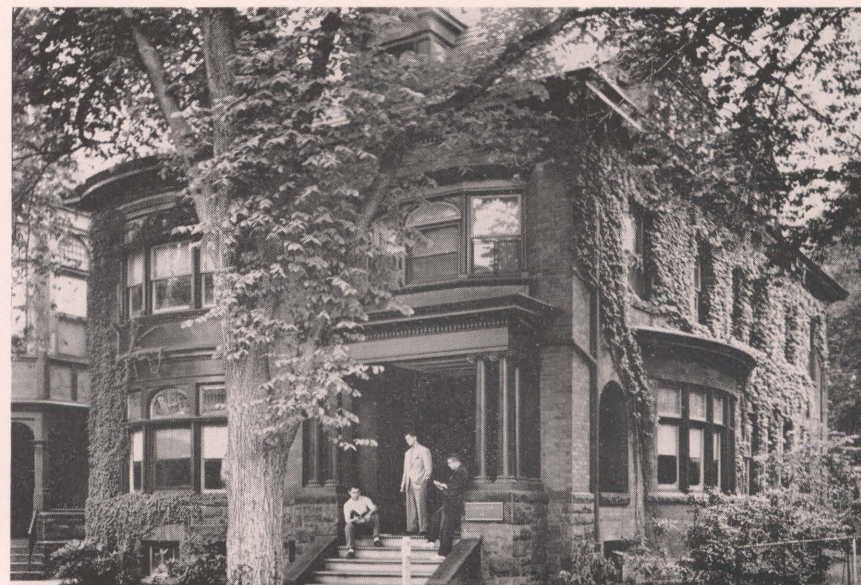
1937 — CONYNGHAM HALL



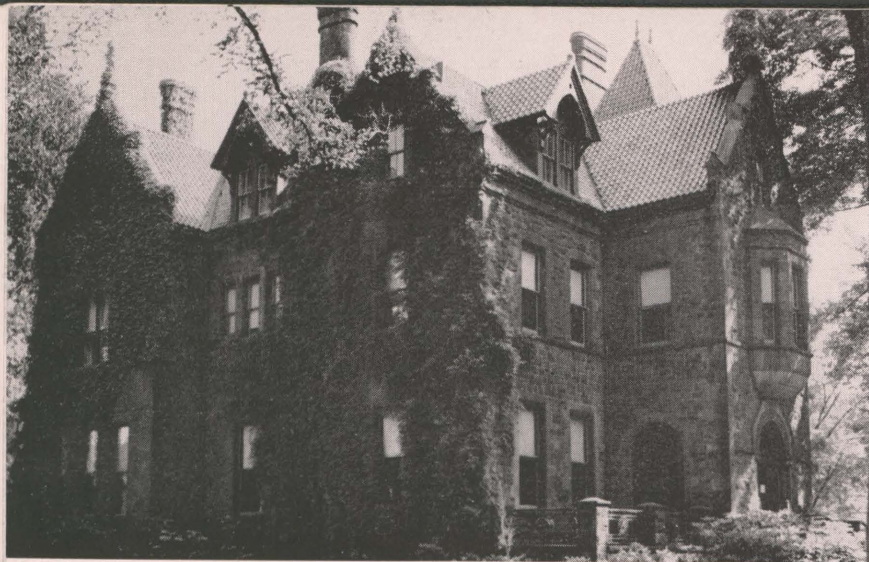
1937 — CHASE HALL



1937 — CHASE THEATRE



1938 — WECKESSER HALL



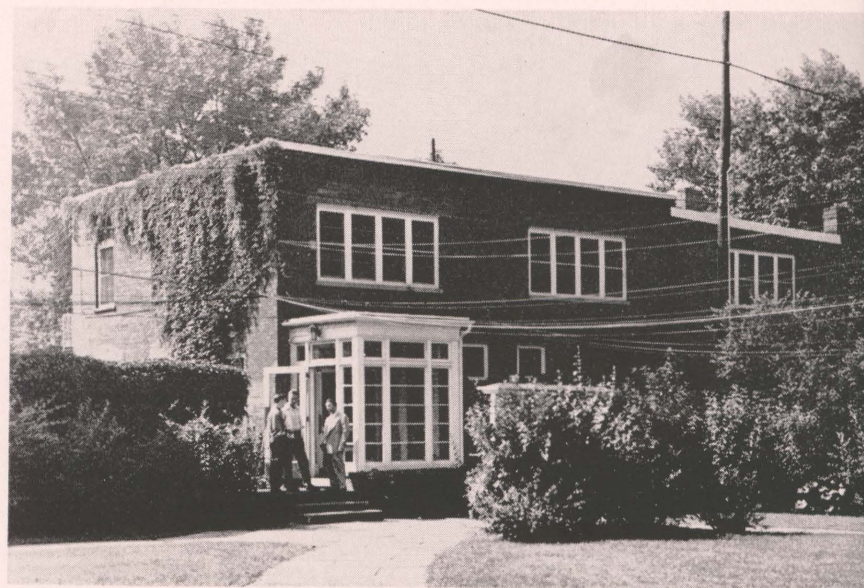
1941 — KIRBY HALL



1945 — BARRE HALL



1945 — GIES HALL



1945 — CAFETERIA

*The
First
Decade*

1933 Bucknell University established its Junior College on the third floor of the building at 29 West Northampton Street. Classes started in September.

1934 Bucknell University rented the entire building at 29 West Northampton Street and equipped it to serve 200 students.

1935 The first class graduated from the Junior College.

1937 Admiral and Mrs. Harold R. Stark and Mrs. John Conyngham gave Chase and Conyngham Halls.

1938 A small group of friends gave \$28,000 to finance the adaptation of Chase and Conyngham Halls to college requirements.
Weckesser Hall was presented to the College by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Weckesser.

1939 The first contributions to a scholarship fund were made by a small group of friends seeking to help students of ability and ambition *to help themselves*.

1941 Mr. Allan Kirby gave the former residence of his father for use as a library and arts building. A small group of friends joined with Mr. Kirby to provide funds for alterations and endowment.
The College received \$25,000 from the estate of Daniel C. Roberts.

1942 Scholarship funds were contributed by interested friends.

*The
Second
Decade*

10

1943 The Sixth College Training Detachment of the Army Air Forces replaced students who were then serving in the armed forces.

1944 The Board of Trustees laid plans for the creation of a four-year college and raised \$150,000 as the first step in creating the required endowment.

1945 Isaac Barre and Gies Halls were purchased with funds contributed for this purpose by three trustees.

The Board of Trustees with 1,200 friends of the College contributed \$433,000 for endowment and expansion.

1946 Ashley Hall was given by the heirs of the Ashley estate, Mrs. Marion A. Ahlborn, Dr. Henry A. Carr, and Roccena Wolfe. Zebulon Butler Hall was purchased for the College.

Bucknell University assisted the Junior College in meeting its obligations to veterans and the community by offering the last two years of college work in Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes College emerged from Bucknell University Junior College and was chartered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to offer four-year courses.

1947 The parking lot on South Franklin Street at South Street was given by Andrew J. Sordoni.

The site of the gymnasium was acquired.

1948 The first graduates of Wilkes College received their degrees from Bucknell University in accordance with the agreement under which the two institutions were then working.

*The
Depression
Years*

*The
War
Years*

*The
Post-War
Period*

Bucknell Junior College 2YEARS

1933				
1934				
1935				
1936				
1937				  
1938				   
1939				
1940				
1941				    
1942				

The Second Decade

1943	 			
1944	 			
1945				                              

*The
Second
Decade*

- 1948 The lecture hall was completed.
Timothy Pickering Hall was acquired by purchase.
-

- 1949 Fourteen hundred friends of the College pledged \$217,000, to assure the construction of a gymnasium.
Sterling Hall came to the College by bequest of Col. Walter Carl Sterling.
The president's residence at 146 South River Street was given by a friend of the College.
-

- 1950 Members of the third graduating class received the first Wilkes College diplomas.
The gymnasium was completed and ready for use when college opened in September.
-

- 1951 *Although the balance of*
1952 *this decade is yet to reveal itself, we now plan for*
the decade of the fifties, inasmuch as the objectives
set in 1943 have been achieved. We therefore set
new goals to guide our efforts for the coming decade.



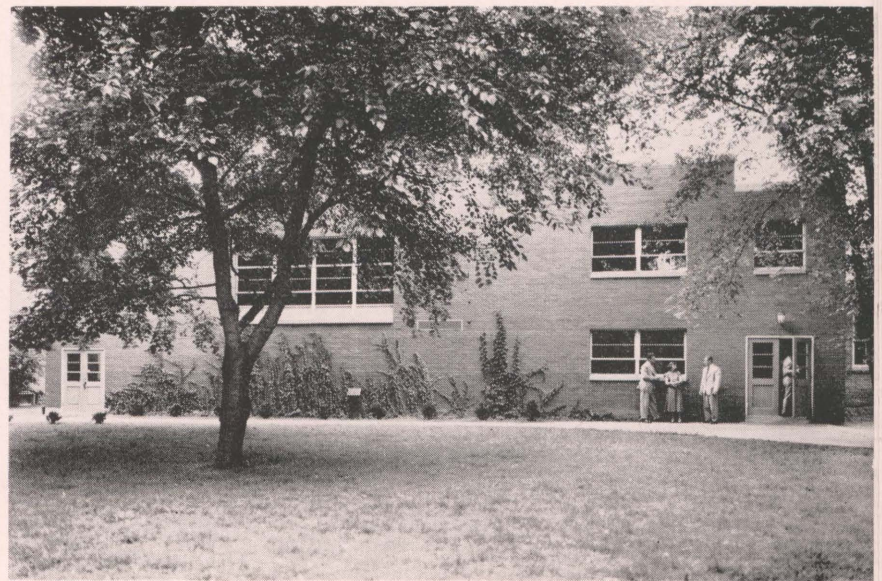
1946 — ASHLEY HALL



1946 — BUTLER HALL



1946 — THE ANNEXES



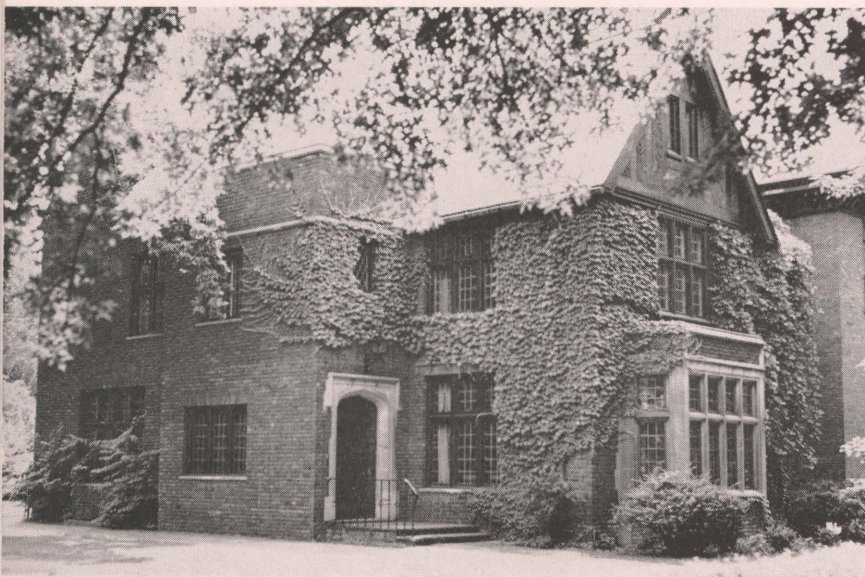
1948 — LECTURE HALL



1949 — PICKERING HALL



1949 — STERLING HALL



1949 — PRESIDENT'S HOME



1950 — GYMNASIUM

The New Decade

1950—1960

When world events threaten our freedoms and our civilization, it may seem futile to plan for the future of a college. In such critical times we must remind ourselves, however, that western civilization is based upon Christian ideals and the concept of human dignity.

We are now engaged in a titanic struggle of ideals. This struggle cannot be won by military strength alone; it will ultimately be won by those people who most believe in the worth of their cause.

To preserve our freedoms and our civilization, we must affirm our faith in those ideals that are the foundations of our way of life. We must expand those institutions that have been created to perpetuate those ideals. We must not let the threat of war shake our faith in either our ideals or our institutions. Rather, we must strengthen our conviction and our faith so that once more we may meet the ideals and faith of the totalitarians with higher ideals and greater faith. It has been wisely said, "The western world must either believe in its own principles and its own destiny or succumb to a greater faith."

Wilkes College has been founded by men and women who believe in the power of the human spirit. They believe that free men can make this world better. They support this College as one means of strengthening the individual, of perpetuating the ideals and institutions of freedom, and of cultivating understanding and good will between all peoples.

*Objectives
for the
Nineteen
Fifties*

16

SCHOLARSHIPS

amounting to \$25,000 each year are needed to assist students of outstanding ability and promise. These scholarships will be supplemented by work, as the College can only assist those who seek to help themselves.

ENDOWMENT

should grow continuously, for endowment provides both stability and funds for an improved program. It is endowment that enables the College to maintain an expanded plant and retain its faculty. It is believed that this endowment should be increased by a minimum of \$500,000 each decade. Such an increase in resources will permit the continuous expansion of College services.

BUILDINGS

provide the shelter and create something of the atmosphere in which students and faculty pursue their work. They need not be elaborate, but they must be adequate to the needs of students, faculty, and community. The following buildings will be needed before 1960:

a. A library with an ultimate capacity of 200,000 volumes will be needed. The Kirby Home of Education has served well,

but its capacity will be exceeded within a few years. When a more spacious library is available, Kirby Hall will make a fine language building and student center.

b. An assembly hall capable of seating 800 to 1,200 persons will permit the College to hold assemblies and offer plays on the campus. It will also provide a needed meeting place for college and community forums.

c. Dormitories for at least one hundred students will enable the College to admit a greater number of students from other states and other countries. The presence of dormitory students is deemed very desirable as their interest increases the feeling of solidarity and enriches the program of activities.

d. A science building ultimately will be needed to provide expanded laboratories for instruction, research, and community service.

e. An art gallery and studios.

PLAYING FIELDS and TENNIS COURTS

provide opportunities for wholesome recreation, improved health, and a well-developed personality. To provide a balanced program of activities, tennis courts and fields for football, soccer, baseball, hockey and track are required.

Vision is Required

The College that has thus far been created is tangible evidence of the vision and resourcefulness of community leaders.

Perhaps we have dreamed too much for the future, but free men must offer an alternative to dreams of world conquest. It is essential that in a free world we enlarge our vision so that we may offer hope to all men.

*When a man starts out to build a world
He starts first with himself
And the faith that is in his heart
The strength there
The will there to build.
First in the heart is the dream,
Then the mind starts seeking a way.
The hand seeks too,
And then the hand seeks other hands to help,
A community of hands to help.
Then the dream becomes not one man's dream alone,
But a community dream.*

LANGSTON HUGHES



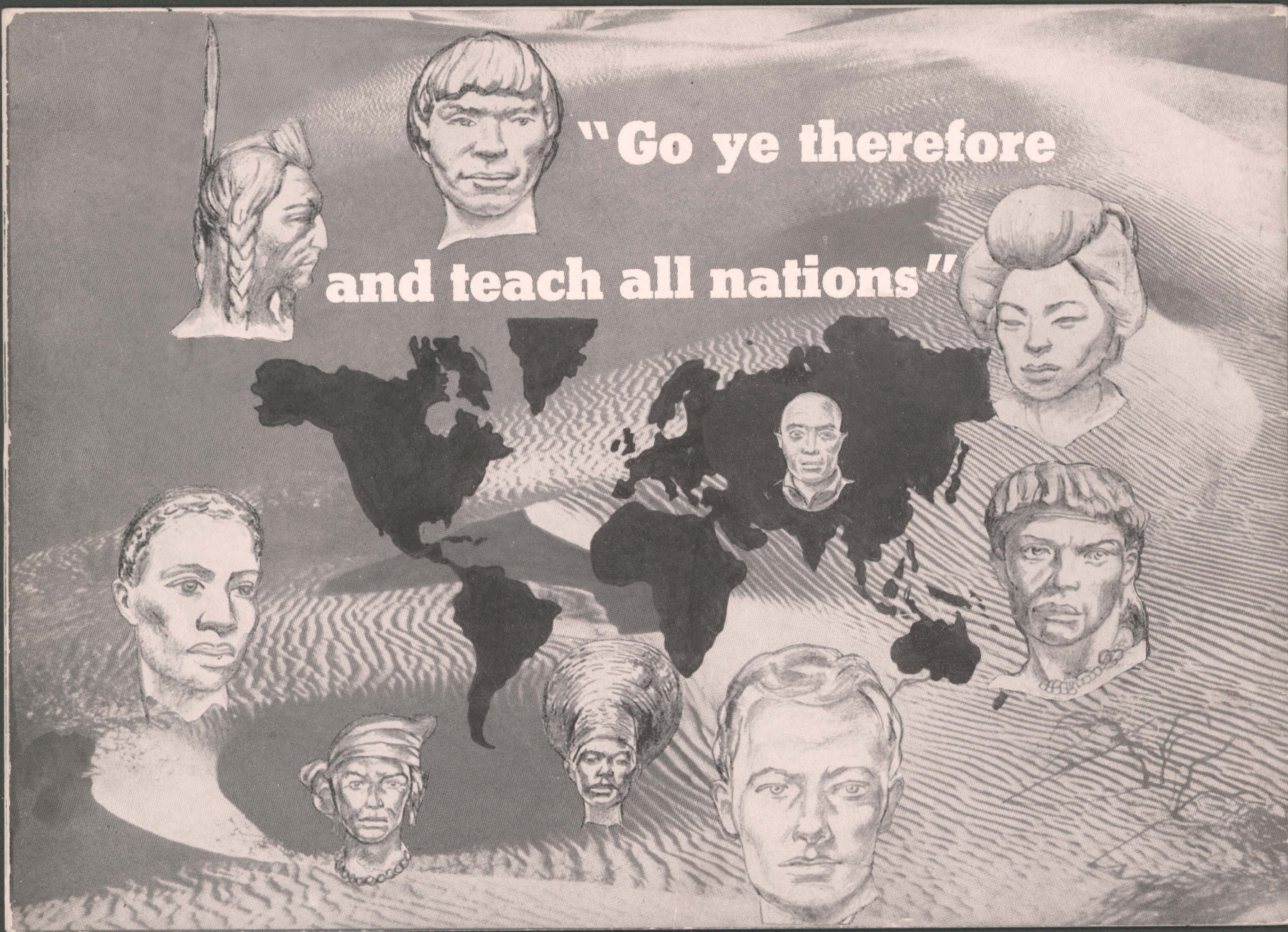
Unexpected Gains

Men and women of Wyoming Valley have given of their wealth that young people might enjoy the advantages of an education. They gave unselfishly that new generations might benefit. It is paradoxical that those who gave generously have also benefited; some in personal satisfaction, others from increased prosperity. While they gave to help others they created a new institution that is now responsible for annual spending in the community of \$1,500,000.

Layout • Typography • Art

CATHAL O'TOOLE • WILKES COLLEGE • SCHOOL OF DESIGN

**"Go ye therefore
and teach all nations"**



city of Bedford

Druce Price

architect

for Kirby
home -

nephew of

Washington Lee

of Nantucket
lived there

Reuben Fitch

ARNAHAN

ts
INESS-SUCCESS
ES

g the WHOLE CHILD by
MENTAL-SOCIAL and
GROWTH

ucation

P. Kirby

is of the College



LYONS and CARNAHAN
presents
**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the **WHOLE CHILD** by
emphasizing his **PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL** and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

*Kirby Home of Education
1941*

Presented by Allan P. Kirby

Friends of the College

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager

Edward D. Griffith
Eastern Manager

Chase Hall

One of the First Gifts
1937

Presented by Admiral and
Mrs. Harold R. Stark

— Friends of the College

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



LYONS and CARNAHAN

presents

**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the **WHOLE CHILD** by
emphasizing his **PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL** and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Wille Gymnasium

*Constructed in 1950 with
funds contributed by*

— Friends of the College

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



LYONS and CARNAHAN
presents
**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the **WHOLE CHILD** by
emphasizing his **PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL** and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Wechsesser Hall
1935

*A dormitory presented by
Mr. and Mrs. Fred. J. Wechsesser.*

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



LYONS and CARNAHAN

presents

**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the **WHOLE CHILD** by
emphasizing his **PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL** and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

*Views of the neurodining hall
1956*

*a donation for many
Presented by Gilbert J. McClintock
Chairman of the Board of Trustees*

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



LYONS and CARNAHAN
presents
**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the WHOLE CHILD by
emphasizing his PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

McClintock Hall

1951

a dormitory for men

Presented by Gilbert J. McClintock
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



LYONS and CARNAHAN

presents

**THE HEALTH-HAPPINESS-SUCCESS
SERIES**

The One Program developing the WHOLE CHILD by
emphasizing his PHYSICAL-MENTAL-SOCIAL and
EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Daniel R. Warner Hall

1955

*a dormitory for men
Purchased with funds presented
by*

Daniel R. Warner

the grandson of

*Daniel Roberts, one of
the first trustees of the College.*

EDWARD D. GRIFFITH
Eastern Manager



Gas leak forces evacuation of dorms

There were some tense, as well as some bed-emptying moments early Friday morning on the Wilkes College campus.

While making his rounds at about 4 a.m. Friday, a campus security guard smelled a strong odor of gas near the college dormitories on West Northampton Street. The guard immediately notified Wilkes-Barre police, who along with college security personnel, effected an orderly evacuation of two dorms.

The dorms, Chesapeake Hall and Delaware Hall, are located on West Northampton Street between South River and South Franklin streets. The buildings house a total of 50 students who temporarily were lodged in Evans Hall.

Crews from Pennsylvania Gas and Water Co. also were called to the scene and upon arrival at 4:17 a.m. discovered a minor leak in a gas line on West Northampton Street.

The gas was shut off and crews set about the task of repairing the leak. Once the gas was turned off, Assistant Fire Chief Robert Weale and PG&W informed the students they could return to their dorms shortly before 7 a.m.

The utility's crews repaired the faulty gas line by 11:54 a.m.

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
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Contact: Lee Morrell
Staff Reporter

WILKES PREPARES RESIDENCE HALLS FOR FALL SEMESTER

WILKES-BARRE--Wilkes College is preparing for the Fall Semester by refurbishing sixteen of the school's residence halls.

According to school officials, they are expecting over 900-students to be living on campus this fall. These renovations are being done to accommodate a waiting list of students for housing.

Pictured are Joe Gorman and Joe Zambo who are working on the refurbishing of Barre Hall, one of the Wilkes residence halls.

The refurbishing work is being done under the direction of Ray Woods, Director of Facilities Management at Wilkes College.

-30-

071489



A LOOK AROUND — Taking a tour of the Wilkes-Barre home of Thom Greco on Saturday are, left to right, Chris Slocum, Georgia Cornell and Mike Cordella.

On display

Area group showcases six historic city homes

By LEE MORRELL

Times Leader Correspondent

The Agnes Flood of June 1972 wrought some heavy damage on the historic homes that grace Wilkes-Barre's downtown.

But not even the floodwaters poured forth by the surging Susquehanna River were enough to take away the architectural gems that the Wyoming Valley Historical and Geological Society got a chance to showcase Saturday during a walking tour of six unique homes.

Betsy Condron, director of community affairs at Wilkes College and a member of the society, said the homes were chosen for a reason.

"We chose old houses in the historic district that had been

■ See DISPLAY, page 9F



TIMES LEADER PHOTOS/ALEJANDRO A. ALVAREZ

HEADING INSIDE — Corky Cordella of Wyoming walks into the South Franklin Street residence of Mark Brennan during Saturday's tour of historic Wilkes-Barre homes. The home formerly belonged to Frederick Stegmaier.



T1
TIMES LEADER/ALEJANDRO A. ALVAREZ

TAKING IN THE SIGHTS — Mike Cordella and Chris Slocum take a moment to examine the Rolls Royce Silver Cloud in front of Thom Greco's house. The car was out for display during the historic house tour Saturday morning.

Display

(Continued from Page 1F)
made into apartments to encourage local entrepreneurs to invest for real-estate purposes," she said Saturday.

"We'd like people to save the old houses, even if it's to convert them to apartments."

According to Condrón, there's a great deal of history in the homes that were on display.

First and foremost was the home of innovative filmmaker Lyman Howe, one of the pioneers of the movie industry. His former home is indicative of his lifestyle, she said.

Condrón remembers the Howe home well.

"As a youngster, I spent a whole summer being tutored by Mrs. Howe, a cousin, on the balcony off the master bedroom. We would spend the day on the roof, and look at the river."

The home is being converted into a double-block home by Thom Greco, a local businessman who owns and operates The Station complex in Wilkes-Barre. He also converted the garage carriage house into an apartment.

Another history-laden home on Saturday's tour was the residence once owned by the Stegmaier family.

"The Stegmaiers used to open their home to friends and the children of friends for a get-together during Christmas," said Cordelia "Corky" Bergman of Kingston.

"They always threw big New Year's parties. Hundreds of young people would come. When you were old enough to go, you were in. It was always black-tie," added Condrón.

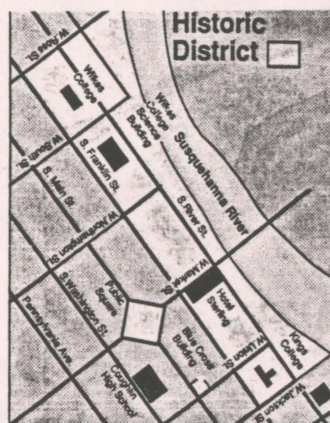
The home formerly owned by the Parrish family was last owned by Mary Koons, the last member of the Parrish family. George Parrish was the founder of the Parrish Coal Co. and was one of the area's coal barons. Condrón said Koons was one of the founders of the Fine Arts Fiesta.

Most of the homes, according to tour guides, still have original wood trim, door and window frames, and stained-glass windows. Some, though, like the doors in the Mebane home, were removed and re-mounted on hinges.

Also included in the tour were three buildings on the campus of Wilkes College.

They were the cafeteria, which hosted a luncheon for the tour; the gymnasium, which was built on ground once owned by the Charles Miner family; and the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts, which is located on the site of the former Conyngham family mansion.

"I can only hope that this will educate residents to the point that they understand the history around them," said Condrón. "It's our cultural heritage. It's important to the next generation."



TIMES LEADER GRAPHIC/DAVE HARTRANFT

IN NEED OF REPAIRS — First United Methodist Church in Wilkes-Barre is facing nearly \$1 million in repair bills. Shown inside the deteriorating church in photo at right are local architect Richard Williams, who was retained by the congregation to plot the church's salvation, and the Rev. Don Anderson, the church's outgoing pastor



TIMES LEADER/CLARK VAN ORDEN

HOLDING ON TO HISTORY

In Wilkes-Barre, there's a move afoot to preserve pieces of the city's past

By DAWN SHURMAITIS

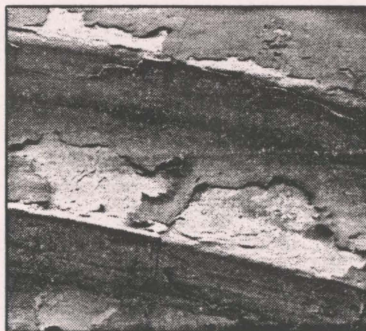
Times Leader Staff Writer

If they'd lived to see it happen, members of the city's first historical society might have staged another revolution when the Old Fell Tavern and the Odd Fellows Hall gave way to the wrecking ball.

The two meeting halls were home to the earliest gatherings of the original Wyoming Geological and Historical Society, which held its first meeting in 1858.

Both buildings were demolished in the name of progress, one to make way for an apartment house and the other for a parking lot.

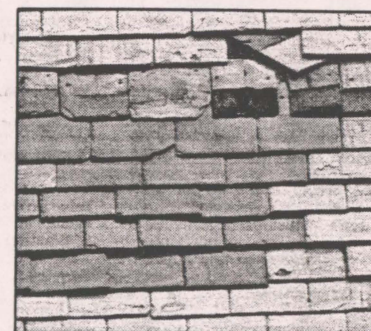
While such losses are keenly felt by the society's modern counterparts, members of the city's preservation movement refuse to dwell on what's already gone. Instead, the guardians of the city's past prefer to renew efforts to



COMING OFF — The stone on First United Methodist Church is scaling



GAPING — A large hole is located in the ceiling of one of the church's rooms



ROOF DAMAGE — Shown are missing and broken slate tiles on the roof of the church

save the historical treasures that remain.

"You can't weep too much over what's been lost in the last 30 years," says Annie Bohlin, a founding member of the Historical Preservation Society of Luzerne County, a city organization dedicated to all things old and beautiful.

"What's important is what's left."

And that, preservationists say, is plenty.

For one, there's the First United Methodist Church on North Franklin Street, built in 1849 by renowned architect Bruce Price.

Faced with nearly \$1 million in repair bills,

the church's dwindling congregation had considered demolishing the landmark to make way for a smaller and more economical meeting house. The public outcry was so great, however, that the plan was soundly rejected.

■ See PRESERVE, page 14C

Center.

The street lamps are replicas of ones that graced the bridge in the days before fluorescent overhead lights.

Preservation society member Royce Earnest, an architect with the Wilkes-Barre firm of Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski, says devotion to such details "are what give character to a city."

To promote awareness of other architectural details that abound in the River Street Historic District, members of the city's historical and preservation societies recently hosted a walking tour and treasure hunt in the area.

The walking tour of historic homes was held Saturday, while the treasure hunt took place in May. Using photographs as a guide, treasure-hunters were charged with the task of tracking down 38 steeples, statues, windows, chimneys and gargoyles in the district.

The pictures also were made into posters and notecards now being sold by the preservation society to raise money.

The group, which is made up of about 35 businesses, college students, architects and other professionals, acts as an umbrella organization for historic-preservation projects. It uses the money it raises, in part, to fund state and federal grant applications.

Photographer Chris Barone,

AS an example of a new building that blended in with its environment, Handman cites the new Wilkes College gymnasium on South Franklin Street in the heart of the historic district. The gym, named the Arnaud C. Marts Center, constructed with brick and stone that relate to other buildings on the street, opened its doors early this year.

"The gym was sympathetic because of its scale, its volume and the materials chosen," says Handman. "It didn't interrupt a visually important block."

Sometimes, perhaps, it isn't possible to save a building, no matter how old or significant. Attorney Harold Rosen, for one, says his firm had no choice but to demolish the Odd Fellows Hall in 1986.

"It was a constant drain because it was old and never updated," says Rosen of the Wilkes-Barre law firm of Rosen, Jenkins and Greenwald. "The cost (of renovation) was absolutely prohibitive."

Yet if a building has to go, preservationists say every effort should be made to save a few of its significant features.

The Old Fell Tavern, which is where Judge Jesse Fell successfully burned anthracite coal for the first time, was demolished in 1986. The grate where the coal was burned, however, was rescued, and is now being kept at the Wyoming Geological and His-

corus and the restoration of the former Guthrie School on North Washington Street by InterMetro Industries Corp.

Cliff Melberger, the owner of Diversified Records, bought the bottling plant three years ago and spent about \$500,000 to renovate it and bring it up to current health and safety codes.

Next, he moved onto the former Nelson clothing manufacturing plant, which is adjacent to the Stegmaler complex. Renovations on that building, which Melberger estimates dates back to at least the late-1800s, may run as high as \$300,000.

"You can make good use of historical properties," says Melberger. "It's kind of a hobby of ours."

Preservationists say maintaining the city's historical landscape does more than make for an attractive place to live and work. It also stimulates the tourism industry and draws more full-time residents to the area.

"When you go to other places in the country, the thing that hits you is the sense of history," says architect and preservation society member James Bell.

Adds real-estate agent Barry Kaminski, "When people move here, they're not just buying the home, they're buying the atmosphere."

To that end, explains architect Richard Williams, the city's various authorities must



WHAT CAN BE DONE — At top, the lower door panel detail on the entrance way at 304 S. Franklin St. shows what can be done in a restoration project. Above, a group discusses a restoration project. From left to right are James A. Bell of Architecture Planning Interiors, Royce M. Earnest of AIA, realtor Barry J. Kaminski, Frank W. Grauman of AIA and architect Richard Williams.

practice sound urban planning.

He says it's vital that planners look at the city as a whole before approving the construction of parking lots and high-ris-

es, and that they study alternatives to demolition before calling in the wrecking ball.

"There's gaps in the teeth from South Franklin Street

south to Northampton Street," says Williams. "And any single gap tears the city fabric."

"You must see a vision, 20, 50, 100 years down the line."

HARD HANDWORK

— Joseph Mihai sits next to a table

figures he's created

using rocks that he's

collected. Mihai has

been gathering rocks

from around the area

for several years.

Preserve—

(Continued from Page 1C)

Local architect Richard Williams, who was retained by the congregation to plot the church's salvation, says he expects some structural repairs to be completed as early as mid-September.

Work on a new roof and the restoration of the church's weather-beaten interior should begin later in the fall.

The congregation is relying on grants, foundations and contributions from corporations and individuals to foot the bill. The new roof alone could cost as much as \$300,000.

However important, the church is but the latest addition to a long list of projects that have grabbed the attention of the historically conscious in recent years.

Proponents say the time is ripe for preservation. Wilkes-Barre, which has survived numerous ups and downs over the last 200 years, is enjoying an economic resurgence.

The grandest and most significant of the city's historical treasures were built in the city's heyday near the turn of the century, when King Coal reigned in the region.

But the collapse of the coal-mining industry set off an economic depression that spanned more than 40 years. Numerous historical properties were lost in the interim, some during the urban-renewal movement of the 1960s and others in the Agnes Flood of 1972.

But now, says preservation society member Frank Grauman, the pendulum is swinging back. Properties once considered old and useless are being looked at in a new way.

"The climate has changed," says Grauman. "People are promoting preservation."

When ticking off a "greatest hits" list, history buffs cite the establishment in 1985 of the River Street Historic District, the renovation in 1986 of the Market Street Bridge and the restoration three years ago of the former Paramount Theater, now the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts.

But the list isn't devoted entirely to the grand and the terribly expensive. In some cases, the private sector has stepped in with its own money to save and renovate century-old homes and businesses. Many of the homes on Saturday's walking tour, for example, are private residences.

And there are other kinds of projects in the works as well.

Members of the preservation

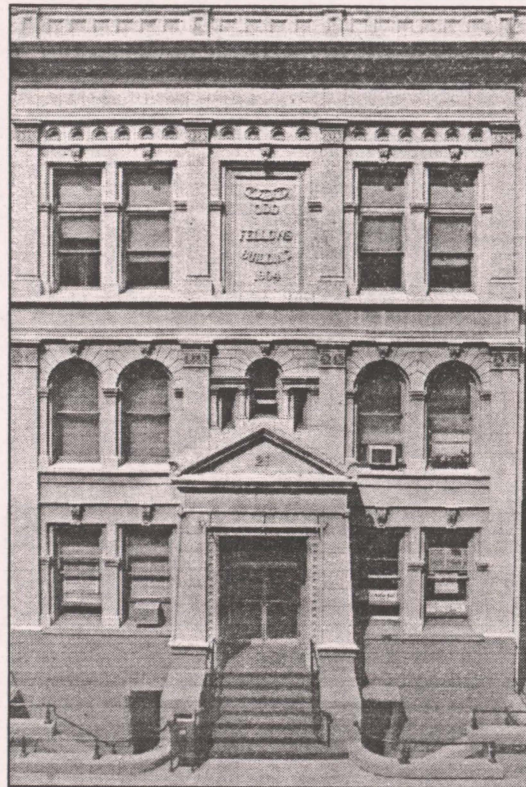


PHOTO COURTESY WYOMING GEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BEFORE AND AFTER — At left is the Odd Fellows building one year before it was demolished in 1986. Attorney Harold Rosen of the law firm of Rosen, Jenkins and

who took the black-and-white pictures used in the treasure hunt, says it's the fine details created by craftsmen long dead that sets Wilkes-Barre apart from other cities.

"It wouldn't be Wilkes-Barre without the marvelous little skyline of steeples, gables and rooftops," says Barone, a 40-year-old native who returned to the Wyoming Valley about six years ago.

Maintaining that skyline should be one of the city's top priorities, says Barone and other enthusiasts who'd like to see the historic district kept intact.

But when that isn't possible, they say, shoot for the next best thing.

Wilkes-Barre architect Carl Handman says the city's preservationists and its developers must learn to work together if they have any hope of upholding the city's heritage.

"We can't stop them from building, but they must resist doing things that are detri-

torial Society museum.

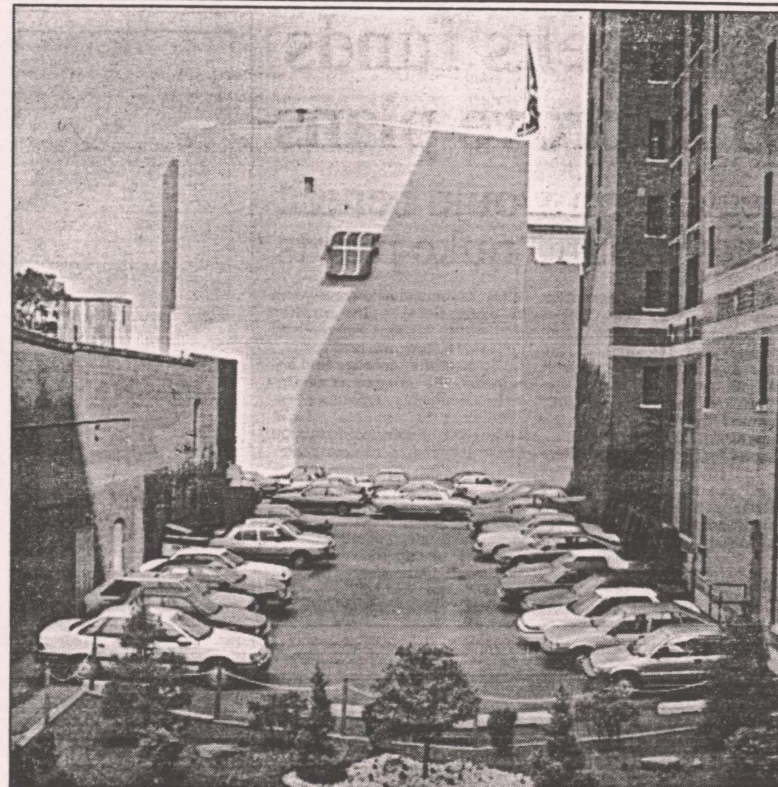
On a bigger scale, there's the work being done on the old Pomeroy's warehouse complex on East Union Street, now owned by businessman Thom Greco.

While Greco tore down one building, he saved its Victorian facade and is incorporating it onto an adjacent warehouse also undergoing renovation.

"If you can't salvage the building, renovate it, save part of it," says Greco, who also owns a home that was featured on Saturday's walking tour. "It's like keeping part of the magic there."

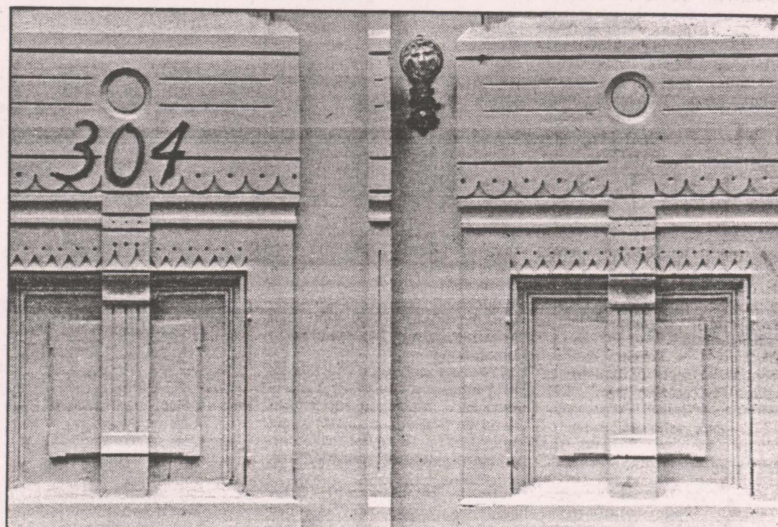
There are other incentives as well. To encourage preservation, the federal government offers tax breaks to the owners of buildings designated as historically significant by the Department of the Interior.

Under the program, owners become eligible for 20-percent federal tax credits, provided the restoration costs more than the building's original purchase



TIMES LEADER PHOTOS/RICHARD SABATURA

Freenwald, said the costs to repair the building were too high to justify a renovation. At right is the building's replacement.



Gas leak forces 50 from Wilkes dorms

WILKES-BARRE — Students living in Chesapeake and Delaware dormitories at Wilkes College were evacuated from the buildings at 4:15 a.m. Friday because of a gas leak.

Ken Swisher, assistant director of public relations for the College, said a security guard who was making rounds Thursday night near the adjoining buildings smelled gas in the area of Northampton Street.

After entering the buildings, the odor became stronger and the Wilkes-Barre police were

called, Swisher said.

Fifty students were evacuated to Evans Hall but were allowed back into the dorms around 7 a.m. with approval of the police and fire departments, Jane Lampe-Groh, dean of student affairs, said.

The gas leak was discovered outside the buildings near West Northampton Street, according to June Ann Greco, communication coordinator of the Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company.

"The leak was repaired at 11:54 a.m.," Greco said.

72

3/18/89 3A



Gas leak forces evacuation of dorms

There were some tense, as well as some bed-emptying moments early Friday morning on the Wilkes College campus.

While making his rounds at about 4 a.m. Friday, a campus security guard smelled a strong odor of gas near the college dormitories on West Northampton Street. The guard immediately notified Wilkes-Barre police, who along with college security personnel, effected an orderly evacuation of two dorms.

The dorms, Chesapeake Hall and Delaware Hall, are located on West Northampton Street between South River and South Franklin streets. The buildings house a total of 50 students who temporarily were lodged in Evans Hall.

Crews from Pennsylvania Gas and Water Co. also were called to the scene and upon arrival at 4:17 a.m. discovered a minor leak in a gas line on West Northampton Street.

The gas was shut off and crews set about the task of repairing the leak. Once the gas was turned off, Assistant Fire Chief Robert Weale and PG&W informed the students they could return to their dorms shortly before 7 a.m.

The utility's crews repaired the faulty gas line by 11:54 a.m.

CV 3/18/89 2

Post Cards Helped Expand the Lines of Communication

Before Ma Bell stretched her lines throughout every hamlet in America, before the days of two cars in every garage and air travel as casual as taking the street car down to Nanticoke, adults kept in touch, making dates and travel plans, by sending post cards through the mail.

Two fine examples of well preserved post cards accompany today's column, one with a U.S. Post Office cancellation of Mar. 30, 1914, and the other depicting historic John N. Conyngham Hall in the days of Bucknell University Junior College in Wilkes-Barre.

From Middlesex, N.J., came the older of the two post cards along with a note from the sender, Harry Jacobs, former resident of Wilkes-Barre.

"I receive the Sunday Independent every week as my nephew works here and brings the paper

Waxing Nostalgic

by
JOE COOPER

along on Monday. Maybe some of your readers would like to see what South Franklin Street looked like back in 1914. My father left a lot of old post cards, but this one stands out," wrote Jacobs.

Jacobs' card is a view of tree-lined South Franklin Street, looking north toward Market Street, in what looks like the 400 block. A close inspection of the card shows a touring car heading south with a horse and buggy about a half block behind the car.

Utility lines added in the decades that followed probably helped to

eliminate the stately elms and maples that lined both sides of the roadway.

Harry Jacobs and his wife, the former Mazie Mulroy, are both graduates of Meyers High School and Harry's mother, Minnie Jacobs, resides in Pittston. The couple have two nephews in the area, Alan Jacobs of Wilkes-Barre and John Findora, a native of Mountaintop.

"We have been following the exploits of Rocket Ismail with interest since he is a Meyers grad and former star running back with the

Mohawks," said Mazie.

The 1914 post card belonging to Jacobs has a message on it sent in 1914 to Miss Freide Jacobs of Scott Street, Wilkes-Barre. Miss Jacobs was an aunt of Harry Jacobs and later married a man named DeWald, moving to Kingston. The sender of the old card was Ralph Ruppert.

One of the most stately homes in Wilkes-Barre was the Conyngham residence, given to Bucknell Junior College and used for many years by the Junior College's successor, Wilkes College, now Wilkes University.

John N. Conyngham Hall burned down around 1968 but the tall columns fronting the edifice were left standing by the college for many years.

The post card of Conyngham Hall was sent to this writer by a regular correspondent, Joseph F. Walsh of 43 Palm Lane, Levittown, Pa. (19054), whose most recent post card mailings to "Waxing" appeared in this column on Nov. 25, 1990, when the late Bucky Harris, Pittston native, was chronicled, highlighting his fabulous baseball career in the American League as player and manager.

The card shows five Bucknell Junior College students taking a break on the front porch of the building in what was most likely early fall. The card was never mailed but called for a one-cent stamp.

Walsh, a Kingston High School graduate, has a large collection of old post cards and frequently trades with others who share his hobby.

Reaction to the Dec. 2 "Waxing" on World War II V-Discs being made available for purchase came from a number of sources, including the Big Band Society's John McKeown.

McKeown has entertained at the former Glenn Miller Society group's meetings for many years, spinning records and playing tapes of the great bands from that era that refuses to fade away.

"I must have 76 V-Discs in my possession and they are in mint condition. They were given to me when I was in the Army during the war, stationed at an embarkation point in Virginia," said McKeown.

McKeown is one of the region's

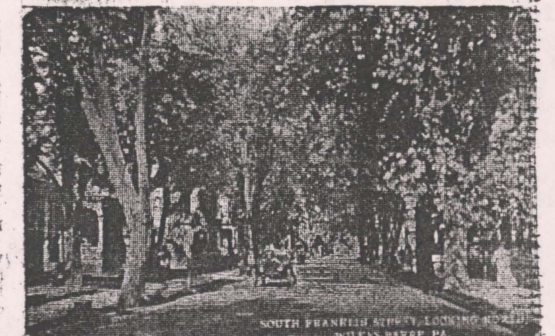
foremost authorities on the big bands and never hesitates to share his knowledge with others.

Although the local band society has a new name, the Glenn Miller Birthplace Society is still going strong in the famed band leader's hometown — Clarinda, Iowa. The society out there in the Midwest is offering its fifth annual Glenn Miller Calendar with the theme for the

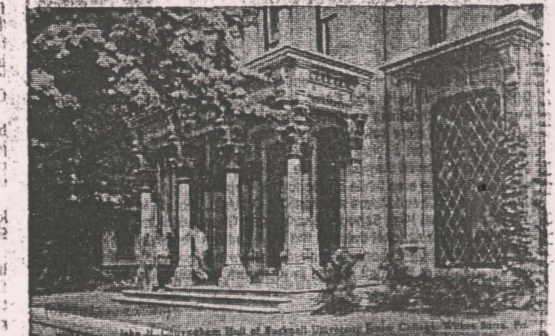
1991 calendar being "The Music of Glenn Miller."

The calendar contains "fourteen memorable pictures and 396 daily items," according to officers of the Glenn Miller Birthplace Society.

Single calendars are priced at \$10 and this includes postage. Orders by check or money order should be mailed to: Glenn Miller Birthplace Society Calendars, P.O. Box 61, Clarinda, Iowa 51632.



S. FRANKLIN 1914 — Shady and tranquil, that was South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre in the summer of 1914 as shown on this post card. Sent by former Wilkes-Barre resident, Harry Jacobs of Middlesex, N.J., the view on the card is looking north toward East Market Street.



LOST IN FIRE — Fire ravaged John N. Conyngham Hall on the campus of the then Wilkes College around 1968. Sent by Joseph Walsh of Levittown, Pa., the old post card shows students under the portico of the former Conyngham residence that was donated to Bucknell University Junior College, forerunner of Wilkes University.

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
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contact: Melissa Meyers
Assistant Director
Public Relations

"WILKES AND ITS MARVELOUS MANSIONS" WILL OPEN SEMINAR SERIES

WILKES-BARRE--Wilkes College will present a lecture entitled, "Wilkes and Its Marvelous Mansions" on Thursday, October 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center. Speaker for the event is Betsy Bell Condron, Wilkes College Director of Community Relations. The event is open to the public, free of charge.

Condron's presentation is the first in the 1987 Wilkes College Faculty Seminar Series, coordinated by Dr. Stanley Kay, Professor of Philosophy. Throughout the year, select seminars in the series will be made available to the general public.

In "Wilkes and its Marvelous Mansions," Condron will discuss the history of Wilkes College and its relationship to the history of the community. Special emphasis will be placed on the architecture and rich heritage of many buildings on the Wilkes campus, including the architects commissioned for the buildings, the architectural styles chosen, and the families who lived in the homes.

In addition to her position as Director of Community Relations at Wilkes, Condron serves on the Boards of Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Children's Service Center, Children's Home, and the Nesbitt Hospital Foundation. She is also president of the Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania.

(more)

"Marvelous Mansions" to Open Wilkes Series ad-1

Moderator for Condron's lecture will be Dr. Charlotte Lord, Professor Emerita of the College. A reception to meet the speaker and discuss her topic will follow the presentation.

-30-

Miss Mayers
Assistant Director
Public Relations

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(more)

Third Kirby Generation Continues Local Interest

As the family fortune was started by F. M. Kirby, its care was placed into the hands of his son, Allan Pierce Kirby, who diversified and expanded its enterprise.

At the same time, he was continuing his interest in the cultural and education growth of Wyoming Valley. Married to the former Marian Sutherland of West Pittston, the couple left the area several decades ago to make their home in New Jersey.

The two male members of the family of the Kirby who are providing the third generation of leadership are: Fred Morgan Kirby II and Allan Pierce Kirby Jr.

Morgan II is married to A. Walker Dillard. They are the parents of four children: Alice, Fred M. III, Dillard and Jefferson.

A graduate of Lafayette College and Harvard Business School, he is president of the Allegheny Corp., a director of F.W. Woolworth among many executive positions.

Allan Kirby Jr. is the father of five children: Jessie Ann, Allan P. III, Slater Baran, Corey and Milan Stanton.

He is president of the Liberty Square Investments, chairman of the executive committee of the Allegheny Corps.

The third generation members are active in the operations of the various Kirby Endowments which includes, the Episcopal House, the Kirby Health Center, Kirby Park, the Marian Sutherland Kirby Library.



F. M. KIRBY



ALLAN KIRBY



ALLAN KIRBY JR.



F. M. KIRBY II

Kirby Family's

dedicated to Angeline Kirby.

The acres of land on the west bank of the Susquehanna River were donated to the City of Wilkes-Barre by the Kirby family as a recreation and cultural site for the community.

Fred and Jessie Kirby had two sons — Allan and Sumner, the latter died in early manhood.

Allan Kirby carried on in the family's enterprises and it was during his later years, that the family moved to New Jersey to be closer to the many national and international interest they held including the Allegheny Corp.

Allan Kirby had married Marian Sutherland of West Pittston; they had four children — Fred M. Morgan II, Grace Jessie Kirby Culbertson, Allan P. Kirby II and Ann Kirby Kirby.

When the Allan Kirby family left the region, they gave their magnificent fieldstone home at Glen Summit to the Episcopal Diocese. There are 26 rooms in the house on 11 acres of land and each room is furnished with the original family pieces. It is used for religious,

(Continued from Page 1, Section 2)

charitable and educational functions.

Recently four grandchildren of F.M. Kirby built the Marion Sutherland Kirby Library at Mountaintop. This is dedicated to the memory of their mother.

Last year, when funds were sought for the Center for Performing Arts, F.M. Kirby and his family contributed a major portion to the renovations and maintenance of the Center.

With each generation, the Kirby interests and holdings have expanded. They are major stockholders in American Express. They had railroad and bank interests.

An unassuming family with strong religious ties, philanthropic responsibilities, they continue to play a major role in the economic growth and development of the United States. The Kirby family ranks with the Mellons of Pittsburgh, the Rockefellers of New York, in their civic dedication and responsibility.

Despite their rise, they have never forgotten the community where the first family five and cent store was opened.

Kirby Family's (SI) 9-13-87 Indelible Legacy

By LIDDI BRENNAN
Staff Writer

As the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts prepares for its first anniversary celebrations this week, the name of the center brings to mind the close association that the Kirby family has had with Wyoming Valley.

In almost every way, the Kirbys have touched the lives of members of this community. The Kirby Health Center alone has provided the facilities where health services are provided; where records from birth to death are kept; where the ill and infirm may receive treatments.

Although now residents of New Jersey, the inextricable bond that binds the scions of the vast Kirby financial empire with this locality is unending.

The familiar buildings such as the Kirby Education Building at Wilkes College, the Kirby Episcopal Home at Glen Summit, the Kirby Health Center, the Marian Sutherland Kirby Library at Mountaintop, Kirby Park

with the Moore and Smith dry goods store in Watertown, N.Y. Among his fellow employees were F.W. and C. S. Woolworth, with whom he was to become associated in the F.W. Woolworth Five and Dime Stores.

It was this association that resulted in a new type of enterprise, the five and dime stores. The idea was brought into being by Kirby and Woolworth when they learned that a sale of unmovable items on a special table for five cents was a terrific success. Thus the nucleus of a business was formed.

After eight years, Kirby had saved \$500 and went into partnership with C. Sumner Woolworth of Scranton and the famed chain came into existence.

When the full merger with Woolworth became a Fiat Accompli, more than 1,000 stores were involved and the assets worth over \$65 million.

The only Woolworth store that still retains the Kirby name is located on South Main St., Wilkes-Barre.

The charisma of the Kirby family was felt

are only a few of the tangible contributions that have been made to the community through the generosity of three generations of the Kirby Family.

Unlike the early economically affluent coal barons who left the community after they amassed a fortune, the Kirby family, who were merchants, returned to the community many fold what it had given them.

The rise of the Kirby family is a romantic tale. Starting with F.M. Kirby who was born in New York state and whose rise to become one of the wealthiest men in the United States is exciting in itself.

The first records of the family demonstrate that there was an adventurous genius in the family strain. The father of F.M. Kirby traveled around the Cape Horn in a sailing vessel in his efforts to get to California in search of gold. He returned to New York state to become a farmer.

But the free spirit and dreams of the father were realized in his son.

When Fred Morgan Kirby was 15, he became a clerk

everywhere from bank board rooms, to Wall St. clubs, to ivy covered walls of great universities to almost every philanthropic endeavor.

The red stone mansion which Fred M. Kirby and his wife Jessie occupied on the corner of South River and South Streets was built of native red stone from the Hendler Quarry at Mountaintop. The site was the former home of Col. Dennison who married Elizabeth Still, the first marriage in Wyoming Valley.

The family home was turned over to Bucknell Junior College in 1931 and became its first library. The magnificent woodwork, the majestic staircase with its stained glass windows now serves as a classroom for the students.

The great love F.M. Kirby bore for his mother resulted in the construction and maintenance of the Kirby Health Center on North Franklin St. — one of the finest medical facilities in the Northeastern United States. The stone and white marble structure is

(Continued on Page 5, Section 2)

ANGELINE KIRBY HEALTH CENTER



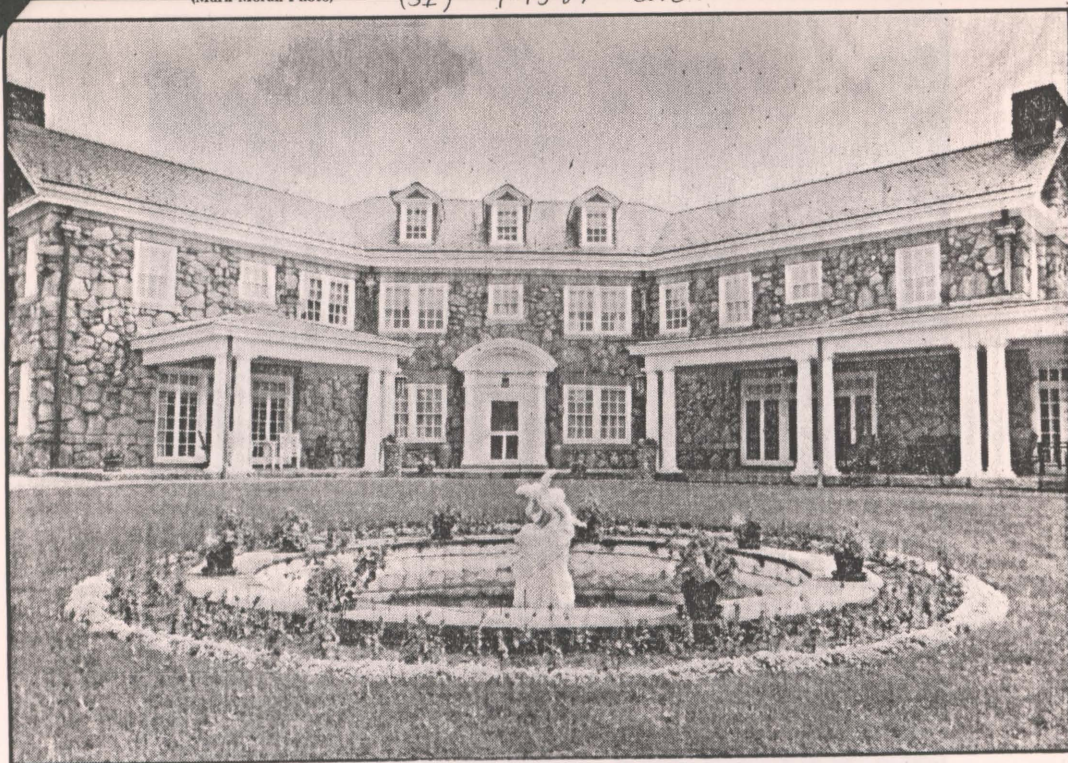
KIRBY EDUCATION CENTER

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ANGELINE KIRBY HEALTH CENTER



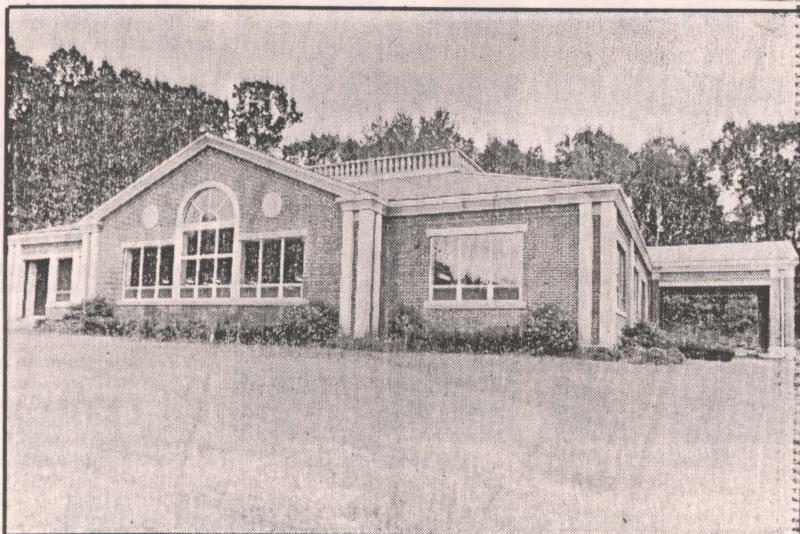
KIRBY EPISCOPAL HOUSE



KIRBY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



KIRBY PARK (SI) 9-13-87 (cont.)



MARIAN SUTHERLAND KIRBY LIBRARY

The Kirby family as a community and cultural life in the community.

Ed and Joanne Kirby had two sons — Alan and Robert, the latter died in early childhood.

Alan Kirby carried on the family tradition and it was during his later years that the family moved to New Jersey to be closer to the many cultural and historical interests they had including the Allegheny area.

Alan Kirby had married Marian Sutherland of New Jersey; they had four children — Paul M. Kirby, Jr., Gary John Kirby, Catherine, Allen F. Kirby II and Ann Kirby Kirby.

When the Alan Kirby family left the region, they gave their magnificent limestone home at Glen View to the Cultural Museum. These magnificent log home on 12 acres of land and each room is furnished with the original furnishings. It is still for display.

This is dedicated to the memory of their mother.

Last year when Alan Kirby was 94, he and his family were in the 100th birthday party. Kirby and his family were in the 100th birthday party to the celebration and recognition of the family.

With their education, the Kirby interests and beliefs have remained. They are major contributors to various projects. They had cultural and high values.

In supporting family with strong religious and philanthropic organizations, they continue to play a major role in the economic growth and development of the Western District. The Kirby family works with the Western District, the Department of New York, to that their education and responsibility.

People know that they have more together the more people who are that kind. One and one more was added.

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Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South River Street

34 C. 1850. One-story flat-roofed office building with additions c. 1900 and c. 1907. Bracketed cornice; masonry drip moldings over facade windows and door. Used as law offices by McClintock family until 1959 - bequeathed to Wilkes College. S

44 *McClintock* C. 1841. Two-and-one-half-story Greek Revival brick house. Low gable roof. Enlarged several times in 19th century. Picturesque facade with arcades and gables. 1863 addition architects: Vaux and Withers. S

48 1931-32. First Baptist Church. Gothic stone church with square bell tower. C

60 Late 1950s. Three-story contemporary brick and stone structure. Flat roof. Jewish Community Center. I

72 *Sterling* 1860. Italianate stuccoed brick house; three and one half stories with low hip roof supported by large paired brackets and surmounted by a bracketed cupola. Five-bay symmetrical facade; ornate case iron porch posts. Sterling Hall, Wilkes College. Architect: Bruce Price, Wilkes-Barre. S

80-84 *Rifkin* 1873. High Victorian stuccoed brick double house with a high polychrome slate topped with a crest rail. High pitched dormers; flat Gothic drip molding around windows. Some alterations and additions for conversion to apartments. S

92 *Catlin* 1842-1844. Two-and-one-half-story Greek Revival brick house with low gable roof. Five-bay symmetrical facade with Tuscan-influenced stone frontispiece on the recessed entrance way. Catlin Hall. Now used as dormitory by Wilkes College. Service building to rear, or 1870 Italianate stable. S

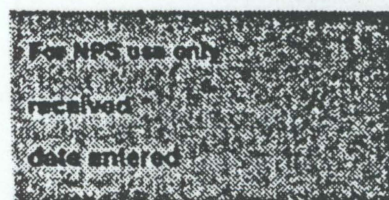
98 *Weiss* C. 1850. Weiss Hall. Greek Revival brick house. Extensively remodeled to present Queen Anne appearance in 1886. Round tower in southwest corner. Recessed balconies. Currently a dormitory. Architect: A. H. Kipp, Wilkes-Barre. S

100 *Evans Hall* 1982. Modern four-story college dormitory. I

130 *Conyngnam* C. 1898. Chateausque brick house, two and one half stories. Dormered high hip roof; masonry porch. Much masonry decorative detailing. Conyngnam Student Center, Wilkes College. Architect: Charles Gifford, New York. S

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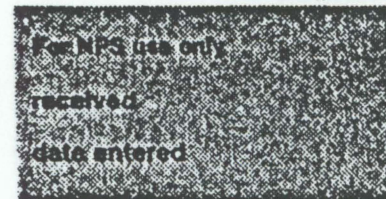
Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South River Street

- (146) *Evans Alumni* 1925-1926. Two-and-one-half-story Tudor Revival brick house. Masonry trim around entranceway and first floor facade bay window; Annette Evans Alumni House, Wilkes College. Architects: Innis & Levy, Wilkes-Barre. S
- (150-180) *Stark Learning Center* 1972-1973. Contemporary brick structure. Four stories with partial mansard roof. Stark Learning Center, Wilkes College. Architects: Lacy, Atherton and Davis, Wilkes-Barre. I
- (184) *Chase* 1918. Two-and-one-half-story Tudor Revival stuccoed brick house. Gable roof with cross gables; half timbering; segmental arch windows; casement and double-hung windows. Chase Hall, Wilkes College. C
- (202) *Kirby* 1872-74. Two-and-one-half-story High Victorian Gothic stone house. High gable roof with steeply pitched dormers and roof tower; columned entranceway. C. 1908 Renaissance Revival interior and exterior terraces. Kirby Hall, Wilkes College. Architect: Frederick Clark Withers. Remodeled 1880 by Bruce Price. S
- (234) *New Bld.* C. 1870s house remodeled c. 1910, two and one half stories, brick, gambrel roof. C
- 236-238 1927. Tan brick school building; three stories with flat roof. Tuscan-influenced entrance frontispiece. Temple Israel School. Architect: Stanley Walbourne, Wilkes-Barre. C
- 239 1924-1925. Temple Israel. Tan brick synagogue structure with eclectic decoration. Molded brick; dome; round arch in entranceway. C
- 245 C. 1890. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne brick house. High gable roof with facade cross gable. Round tower with conical roof and first story of stone. Recessed balcony. Addition of Tudor Revival one-story wing on north side. Architect: Albert Kipp, Wilkes-Barre. S
- (251) *Ross* 1895-1896. Two-and-one-half-story Romanesque brick house. Dormer hip roof; rock-faced stone decorative detailing; large recessed windows; bracketed cornices. Used as offices and classrooms. S
- 255 C. 1867. Second Empire stone stable block; one story plus mansard. 1923--Enlarged and converted to a house. Segmental arch windows; bracketed gable roof dormers. S

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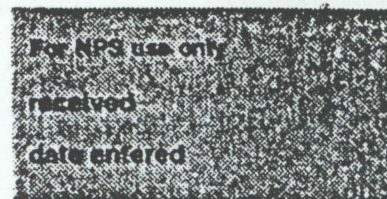
Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South River Street

- 258 C. 1866. Two-and-one-half-story Italianate frame house with low gable roof and clapboard siding. Roof supported by paired brackets. C. 1907 paired classical column porch across facade and north side (wrap around). C. 1907 window sashes added. C
- Shocum*
(262-264) C. 1890 functional brick double house; two stories plus mansard-appearing roof. Stone window sills and lintels. Extensively altered and enlarged in 1920s. Now apartments. C
- 263-265 C. 1930 functional brick apartment house. Dormer hip roof; tripartite window on each level of facade; two and one half stories. Classical influenced entranceway. C
- 266 Late 19th century frame house with low gable roof. Greatly altered. I
- Sullivan*
(271-273) C. 1925. Three-story brick apartment house; eclectic. Flat roof; strips of casement windows; classical influenced entranceway. Sullivan Hall, Wilkes College. C
- 272 C. 1895. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne frame house. High gambrel roof; polygonal tower with swag decoration in tower; dentils in the gambrel. Aluminum siding and some replacement windows added. Architect: J. H. W. Hawkins, Wilkes-Barre. C
- 275 C. 1895. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne brick house. High gable roof; shingled facade gable with recessed bay window. Two-story facade bay window with crest rail. Paired Corinthian column facade porch with brick balustrade. C
- 276-278 Two mid-20th century commercial buildings; one a one-story brick; the other a two-story concrete block. I
- 279 C. 1900. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne brick house. High gable roof; recessed entranceway; half timbering in facade gable; bay window projecting over entrance. Now apartments. C
- 281 C. 1929. Spanish Revival tan brick house; three and one half stories with two-and-one-half-story wing on south side. Tiled low hip roof; classical influenced masonry decorative detailing at the windows and entrance. Palladian influenced entrance porch with urn finials. C

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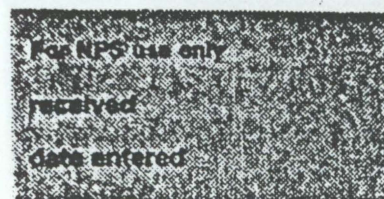
Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South Franklin Street

- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| 120 | C. 1907. Two-and-one-half-story French Renaissance brick house. High hip roof. | S |
| 123 | C. 1860s. Three-story Italianate frame house. Low hip roof. Present Spanish Revival stuccoed exterior c. 1930. | C |
| 126 and 126R | C. 1920. Two-and-one-half-story Colonial Revival tan brick house. Dormer gambrel roof. | C |
| 129-131 | <i>Sturdevant</i>
C. 1842. Three-story Greek Revival painted brick house. Low hip roof. 1860s Italianate doorway and porch. Unequal five-bay facade, early 20th century additions. Sturdevant Hall, Wilkes College. | S |
| 132 | 1860s. Second Empire house; two stories and mansard roof. | C |
| 132R | C. 1910. Colonial Revival brick, Luzerne County Medical Society offices. | C |
| 136 and 136R | 1860s. Second Empire brick house; two stories plus mansard. Later addition to facade. | C |
| 142 | 1870s. Second Empire stuccoed brick house; two stories plus mansard. | C |
| 148-150 | C. 1880. Two-and-one-half-story High Victorian Gothic stuccoed brick house. | C |
| 156 and 156R | C. 1907. Three-story Colonial Revival tan brick house with flat roof. American Red Cross headquarters. | S |
| 165 | <i>Capin</i>
C. 1907. Colonial Revival brick house; two and one half stories with mansard roof. Capin Hall, Wilkes College. | C |
| 170 | <i>Weckesser</i>
1914-1916. Chateausque stone house; two and one half stories with high hip roof. Porte-cochere on north side. Weckesser Hall, Wilkes College. Architect: Charles P. Gilbert. | S |
| 170R | <i>Weckesser Annex</i>
Carriage house with servants quarters above, in rear. | C |
| 171 | <i>Fenner</i>
C. 1881. Second Empire stuccoed brick house; two stories plus mansard roof. | C |

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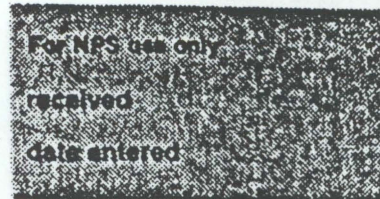
Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South Franklin Street

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| 175-177 | C. 1881. High Victorian Gothic stuccoed brick house; two and one half stories plus roof tower. Now apartments. | C |
| 182 | C. 1907 house. | C |
| 185 | C. 1930. Small one-story brick church building. Formerly First Church of Christ, Scientist. Currently ROTC Building, Wilkes College. | C |
| 186-188 | Late 19th century double house with 1910 Gothic cast stone porch. | C |
| <u>Library</u>
191-199 | C. 1969. Eugene S. Farley Library, Wilkes College. Architect: Lacy, Atherton and Davis, Wilkes-Barre. | I |
| <u>Hollenbach</u>
192 | 1916. Colonial Revival brick house; two stories with mansard facade. Architects: Sturdevant & Poggi, Wilkes-Barre. | C |
| 196 | C. 1875. Two-and-one-half-story Victorian frame house. | C |
| 200 | C. 1898. Three-story brick house with flat roof. Now apartments. | C |
| 202-204 | C. 1890. Two-and-one-half-story Romanesque brick double house. Now apartments and offices. | C |
| <u>Max Roth</u>
215 | 1895. Romanesque brick and stone. Architect: J. H. W. Hawkins, Wilkes-Barre. | S |
| 216 | C. 1920. Tudor Revival. | C |
| <u>Schiowitz</u>
217-219 | Late 1890s. Two and one half stories; Romanesque brick and stone double house - now offices. | S |
| 218 | C. 1900. Colonial Revival brick house; three stories with flat roof. | C |
| 224 | C. 1880. House extensively remodeled c. 1894. | C |
| <u>Fortinsky</u>
225-27-29 | C. 1900. Colonial Revival brick row of three houses; three stories with flat roof. Now apartments. | C |
| 228 | C. 1882 Queen Anne frame house. C. 1900 renovations. | C |

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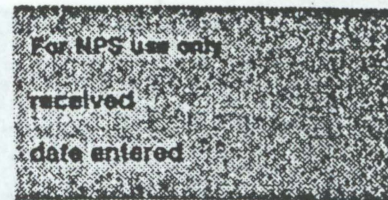
Building
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Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

South Franklin Street

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| 236 | 1916 Colonial Revival brick house. Two and one half stories.
Architect: McCormick & French, Wilkes-Barre. | C |
| 242 | 1924 Ohav Zedek Synagogue. Architect: Austin L. Reilly, Wilkes-Barre. | C |
| (243) <i>Bill Property</i> | 1860s Second Empire frame house; two stories plus mansard. | C |
| 247 | 1874 Second Empire frame house; two stories plus mansard. Architect: Isaac G. Perry. | C |
| 248 | C. 1912 Colonial Revival brick house; two stories plus mansard. | C |
| 253 | 1870s Second Empire frame house. Two stories plus mansard.
Wraparound porch. | C |
| 256 | C. 1960s Colonial Revival brick house. | I |
| 259 | C. 1899 Queen Anne brick house; two and one half stories with high gabled roof and round tower. | C |
| (263) <i>4 Stories - Torn Down</i> | C. 1870 Second Empire stucco over brick house; two stories plus mansard and roof tower. | C |
| (265-267) <i>Marta Center</i> | C. 1925 brick apartment house with Colonial Revival facade; three stories. | C |
| (274) | 1950s Wilkes College Gymnasium - brick. | I |
| (280) <i>Hutman</i> | C. 1870 Second Empire frame house; two stories plus mansard. | S |
| 281 | C. 1890 Queen Anne brick house; two and one half stories with high gable roof with cross gables. Round tower; two and one half stories plus roof cone. | S |
| (285-287) <i>Dennison</i> | C. 1873 High Victorian stuccoed brick double house with Second Empire elements; two and one half stories. Miner Hall, Wilkes College. | C |
| 288-290 | 1960s Contemporary house. Two stories with a one-story north wing and one-story facade wing. | I |

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South Franklin Street

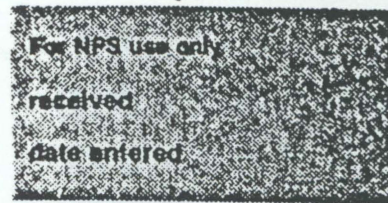
- 291 C. 1890. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne brick house. Later entrance frontispiece. I
- 292 Late 1890s Queen Anne brick house. C
- 293 Late 1890s Romanesque brick house. Two stories with very high gable roof with cross gable. Architect: J. H. W. Hawkins, Wilkes-Barre. C
- 301-03-05 C. 1870. Three Second Empire row houses. S
- 304 C. 1876. High Victorian Gothic house. Builder: Missouria B. Houpt, Wilkes-Barre. S

West River Street

- (30) *President's Home* 1925-26 Colonial Revival Brick house of two and one half stories. Gable roof with end parapet walls and double end gables. Masonry keystones in flat arches above windows. Entranceway projection to the north side. Fan light in street gable. Architect: Edmund B. Gilchrist, Philadelphia. S
- (36-40) *Waller north & south* 1925. Tudor Revival double house; two and one half stories with high gable roof, small dormers, half timbering decorations and casement windows. Architects: Innes & Levy, Wilkes-Barre. S
- (56) *Doane* C. 1925. Colonial Revival two-and-one-half-story brick house with a dormered hip roof with a cross gable above the north side entranceway. Palladian window on west (street) side; oculi windows on north side. Doane Hall, Wilkes College. Architects: Innes & Levy, Wilkes-Barre. C
- 57 C. 1891. Queen Anne two-and-one-half-story brick house. High gable roof with round tower of stone on first floor and shingles above. Stone window sills and lintels. C
- 58 Late 1860s Second Empire brick house; two stories with mansard roof. Bracket and dentil cornices; segmental arched windows, doorways and dormers; arcaded porch. S

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



River Street Historic District
Continuation sheet Luzerne County Item number Building Inventory Page 20

Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

West River Street

53 Late 1890s brick house. Three stories with a low hip roof with a small gable on the east side. Facade shows some Colonial Revival decorative details. C

54 Late 1890s Queen Anne frame house; two and one half stories with high gable roof and round tower with swag decoration. Facade porch and recessed balcony on second floor facade. C

72 C. 1910. Colonial Revival brick house. Two and one half stories with dormer gable roof. Five-bay symmetrical facade with modillion cornice, round arch windows with keystones on first floor facade. Colonnade entrance portico. C

80 Barre 1873-74. High Victorian Gothic brick house; two and one half stories with high gable roof; two-story bay window on facade. Entrance portico with Tudor arch. Sharply pointed wall dormer; stone lintels over windows. Barre Hall, Wilkes College. Richard Sharpe residence. Architect: G. Daugherty, Bethlehem. S

92-96 W. River & 120-130 W. Ross C. 1925. Three-story brick apartment building with flat roof. Colonial Revival decorative detailing. Pedimented entranceway. Quoining. S

Barnum Place

17 Late 19th century. Two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne brick house with dormer gable roof and square tower with louvers at top. Now used as garage to 28 West South Street. C

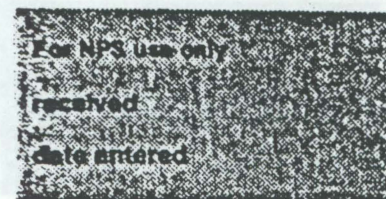
19-21 Late 1870s. Three-story Italianate brick double house with brick hoodmoldings over the windows, a bracketed cornice, and entrance hood with heavy brackets. Builder: M. B. Houpt, Wilkes-Barre. C

25-27 Late 1870s. Three-story Italianate brick double house with brick hoodmoldings over the windows, a bracketed cornice, and entrance hood with heavy brackets. C

37 1870s. Two-and-one-half-story Italianate frame house; three-bay facade; low pitched roof; segmental arch windows; one-story front porch. C

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River Street Historic District
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Building
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Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

West Northampton Street

(40) *miner* 1934. Romanesque brick institutional building of four to five stories with roof tower of six stories. YMCA-YWCA. Architect: Thomas Foster, Wilkes-Barre. S

Chesapeake / Delaware
(68-70-72-74) C. 1888. Queen Anne brick row house of four units. Chesapeake and Delaware Halls, Wilkes College. Architect: Kipp & Podmore, Wilkes-Barre. S

71-73 C. 1880. High Victorian Gothic brick double house. Dormer mansard roof with large wall dormer in facade. Entranceway porch replaced. Now apartments. S

77-79 1880s Queen Anne brick double house; two and one half stories plus mansard; two wall dormers in facade. S

West South Street

29 1979. One-and-one-half-story contemporary fraternal building. BPOE Hall. Masonry with frame facade. I

28 Late 1890s Queen Anne tan brick house of two and one half stories with dormer low hip roof. Round tower at each corner of facade; modillion cornice; masonry flat arches with keystones over windows; entrance porch with Ionic columns; column porch on east side. Architects: Moses & King, Philadelphia. C

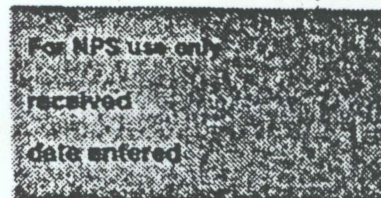
32 C. 1908. Romanesque brick house of two and one half stories. High gable roof with cross gables; stone window sills, lintels and decoration; rounded northeast corner; round arch window on east side; arcaded facade porch. C

33 Late 1890s Queen Anne red brick house; two and one half stories with high gable roof; shingled gable. Bay window on west side of second floor facade; segmental arched windows. Original front porch removed. C

60-62-64 Late 1880s masonry-with-stucco walls commercial building of three stories with flat roof. Molded cornice with centered step-end gable bearing the name "Luft." C
Recessed arch under outer two bays of east and west side of the facade; cast iron pilasters. C

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River Street Historic District
Continuation sheet Luzerne County

Building
Inventory

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Key: S-Significant C-Contributing I-Intrusive

West South Street

61-63 C. 1890. Queen Anne brick double house of two and one half stories. High gable roof with Palladian-influenced window and shingles in the gable. Extensive conversion for apartments. C

(65) Kirby Center C. 1907. Spanish Revival tan brick house of two and one half stories. High hip tiled roof with eye dormers. Diapering in the brick work; round bay window and first floor projection on the west side. Arcaded masonry porch with medallion, wreath, urn decoration. C

66 C. 1907. Two-and-one-half-story Colonial Revival brick house. High gable roof with three dormers on facade; cornice with modillions and dentils; five-bay symmetrical facade with colonnaded entrance porch. Original entryway recently moved one bay to the west. C

68-70 C. 1891. Queen Anne brick double house with high gable roof with large cross gable on the facade. Recessed windows and shingles on the facade gable. Double bay window and porch on the facade. Alterations for conversion to apartments. C

72 C. 1880s Queen Anne frame house of two and one half stories. Gable roof with jerkin-head on facade end. Modern windows and aluminum siding. I

(80) Pickering 1960s Contemporary brick dormitory building with round glass dining room projecting from north side. Pickering Hall, Wilkes College. Architects: Lacy, Atherton and Davis, Wilkes-Barre. I

(96) Bedford C. 1876. Two-and-one-half-story High Victorian Gothic brick house with a steeply pitched gable roof with a tower projecting above the entranceway. S

Bichromal brick diapering; belt courses and decorations; Gothic arches over windows; recessed entranceway (the original vestibule); terrace with metal railing along west side facade. 1920s Tudor Revival addition. Architect - Original: Bruce Price, New York. 1920s renovation: Innes & Levy, Wilkes-Barre.

(110) Dante Hall C. 1964. Contemporary institutional brick structure for theater, and music department classrooms. Architects: Lacy, Atherton & Davis, Wilkes-Barre. I

Pam A1

A Plan for Development of the South River Street Historic District

The Wilkes University campus occupies a unique geographic location. The old Seventh Ward of Wilkes Barre, located south of Market St. and west of South Main developed early in the city's history into the residential district for the city's wealthiest inhabitants and the supporting upper middle class. While the river front area was a natural attraction, most cities preempted its use for commerce rather than housing. Wilkes Barre deviated from this standard because the North Branch Canal, rather than following the River, ran about five block inland adjacent to what is now Pennsylvania Ave. and the railroads which came later followed the same route. The area North of Market St., where King's College is now located, was less interesting architecturally and historically in part because it was divided by a railroad line which ran through the middle of the area and did not attract the same social groups as the Seventh Ward.

A significant number of historic structures, ranging from churches to palatial residences, still survive in the Seventh Ward, many of which are now owned by Wilkes. Three of its dormitories are on the National Register of Historic Buildings, as is virtually the entire seventh ward area. I have conducted a preliminary survey which indicates that we have at least 27 Wilkes buildings which have architectural and/or historic significance. These properties represent both a challenge and a potential resource for the University. The plan outlined below provides a program for the following:

- recovering the history of the people and buildings of the Seventh Ward
- assessing the physical requirements for maintenance of the area's unique character
- providing a resource by which the needs of the University and those of its physical property can be balanced against each other most effectively
- providing a resource which can be utilized by the University, and individuals and businesses to establish a relationship whereby the uniqueness of the area can be jointly maintained and the quality of the area's environment can be improved.
- providing a device for enhancing the University image in the increasingly competitive environment of smaller institutions of higher education.

The initial work on this program would be done in nine steps, listed here in the approximate order in which they would be undertaken. Much of this research and organization would be done concurrently. Several of the steps involving information gathering are already under way.

- 1. Define the historic district.** The limits currently proposed would be bounded by the River, Stanley St., Academy St., a line drawn roughly midway between South Franklin and South Main, and a line running roughly south of Boscov's, extended through to the River, including the Historical Society properties and the various houses on South River St. from the McClintock law office southward. Certain areas in the vicinity of Academy St. may be eliminated after they have been researched.
- 2. Develop a land use map.** This involves preparing a working atlas showing every building within the area and changes in land use over the last century. This process is ongoing.
- 3. Identify surviving historic buildings.** Part of this process has been completed for a survey requested by the Council of Independent Colleges. The identification of additional properties would be accomplished following the completion of the land use map.
- 4. Compile files on each relevant building.** Some work was done in this area for the CIC survey. As additional buildings are identified, they will be researched as to age, physical condition, ownership, history, architectural design and their relative importance to the history of the area.
- 5. Compile files on the former inhabitants.** This district still shows the evidence of patterns of land use from the time of the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. It is possible to recover the history of the individuals who lived in this district and to show how they interacted in the social structure of the late 19th and early 20th Century. The process of accumulating the necessary data is already underway and interesting social patterns are already appearing. This is probably the most complex and significant part of the study from an historical viewpoint.

6. Develop an identification system for buildings. This would briefly identify the age and significance of the various historic structures. This would be a cooperative venture between the University and the community and would, it is hoped, open up new lines of communication and cooperation between the University and the community. Some uncoordinated work has been done in this area in the past but has lacked coordination and uniformity. Implementation of this part of the plan would probably begin shortly after completion of the building files noted in step 4.

7. Develop a walking tour of the district. Concurrently with the identification program, the University would draw up a plan for visitors to examine the area. This would include laying out a route, developing brochures and other tour guide amenities, and establishing a base for operations. Preliminary studies suggest that the Wilkes Library would be the most effective base of operations. It is open at times when other University facilities are not. It will shortly contain the University Archives, and it is centrally located within the District. Its proximity to the Admissions Office is also a potential benefit.

8. Publish a social and economic history of the Seventh Ward. This would take the form of a book similar to that of the Wilkes University Atlas, but extending its coverage to the surrounding community and emphasizing the historic and architectural significance of the area. This would be the last step concluding the process.

WILKES COLLEGE
BUILDING LIST

<u>Building</u>	<u>Yr. Blt.</u>	<u>No. of Floors</u>	<u>Type of Architecture</u>
McClintock Hall, 44 South River St.	1841	3	Greek Revival
Sterling Hall, 72 South River St.	1860	4	Italianate
Catlin Hall, 92 South River St.	1843	3	Greek Revival
Weiss Hall, 98 South River St.	1850	3	Gr. Revival & Qu. Ann
Maintenance Shop, Rear 98 South River St.	1850	2	Gr. Revival & Qu. Ann
Annette Evans Alumni House, 146 South River St.	1928	3	Tudor Revival
Stark Learning Center, 160-180 South River St.	1957 & 1976	4	Modern
Chase Hall, 184 South River St.	1918	3	Tudor Revival
Kirby Hall, 202 South River St.	1873	3	High Victorian Gothic
Bedford Hall, 96 West South St.	1875	3	High Victorian Gothic
Sturdevant Hall, 129-131 South Franklin St.	1842	3	Greek Revival
Weckesser Hall, 170 South Franklin St.	1916	4	French Chateausque
Weckesser Annex, Rear 170 South Franklin St. ✓	1916	2	French Chateausque
Church Hall, 187 South Franklin St.	1930	1	Classical Influence
Hollenback Hall, 192 South Franklin St.	1916	3	Colonial Revival
Gymnasium, 274 South Franklin St.	1950	1	Modern
Waller North, 36 West River St.	1925	3	Tudor Revival
Fieldhouse, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville	1904	1	Coal Colleiry
McBride Fieldhouse, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsv	1904	1	Coal Colleiry
Dorothy Dickson Darte Hall, Center for Performing Arts Corner of South River & West South Sts.	1965	2	Modern
Chesapeake/Delaware Hall, 68-74 West Northampton St.	1888	3	Queen Ann
President's Home, 30 West River St.	1926	3	Colonial Revival
Ross Hall, 251 South River St.	1896	3	Romanesque
Ross Hall Garage, Rear 251 South River St.	1896	1	Romanesque
Pickering Hall, Wright St.	1966	3	Modern
Eugene Sheddon Farley Library Corner of South Franklin & West South Sts.	1968	3	Modern
Gutman Home, 280 South Franklin St.	1870	3	2nd Empire Fram
Slocum Hall, 262-264 South River St.	1890	2	Functional Brick
Robert S. Capin Hall, 165 South Franklin St.	1907	3	Colonial Revival
Dorothy Dickson Darte Hall, Music Building Corner of South River & West South Sts.	1969	4	Modern

WILKES COLLEGE
BUILDING LIST

<u>Building</u>	<u>Yr. Blt.</u>	<u>No. of Floors</u>	<u>Type of Architecture</u>
Sullivan Hall, 271-273 South River St.	1925	3	Eclectic Brick
Barre Hall, 80 West River St.	1874	3	High Victorian Gothic
President's Home Garage, Rear 30 West River St.	1926	1	Colonial Revival
Sterling Hall Garage, Rear 72 South River St.	1860	1	Italianate
Doane Hall, 56 West River St.	1925	3	Colonial Revival
Denison Hall, 285-287 South Franklin St.	1870	3	High Victorian Gothic
Conyngham Garage, Rear 120 South River St.	1898	1	French Chateausque
Carpenter Shop, Rear 92 South Franklin St.	1843	2	Greek Revival
Athletic Storage Shed, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsv.		1	
Refreshment Stand, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		1	
South Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		2	
North Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		1	
Baseball Shed, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		1	
Baseball Restrooms, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		1	
Nursing Building, 217 South Franklin St.	1899	3	Romanesque
Conyngham Student Center, 130 South River St.	1898	3	French Chateausque
Bedford Garage, Rear 96 West South St.	1875	1	High Victorian Gothic
Nursing Building, 219 South Franklin St. (Computer Use Only)	1899	3	Romanesque
William Evans Hall, 110 South River St.	1982	4	Modern
Waller South, 40 West River St.	1925	3	Tudor Revival
Waller South Garage, Rear 40 West River St.	1925	1	Tudor Revival
Max Roth Center, 215 South Franklin St.	1894	3	Romanesque
Riffin 80 S. River St.	1896	3	Victorian
Marts Center, 274 S. Franklin St.	1989	2	Modern

Note: The number of floors do not include basements.

BUILDING LIST

<u>Building</u>	<u>Year Built</u>	<u>Type of Architecture</u>
McClintock Hall, 44 South River St.	1841	Greek Revival
Sterling Hall, 72 South River St.	1860	Italianate
Catlin Hall, 92 South River St.	1843	Greek Revival
Weiss Hall, 98 South River St.	1850	Gr. Revival & Qu. Ann
Maintenance Shop, Rear 98 South River St.	1850	Gr. Revival & Qu. Ann
Annette Evans Alumni House, 146 South River St.	1928	Tudor Revival
Stark Learning Center, 160-180 South River St.	1957 & 1976	Modern
Chase Hall, 184 South River St.	1918	Tudor Revival
Kirby Hall, 202 South River St.	1873	High Victorian Gothic
Bedford Hall, 96 West South St.	1875	High Victorian Gothic
Sturdevant Hall, 129-131 South Franklin St.	1842	Greek Revival
Weckesser Hall, 170 South Franklin St.	1916	French Chateausque
Weckesser Annex, Rear 170 South Franklin St.	1916	French Chateausque
Church Hall, 187 South Franklin St.	1930	Classical Influence
Hollenback Hall, 192 South Franklin St.	1916	Colonial Revival
Gymnasium, 274 South Franklin St.	1950	Modern
Waller North, 36 West River St.	1925	Tudor Revival
Fieldhouse, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville	1904	Coal Colleiry
McBride Fieldhouse, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsv	1904	Coal Colleiry
Dorothy Dickson Darte Hall, Center for Performing Arts Corner of South River & West South Sts.	1965	Modern
Chesapeake/Delaware Hall, 68-74 West Northampton St.	1888	Queen Ann
President's Home, 30 West River St.	1926	Colonial Revival
Ross Hall, 251 South River St.	1896	Romanesque
Ross Hall Garage, Rear 215 South River St.	1896	Romanesque
Pickering Hall, Wright St.	1966	Modern
Eugene Sheddon Farley Library Corner of South Franklin & West South Sts.	1968	Modern
Gutman Home, 280 South Franklin St.	1870	2nd Empire Fram
Slocum Hall, 271-273 South River St.	1890	Functional Brick
Robert S. Capin Hall, 165 South Franklin St.	1907	Colonial Revival
Dorothy Dickson Darte Hall, Music Building Corner of South River & West South Sts.	1969	Modern

BUILDING LIST

<u>Building</u>	<u>Year Built</u>	<u>Type of Architecture</u>
Sullivan Hall, 271-273 South River St.	1925	Eclectic Brick
Barre Hall, 80 West River St.	1874	High Victorian Gothic
President's Home Garage, Rear 30 West River St.	1926	Colonial Revival
Sterling Hall Garage, Rear 72 South River St.	1860	Italianate
Doane Hall, 56 West River St.	1925	Colonial Revival
Denison Hall, 285-287 South Franklin St.	1870	High Victorian Gothic
Conyngham Garage, Rear 120 South River St.	1898	French Chateausque
Carpenter Shop, Rear 92 South Franklin St.	1843	Greek Revival
Athletic Storage Shed, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsv.		
Refreshment Stand, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		
South Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		
North Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		
Baseball Shed, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		
Baseball Restrooms, Ralston Field, Northampton St., Edwardsville		
Nursing Building, 217 South Franklin St.	1899	Romanesque
Conyngham Student Center, 130 South River St.	1898	French Chateausque
Bedford Garage, Rear 96 West South St.	1875	High Victorian Gothic
Nursing Building, 219 South Franklin St. (Computer Use Only)	1899	Romanesque
William Evans Hall, 110 South River St.	1982	Modern
Waller South, 40 West River St.	1925	Tudor Revival
Waller South Garage, Rear 40 West River St.	1925	Tudor Revival
Max Roth Center, 215 South Franklin St.	1894	Romanesque
Chesapeake/Delaware Hall, 44-74 West Northampton St.	1888	Gothic Revival
President's Home, 30 West River St.	1926	Colonial Revival
Post Hall, 151 South River St.	1876	Eclectic
Ross Hall Garage, Rear 215 South River St.	1896	Eclectic
Pinkerton Hall, Wright St.	1900	Eclectic
Eugene Sheldon Foster Library Corner of South Franklin & West South St.	1966	Modern
Glenn Home, 250 South Franklin St.	1870	High Victorian Gothic
Storck Hall, 171-173 South River St.	1890	Eclectic Brick
Robert S. Canin Hall, 165 South Franklin St.	1927	Colonial Revival
Dorothy Duggan Vester Hall, Music Building Corner of South River & West South St.	1968	Modern

EXHIBIT III
RESIDENCE HALL

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
1	McClintock Hall, 44 S. River St.	4	13,027
2	Sterling Hall, 72 S. River St.	5	11,225
3	Catlin Hall, 92 S. River St.	4	9,908
4	Weiss Hall, 98 S. River St.	4	10,137
22	Waller Hall North, 36 W. River St.	4	9,556
7-8	Chesapeake/Delaware Halls, 68-74 W. Northampton St.	4	18,152
17	Ross Hall, 251 S. River St.	4	7,056
16	Pickering Hall, Wright St.	4	82,750
19	Sullivan Hall, 271-273 S. River St.	4	11,945
25	Barre Hall, 80 W. River St.	4	13,276
24	Doane Hall, 56 W. River St.	4	8,059
26	Denison Hall, 285-287 S. Franklin St.	4	9,244
6	William Evans Hall, 110 S. River St.	4	42,520
23	Waller Hall South, 40 W. River St.	4	9,556
47	Rifkin Hall, 80 S. River St.	5	13,276
18	Slocum Hall, 262-264 S. River St.	2	12,793

EXHIBIT III
ADMINISTRATIVE

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
5	Maintenance Shop, Rear 98 S. River St.	2	2,021
10	Annette Evans Alumni House, 146 S. River St.	4	6,548
12	Chase Hall, 184 S. River St.	4	14,140
38	Sturdevant Hall, 129 S. Franklin St.	4	16,327
35	Weckesser Hall, 170 S. Franklin St.	5	21,406
36	Weckesser Annex, Rear 170 S. Franklin St.	3	3,589
33	Church Hall, 187 S. Franklin St.	2	6,360
34	Hollenback Hall, 192 S. Franklin St.	4	6,587
32	E.S. Farley Library, S. Franklin & W. S. Sts.	4	56,157
37	Capin Hall, 165 S. Franklin St.	4	8,345
30	Nursing Building, 217-219 S. Franklin St.	4	11,796
9	Conyngham Student Center, 130 S. River St.	4	19,417
31	Max Roth Hall, 215 S. Franklin St.	4	6,588
29	Fortinsky Hall, 225-227-229 S. Franklin St.	4	11,796

NEW ACQUISITIONS

234 S. River St.
 263 S. Franklin St.
 267 S. Franklin St.
 65 W. South St.
 171 S. Franklin St. (Fenner Property)

EXHIBIT III

ACADEMIC PHYSICAL EDUCATION

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
42	Fieldhouse, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St. (one bldg.)	2	6,540
43	McBride Fieldh., Ralston Fld. Northamp. St.	2	7,191
40	Baseball Restrooms, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St.	1	486

EXHIBIT III
MISCELLANEOUS

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
21	President's Home, 30 W. River St.	4	5,802
	Ross Hall Garage, Rear 251 S. River St.	1	410
27	Gutman Home, 280 S. Franklin St.	4	7,206
	President's Home Garage, Rear 30 W. River St.	2	820
	Conyngham Garage, Rear 120 S. River St. (Houses Art Department Kiln)	1	196
	Carpenter Shop, Rear 92 S. River St.	2	3,112
	Athletic Storage Shed, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St.	1	212
	Refreshment Stand, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St.	1	374
44	South Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northamp. St.	2	1,300
44	North Bleacher, Ralston Field, Northamp. St.	1	200
	Baseball Shed, Ralston Field, Northamp. St.	1	36
	Bedford Garage, Rear 96 W. South St.	1	1,043
	Waller Hall South Garage, Rear 40 W. River St.	1	
13	Burns Alumni Bell Tower		

EXHIBIT III
ACADEMIC CLASSROOM/OFFICE

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
11	Stark Learning Center, 160 S. River St.	6	216,178
14	Kirby Hall, 202 S. River St.	4	17,325
15	Bedford Hall, 96 West South St.	4	12,339
20	D. D. Dart Hall, Cent. Per. Arts, S. River & W. South Sts.	2	29,455
20	D. D. Dart Hall, Music Bldg., S. River & W. South Sts.	5	42,222
28	Marts Sports/Conf. Center, 274 S. Franklin St.	3	75,000

Students returning to the Wilkes College campus in September will notice a definite change in their surroundings.

The Wilkes College grounds currently are beginning to take on a new look with the school's campus improvement. Walking along the 23-acre area, residents and Summer students already can detect demolition crews razing some nine college buildings, which previously housed classrooms or students.

The history of the campus buildings and the people who owned them are sometimes lost in the files of an old cabinet or on the shelves of a library.

The nine Wilkes buildings that will be missed by the Wilkes family include the first Wilkes College playhouse, Chase Theater. Built in 1917 by Frederick Chase, then president and general manager of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, the structure originally was constructed as a garage for the Chase family, behind Chase Hall.

Located at the rear of 184 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Chase Theater was one of the first Wilkes College buildings, donated in 1937 by Rear Admiral Harold R. Stark to Wilkes College, when it was known as Bucknell University Junior College, as a memorial to Frederick Chase and his wife, Admiral Stark's sister.

Numerous one-act plays were presented by the college Thespians, the Cue 'n Curtain Society, until 1965 when the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts was completed.

Pickering Hall, 181 South Franklin Street, also will be razed. The former property of the late Dr. S. P. Mengel, Pickering Hall was purchased by the college in 1949 from Jessie and Harley Gritman. Renovated during the same year, the building housed classrooms and offices for the Commerce and Finance and Art Departments.

The building was named after the famous soldier, Timothy Pickering, who was an early supporter of the Revolutionary movement in Massachusetts. He led a contingent from Massachusetts to join Washington's army in the winter campaign of 1776-77 in New York and New Jersey.

Adjutant General of the U.S. Army, Pickering later accepted the responsibility
(more)

of Quarter Master General. In addition, Pickering's letters constituted an invaluable commentary on the course of the Revolution.

In order to preserve the history of the military man on campus, the Wilkes College New Dining Hall and Men's Dormitory has been charged with the new name of Pickering Hall.

A Wilkes College double-block dwelling also will be torn down at 76-78 West South Street. The women's dormitory, known as "76", was acquired by Wilkes in 1965 from the estate of Hamilton and Lieuween Chase, then the Chase Apartments.

The old Fenner property, 78 West South Street, was purchased in 1965 also. At one time this part of the structure was one of Wilkes-Barre's finest ladies' boutiques.

With the construction of the new Stark Learning Center and the new second-floor nursing facilities, the old nursing department building also will be destroyed, at 248-250 South River Street.

Wilkes College acquired this property from the Simon Grossman estate in 1967.

Ashley Hall, 252-254 South River Street, also will be demolished. This is the college's second building dubbed with the Ashley name.

The first, located at 164 South River Street, was received by Wilkes from heirs of the Ashley estate, Mrs. Marion A. Ahlborn, Dr. Henry A. Carr, and Mrs. Roccena Wolfe, in 1946. This building was razed to accommodate the new Stark Learning Center, which was completed this year.

The current Ashley Hall is a men's dormitory that originally was known as Bruch Hall, named after a former Wilkes environmental science teacher, Dr. Alvan Bruch, a friend of the students.

The stately mansion, 264 South Franklin Street, also will be razed. Known as Miner Hall, the 105-year-old building, was acquired as a gift from the Miner family in 1961.

The college obtained only 90 feet of the 160 feet frontage of the property since the family constructed another home on the adjacent plot.

The building was occupied by the late Dr. Charles H. Miner and was built by his father, Charles A. Miner in 1870.

Dr. Miner was recognized as a distinguished physician, serving as State Secretary of Health during Governor Pinchot's administration. He also served as
(more)

2nd ad-- Wilkes buildings

Luzerne County Director of Health. Since Dr. Miner's death the home was occupied by the Grace Lea Showmaker Miner before donation to Wilkes College.

At first Wilkes utilized Miner Hall as a women's dormitory. Later, the building was occupied by the mathematics department for offices and classrooms.

Doane Hall, 237-239 South Franklin Street, also will be demolished.

At one time a women's dormitory and school infirmary, Doane Hall was acquired by Wilkes in 1966 from Joesph and Marguerite Eagen.

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The building was named after the famous soldier, Timothy Pickering, who was an early supporter of the Revolutionary movement in Massachusetts. He led a contingent from Massachusetts to join Washington's army in the winter campaign of 1776-77 in New York and New Jersey.

Adjutant General of the U.S. Army, Pickering later (more)

Donna Seffert
'76

1st ad - Wilkes buildings

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The nine Wilkes buildings that will be missed by the Wilkes family include
the first Wilkes College playhouse, Chase Theater. Built in 1917 by Frederick
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Located at the rear of 184 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Chase Theater
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A Wilkes College double-block dwelling also will be torn down at 76-78 West South Street. The women's dormitory, known as "76", was acquired by Wilkes in 1965 from the estate of Hamilton and Lieuween Chase, then the Chase Apartments.

The old Fenner property, 78 West South Street, was purchased in 1965 also. At one time this part of the structure was one of Wilkes-Barre's finest ladies' boutiques.

With the construction of the new Stark Learning Center and the new second-floor nursing facilities, the old nursing department building also will be destroyed, at 248-250 South River Street.

Wilkes College acquired this property from the Simon Grossman estate in 1967.

Ashley Hall, 252-254 South River Street, also will be demolished. This is the college's second building dubbed with the Ashley name.

The first, located at 164 South River Street, was received by Wilkes from heirs of the Ashley estate, Mrs. Marion A. Ahlborn, Dr. Henry A. Carr, and Mrs. Roccena Wolfe, in 1946. This building was razed to accommodate the new Stark Learning Center, which was completed this year.

The current Ashley Hall is a men's dormitory that originally was known as Bruch Hall, named after a former Wilkes environmental science teacher, Dr. Alvan Bruch, a friend of the students.

The stately mansion, 264 South Franklin Street, also will be razed. Known as Miner Hall, the 105-year-old building, was acquired as a gift from the Miner family in 1961.

The college obtained only 90 feet of the 160 feet frontage of the property since the family constructed another home on the adjacent plot.

The building was occupied by the late Dr. Charles H. Miner and was built by his father, Charles A. Miner in 1870.

Dr. Miner was recognized as a distinguished physician, serving as State Secretary of Health during Governor Pinchot's administration. He also served as
(more)

2nd ad-- Wilkes buildings

Luzerne County Director of Health. Since Dr. Miner's death the home was occupied by the Grace Lea Showmaker Miner before donation to Wilkes College.

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#

D. Geffert '76

gm
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Donna Jeffert
'76

Office of Public Relations
Wilkes College
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
June 21, 1960

FOR RELEASE:
Friday, June 24 - A.M.'s
P.M.'s

Wilkes-Barre, June 24 - Another building of historical interest will dissappear from the Wyoming Valley scene when demolition crews complete their work razing a double-block structure, 157-159 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, owned by Wilkes College.

This move, part of the college general development program, will provide much-needed parking space for students and faculty members, and the grounds will be landscaped to create an attractive parkway to Stark Hall science building from the South Franklin Street entrance.

The college purchased the left block of the building in 1956 from the estate of the Countess Elena Dandini de Sylva who lived there since 1945. The former Helen Constance Palmer, Countess de Sylva was the daughter of the late Congressman and Mrs. Henry W. Palmer of Wilkes-Barre. Born in this city, she spent the greater part of her life abroad, but returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1945. The life of a countess presented a combination of romance and patriotism which led her to glamour and a European title and back to repatriation in the land of her birth.

In 1915 she married Count Dandini de Sylva of Italian nobility, forfeited her rights as an American citizen, and assumed the title of Contessa. Her husband, an officer in the Italian army, was killed in action in 1916 during World War I. Following his death, the Countess remained in Italy and served as a war nurse in an army hospital, caring for the wounded until the Armistice in 1918.

Although she travelled extensively and spent many of her summers in Geneva, Switzerland, she visited her home in this country at least once every few years. On these trips she travelled on Italian passports although she was of the opinion that she automatically reverted to her American citizenship when her husband died. While she maintained homes on the Palazza Colonna in Rome and in Grasse, France, she recognized the Palmer summer residence at Laurel Run as her real home. In 1933 she applied for repatriation and the application was acted upon favorably by Judge Albert L. Watson in the Federal Court in Scranton.

- MORE-

The Countess' father, the late Henry W. Palmer, served as Attorney General of Pennsylvania and Congressman of the Twelfth District. He was one of the most prominent members of the Luzerne County Bar Association of the time. Her mother, the late Ellen Webster Palmer, was a pioneer in welfare work among the working boys of the Valley before child labor laws were enacted. She organized the Boys' Industrial Association for Working Boys, and a monument presently standing on the upper river Common near the city greenhouse was erected in her honor.

The right block of the building was purchased by the college from the estate of the late Mrs. Frederick Hillman in 1959. A native of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Hillman was the daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Murphy. She had been active in various civic and philanthropic organizations, having founded the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of the Junior League and served as commissioner of Wyoming Valley Girl Scouts for many years.

Her husband, Frederick Hillman, was the son of H. Baker Hillman, a pioneer in the anthracite coal mining industry of this area. A prominent attorney and investment security expert in his own right, Frederick Hillman was a member of the Westmoreland Club, Wyoming Valley Country Club, and the Wilkes-Barre Motor Club.

#####

**Wilkes Purchases
Ahlborn Property**

Wilkes College has added another property to its holdings in this city by the purchase of the home of the late Dr. Maurice Ahlborn, 131 South Franklin St., at a reported price of \$30,000. It was sold by Mrs. Ruth Ahlborn, widow of the physician.

Dr. Eugene Farley, president of the college, has not indicated as yet what use the property will be put to.

Buildings file

Given to Curt
6-9-93
11:25AM

8/23/93
upn

BUILDINGS

- ✓ Waller Hall North, 36 W. River Street ~~A~~
- ✓ Chesapeake/Delaware Halls, 68-74 W. Northampton Street ~~A~~
- ✓ Denison Hall, 285-287 S. Franklin Street
- ✓ Waller Hall South, 40 W. River Street ~~A~~
- ✓ Hollenback Hall, 192 S. Franklin Street ~~A~~
- ✓ E.S. Farley Library, S. Franklin & W. South Streets ~~A~~
- ✓ Capin Hall, 165 S. Franklin Street ~~A~~
- ✓ Nursing Building, 217-219 S. Franklin Street
- ✓ Fieldhouse, Ralston Field, Northampton Street

NEW ACQUISITIONS

- ✓ 234 S. River Street
- ✓ 263 S. Franklin Street
- ✓ 267 S. Franklin Street
- ✓ 65 W. South Street - KIRBY
- ✓ 171 S. Franklin Street (Fenner Property)

EXHIBIT III
RESIDENCE HALL

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
✓ 1 ★	McClintock Hall, 44 S. River St.	4	13,027
✓ 2 ★	Sterling Hall, 72 S. River St.	5	11,225
✓ 3	Catlin Hall, 92 S. River St.	4	9,908
✓ 4	Weiss Hall, 98 S. River St.	4	10,137
* 22	Waller Hall North, 36 W. River St.	4	9,556
* 7-8	Chesapeake/Delaware Halls, 68-74 W. Northampton St.	4	18,152
✓ 17	Ross Hall, 251 S. River St.	4	7,056
✓ 16	Pickering Hall, Wright St.	4	82,750
✓ 19	Sullivan Hall, 271-273 S. River St.	4	11,945
✓ 25	Barre Hall, 80 W. River St.	4	13,276
✓ 24	Doane Hall, 56 W. River St.	4	8,059
* 26	Denison Hall, 285-287 S. Franklin St.	4	9,244
✓ 6	William Evans Hall, 110 S. River St.	4	42,520
* 23	Waller Hall South, 40 W. River St.	4	9,556
✓ 47	Rifkin Hall, 80 S. River St.	5	13,276
✓ 18	Slocum Hall, 262-264 S. River St.	2	12,793

EXHIBIT III
ACADEMIC CLASSROOM/OFFICE

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
✓11	Stark Learning Center, 160 S. River St.	6	216,178
✓14	Kirby Hall, 202 S. River St.	4	17,325
✓15	Bedford Hall, 96 West South St.	4	12,339
✓20	D. D. Dart Hall, Cent. Per. Arts, S. River & W. South Sts.	2	29,455
✓20	D. D. Dart Hall, Music Bldg., S. River & W. South Sts.	5	42,222
✓28	Marts Sports/Conf. Center, 274 S. Franklin St.	3	75,000

EXHIBIT III

ACADEMIC PHYSICAL EDUCATION

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
*42	Fieldhouse, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St.	2	6,540
43	McBride Fieldh., Ralston Fld. Northamp. St.	2	7,191
40	Baseball Restrooms, Ralston Fld., Northamp. St.	1	486

EXHIBIT III
ADMINISTRATIVE

BLDG. #	BUILDING	# OF FLOORS	GROSS SQ. FT.
5	Maintenance Shop, Rear 98 S. River St.	2	2,021
(10) ✓	Annette Evans Alumni House, 146 S. River St.	4	6,548
(12) ✓	Chase Hall, 184 S. River St.	4	14,140
(38) ✓	Sturdevant Hall, 129 S. Franklin St.	4	16,327
(35) ✓	Weckesser Hall, 170 S. Franklin St.	5	21,406
36	Weckesser Annex, Rear 170 S. Franklin St.	3	3,589
33 ✓	Church Hall, 187 S. Franklin St.	2	6,360
*34 ✓	Hollenback Hall, 192 S. Franklin St.	4	6,587
*32	E.S. Farley Library, S. Franklin & W. S. Sts.	4	56,157
*37	Capin Hall, 165 S. Franklin St.	4	8,345
*30	Nursing Building, 217-219 S. Franklin St.	4	11,796
(9) ✓	Conyngham Student Center, 130 S. River St.	4	19,417
(31) ✓	Max Roth Hall, 215 S. Franklin St.	4	6,588
(29) ✓	Fortinsky Hall, 225-227-229 S. Franklin St.	4	11,796

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Dear Old B U C



CONYNGHAM HALL

Dr. Charles B. Reif

No one was sure where Bucknell University Junior College was, on that morning of September 17, 1942, when I first arrived in Wilkes-Barre. The bus driver who let me off at the Town Square in Wilkes-Barre suggested I ask a policeman, which I did; and three officers, after a lengthy debate, suggested I look on South River Street, probably in the second block. Since I was still carrying my suitcase, having some time before arrived at the Kingston Railroad Station, I was happily relieved to discover Conyngham

Hall with its bronze plaque which proclaimed it to be Bucknell University Junior College.

Inside Conyngham Hall I found Joseph Wayman, who was to become one of my good friends, who had been a houseboy with Mr. John Conyngham, and who had stayed on to care for that grand old building when it became one of the halls of ivy. Joseph assured me that "they is all down to Chase's Hall," so off I went with my suitcase and soon found Chase Hall where activity was apparent.

The first adult I met was Professor Daniel Gage, the entire faculty of the History Department, who, when I had introduced myself as the new biologist on the faculty, looked me up and down with an expression that said to me something like "scraping the bottom of the barrel." However, Professor Gage took me in tow and led me to a garage in back of Chase Hall which was affectionately known as Chase Theatre. There the freshman orientation had just been concluded, and I was presented to Dr. and Mrs.

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Eugene Farley. After Dr. Farley had crushed my hand in a good firm handshake, Mrs. Farley grabbed my right hand and pumped my arm up and down as if she expected water to spout from my mouth like an old-fashioned kitchen pump, all the while greeting me effusively. After making the acquaintance of the Farleys, who soon made me one of the family, I was able to note that the entire freshman class had been able to assemble in that garage known as Chase Theatre; and later, as the draft took its toll, I was able to see the entire student body gather there for assembly. The first assemblies I attended were held in the Great Hall of the First Presbyterian Church.

In all, the student body, composed of freshmen and sophomores, as was befitting a junior college, numbered about two hundred, all local young people. As I was soon to discover, although many of the names were strange to me, all of them had their feet on the ground and knew why they were in college. Many of them had stood in bread lines with their mothers during the Great Depression, and many came from families in which one or more males worked in the mines. They were a great bunch, and I have followed their careers with pride. Dr. Farley had told me during our first telephone conversation that BUJC had been started for young people who had what it takes but who, without it, would have been unable to go to college.

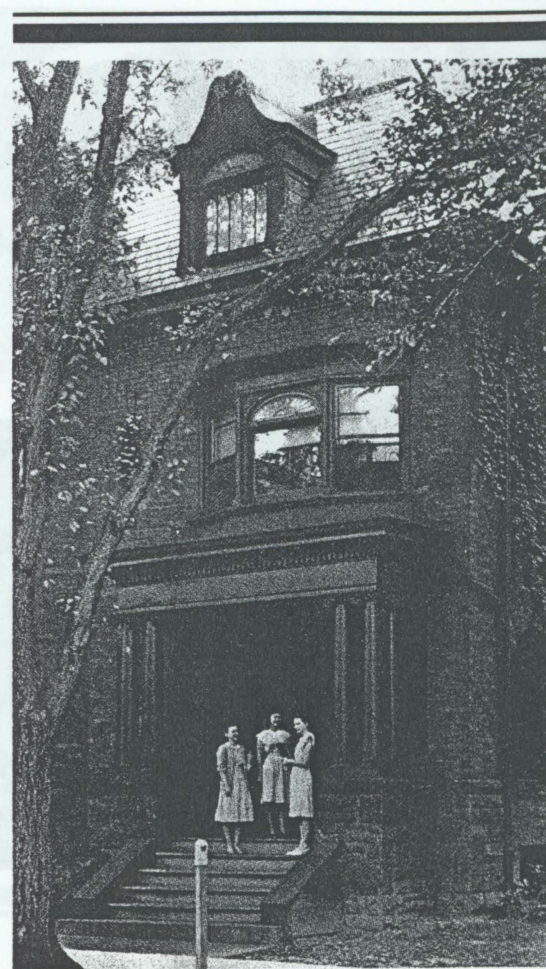
That I had arrived at Bucknell University Junior College was natural enough to me at that time; but since then, in looking back, the odds against it happening almost convince me that divine guidance was involved. I had completed my doctorate in June of 1941 and had been hired as Curator of Education at the Minnesota Museum of Natural History on the campus of the University of Minnesota, in which position for the academic year of 1941-1942 I earned the grand total of \$700. Thus, the offer of \$2500 a year to be a faculty member of BUJC was a tremendous opportunity; as a matter of fact, I was able to put half of my pay into war bonds back in those golden days.

Having been put in IV-F draft status following Pearl Harbor and being somewhat lukewarm about a lady in Minneapolis with only faint glimmers of matrimony in mind, I realized that an annual income of \$700 as Curator of Education

was not going to get me very far. Thus, I entered my name with the Fisk Teachers' Agency of Chicago, who sent to the summer camp where I was a counsellor, several notices of positions during June and July of 1942. Apparently I did not understand how the Fisk system worked; and, when news of the position in Wilkes-Barre reached me, I sent Dr. Farley a post card saying I was interested. I stayed on at the camp after everyone else had left and subsisted mainly on fish which I caught and corn which I "borrowed" from the farmer's field. It was upon my return from fishing on the evening of September 10, 1942, that the farmer's son came over to the camp to tell me that Dr. Farley had telephoned. From the farm house I was unable to arouse Central so I drove to the nearest town, some five miles distant, got Central out of bed, and had my call put through to Dr. Farley. His opening sentence was, "I was cleaning out my desk this afternoon and happened to find your card. Are you still available?" Dr. Farley, having been told I was IV-F and thus "available," went on to reveal the nature of the position at Bucknell University Junior College. I was to teach the course in general zoology to sophomore majors in biology, the survey course in general biology to non-majors, the survey course in physical sciences to the non-majors, the course in hygiene to the entire student body, and to act as nominal librarian. Dr. Farley asked me if I thought I could handle that assignment. I said I could; and then, having hung up after agreeing to have Fisk send my credentials, nearly fainted. I knew I could handle the general zoology course, but the subject matter of the others was *terra incognita* to me. However, one week later I was in Wilkes-Barre and discovered that Bucknell University Junior College consisted of Conyngham Hall, Chase Hall, Chase Theatre, and Kirby Hall. I was soon caught up in the activities of BUJC and found Wilkes-Barre to be a pleasant place to live.

On the afternoon of the day I arrived, a faculty tea was held in the living room of Chase Hall; the room was later divided to become the office of Mr. Whitby, Dean of Admissions for years. Three of us were new on the faculty at that time, including George May who was the Chemistry Department and Charles Reif, whose name appealed to Arthur Bernhardt, the Mathematics

Department, because his wife's name had been May Reif. The third new teacher, William Albrecht, stayed only one semester and was succeeded, in January of 1943, by Dr. Mary Elizabeth Craig, who held forth in World Literature for many years. Others on the faculty in 1942 were Wilfred Crook in sociology, Daniel Gage in history, Paul "Pop" Gies in music, Voris B. Hall in physics, and a Miss Green who taught typing and shorthand. The Registrar in those days was George Faint, who taught a course in religion. President Farley handled a course in education. As a faculty we sat around a small table in the living room of Chase Hall, and our meetings were far less wieldy than faculty meetings in the 1970's have been.



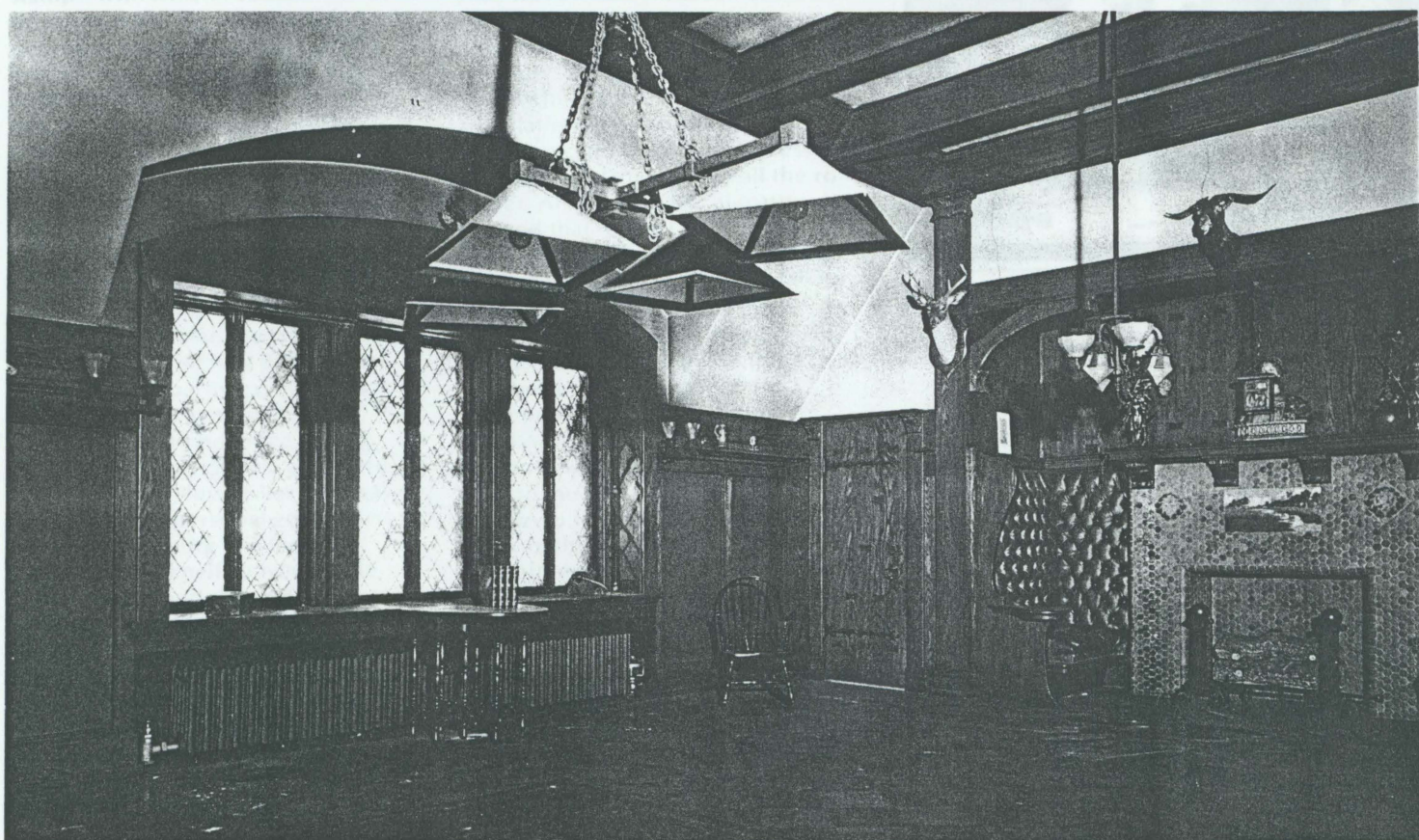
WECKESSER HALL

In addition to the faculty mentioned above, Bucknell University Junior College was kept afloat, just barely in those days, by the tireless efforts of two young ladies who did all the secretarial work. Marion Roberts was secretary to Dr. Farley, ran the bookstore, did registrations and schedules, and in general kept store. Carolyn Hoffa, who later became my wife, was secretary to Mr. Faint, recorder of academic records, worked the switchboard, such as it was, helped in the bookstore, sorted the mail, etc. She always had purple smears on her face because the master transcript sheets in those days were ditto masters. Also of importance to

the college's cafeteria; and, as I took up my residence in Chase Hall, Mrs. Brennan kindly permitted me to use part of the refrigerator in the cafeteria.

For ten dollars a month I rented two of the rooms on the third floor rear of Chase Hall. Also there, in what undoubtedly had been the maids' quarters when the residence belonged to the Stark Family, was "Pop" Gies, whose hero was J. S. Bach. We, Pop and I, not Bach, had our bathroom and shared the third floor with the men's lounge; the only disadvantage was that some eager beaver was usually there about six in the morning to shoot pool before class began at eight.

The course had such a bad reputation that I one time asked to attend a class session to see for myself what in the world Sangy did to the poor girls to get such negative reactions. I am sure that Sangy put the girls through an unusually stiff set of exercises on that occasion; but, although the girls were about to drop in their places, they did not dare "chicken out" in my presence. Nowadays, with women's sports what they are, Sangy's eurythmics seem pretty much like "kid" stuff. Sangy also taught speech and directed the undergraduate dramatic productions which were presented in Chase Theatre. The young actors who excelled belonged to an



KIRBY HALL

the welfare of the students was Mrs. Genevieve Brennan who ruled the cafeteria, located in what had been the kitchen of Chase Hall, and who made a unique brand of barbeque which was a favorite with the students. Her daughter, Ellen Brennan, was the librarian de facto and had to suffer through my assignment as the nominal librarian. My first lunch on September 17, 1942, was eaten at the lunch counter of

In all of the above I have failed to mention Miss Norma Sangiuliano, Dean of Women, whose office was on the second floor of Chase Hall and thus not far from the women's lounge, which was at the front of the second floor. Miss Sangiuliano, affectionately called "Sangy," although that appellation was never used in her presence, taught eurythmics during which she put the young women through some strenuous contortions.

exclusive organization known as the Thespians. One should also mention here that Sangy produced a spring pageant in which one of the sophomore women was crowned Queen of the May.

Any presentation of the people who made BUJC would not be complete without mention of those who made up the maintenance staff: Joseph Wayman of Conyngham Hall, John Burns of Chase Hall, and

Zezzie Burns of Kirby Hall. Joseph went through Conyngham Hall every day on his hand and knees, polishing the walnut woodwork, trying to keep the place looking as it did when the Conynghams were there; and it broke my heart the way the students failed to share Joseph's concern for the beautiful old building. In 1942 Conyngham Hall still had a solarium with plants and a fountain, but shortly thereafter it was changed to make way for an organic chemistry laboratory. Down in Chase Hall George Burns kept the fires going, was general factotum, grass mower, etc., while Zezzie, who was John's ex-wife (as John told it to me, "She done walk out and she never done walk back in"), cleaned both Chase and Kirby. Because I had red stamps, with which I could occasionally buy a steak, which most people were denied, I sometimes broiled a sirloin over the glowing coals of Chase Hall's furnace and then raced up the back stairway, trailing the delicious odor of the steak to my room on the third floor where I had my dinner. When I was about to marry Miss Hoffa, in 1947, John Burns advised me, gratis, "Jes' don't look back, boy. Jes' don't look back."

Sometime before the faculty tea on my first Thursday at BUJC, I went up to see the quarters assigned to the Biology Department, which, incidentally, had been the sewing room of the Conynghams; and there I met Professor Roy Tasker who was packing up his personal gear to move to Lewisburg and the main campus of Bucknell University. He was very kind and showed me around but seemed especially pleased to be leaving the Junior College after serving as the biologist on board from its inception in 1936. From Professor Tasker I learned that the equipment of the Biology Department consisted of one human skeleton, Miss Regina Mortis by name, ten double-nose-piece high school microscopes, and a set of general zoology slides, enough slides for a class of maybe fifteen students. The "suite," which was the Department of Biology, had, in addition to the sewing room, a former maid's bedroom as an office and space in what had been the elevator shaft for storage. From the sewing room a door opened onto a third-floor rear porch, where I ate my lunch on nice days. The front part of the third floor held the office of Arthur Bernhardt, mathematician **extraordinaire**, a big room, formerly the Conyngham's ballroom, in which

Edward Heltzell taught an evening course in drafting, and another classroom.

I soon settled into my office and with the beginning of classes discovered that by working all day and until ten o'clock each night I could stay one lesson ahead of the students. I'll never forget the first lecture I gave in hygiene. I went through all of what I had prepared in about a half an hour and nearly fainted when I realized that I still had twenty minutes to fill, somehow. But life in general at BUJC was pleasant, and I soon became acquainted with the parts of Wilkes-Barre I could explore on foot. I had sold my 1929 Model A Ford coupe to buy a railroad ticket to travel from Minneapolis to Wilkes-Barre and thus was without "wheels" in those days. The weekly assemblies were taken seriously by faculty and students, the speakers were worthwhile, and the entire college population had a chance to communicate. I took enough lessons in the Polish language to call the roll better. Also, in a practical matter, I learned that, when I could smell the Penn Tobacco Company's aroma in the morning, rain was sure to fall by afternoon.

In the spring of 1943 an especially heavy draft call took about three quarters of the males from the student body, after which the remainder of the student body could fit into Chase Theatre. We all went over to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station to see the "boys" off and many of the girls were in tears. That afternoon V. B. Hall asked me if I thought that was the beginning of the end of BUJC. Certainly, the continued existence of Bucknell University Junior College did seem uncertain. However, Dr. Farley did not give up anything easily, and he pulled the necessary strings to have a detachment of Pre-preflight Cadets attend the college and to "save the day." The cadets were housed in the Hotel Sterling, probably keeping that honorable establishment solvent, took their course work at BUJC, and learned how to fly Piper Cubs at the Forty Fort Airport. The cadets marched in platoons from hotel to campus and from class to class, impartially forcing anyone off the sidewalk as they stepped along, all the while calling the cadence. Woe to anyone who was caught on the sidewalk by two platoons going in opposite directions!



Dr. Reif on one of those early field trips.

Additional faculty were hired for some of the courses the cadets had to take and were paid twice as much as the regular faculty, who accepted overtime assignments of whatever courses they could handle. Thus it was that I taught English grammar at seven o'clock, five mornings a week, for the better part of a year until I was drafted in March of 1944. It seems that the powers that were, having put me in IV-F and having told me that I had only two years to live, had discovered that I was still alive at the end of the two years' probationary period and had decided I should be inducted into the United States Naval Reserve in which organization I was Charles B. Reif, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Apprentice Seaman. Thus came to an end my first tour of duty at Bucknell University Junior College. When I returned after the war, in June of 1946, things began to happen. But that is another story.



September 15, 1993

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

We have learned that the results of the College Board's annual survey of college and university tuitions will appear in newspapers and on newscasts across the country on September 22. To help you respond to inquiries from the news media, concerned parents, students, and others, I have enclosed a copy of the recently updated briefing paper, *Cost, Price, and Financial Aid in Independent Higher Education*, as well as a tip sheet that might be helpful in writing guest columns or opinion pieces. These same materials have been sent to your president under a cover letter from NAICU President David L. Warren.

The briefing paper and tip sheet, updated to reflect the latest statistics available, are meant to give you a national perspective and suggest approaches for dealing with the college cost issue. Please review these materials carefully, because much of the data on independent colleges and universities have changed.

Each institution has its own story to tell about tuition increases or decreases, ways that the institution has saved money, become more competitive, entered into collaborative arrangements, etc. Increased media, legislative and public attention is focused on college costs. We must do all we can to speak out to help the public, our lawmakers, parents, students, and members of the news media understand the choices we have made and what we are doing to cut costs, and become more efficient and competitive while maintaining quality and access.

I hope that you find this information helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Gail A. Raiman
Vice President for
Public Affairs

Enclosures



We'd like to have your opinion *In your local newspaper*

The College Board will soon release its annual survey on college cost. In covering this story, the national news media usually focuses attention on the highest tuitions, without considering some of the underlying issues involved in college cost. Now is a good time to write the editors of your local newspapers and register your opinion with a column.

Talking Points on College Cost

- A college or university's budgetary decisions generally represent a trade-off between higher quality and lower price, with quality defined in various ways: more competitive salaries to attract excellent faculty; more faculty time per student; a broader range of programs and courses; (d) better tools (e.g. library resources, computers, laboratory equipment). Buildings, books, computers, laboratory equipment, and services cost about the same at comparable public and independent institutions.
- Tuition and fees at state-supported colleges and universities range from less than \$500 to more than \$6,000. Tuition and fees at four-year independent institutions in 1992-93 averaged \$8,879; at private junior colleges, tuition and fees averaged \$5,394. More than three times as many independent institutions have tuition and fees below \$7,000 as above \$14,000.
- At independent colleges and universities, every student's education is subsidized by gifts and endowment earnings (for schools that have endowments). At some of the higher-priced colleges and universities, full tuition covers only about 60 percent of what it costs to educate a student.
- Students at state-supported colleges and universities are heavily subsidized by state appropriations. Nationally, the average state appropriation per student at a state university is roughly \$5,700, regardless of the student's ability to pay. The average amount of state funds spent on a student attending an independent college or university is \$600, mostly in the form of financial aid for needy students. If the state system of higher education were to assume responsibility for educating students now attending independent colleges and universities, the additional burden for taxpayers would exceed \$12 billion annually.
- Half of all students nationally receive student aid. In 1989-90, the average full-time undergraduate receiving need-based financial aid from an independent institution had \$10,461 in expenses (tuition, fees, room, and board). This was covered by \$7,559 in aid (grants, loans, and work-study); the student paid only \$2,902.
- Independent colleges and universities are committed to providing access to students from all walks of life. In 1991-92, it is estimated that they provided more than \$4 billion from their own institutional resources for undergraduate and graduate financial aid. These institutions are now providing from their own resources more grant assistance to their undergraduates than the federal government gives these students in all its grant programs combined.
- The latest government figures (1991) show that independent colleges and universities enroll nearly twice as many students from families earning less than \$30,000 a year as from families earning more than \$75,000 a year.

Please use examples from your state and institution.
NAICU – September 1993

Among the 56 buildings at Wilkes College, many of them have special significance for the 1975-76 Bicentennial celebration because of their interesting histories, depicting the different ages of American life and the people behind them.

Two of these buildings, McClintock Hall, 44 South River Street, and Catlin Hall, 92 South River Street, have been placed in the National Register of Historical Places in the United States.

Four other structures, Sterling Hall, 72 South River Street, Weiss Hall, 98 South River Street, Kirby Hall, 202 South River Street, and Weckesser Hall, 170 South Franklin Street, have been named in the Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks, as a historical tribute to the College.

McClintock Hall, built around 1841, is an original Greek Revival house with later Victorian additions. The building was donated to Wilkes in 1951 by the late Attorney Gilbert S. McClintock, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Currently, McClintock is utilized as a women's dormitory.

Attorney McClintock was foremost among those of his era in civic work and leadership. During the latter part of his life, he was known as "Mr. Wilkes-Barre."

Although his forebears settled in Northumberland County in 1795, Attorney McClintock was born in Wilkes-Barre. Educated at Princeton University, he received his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Throughout his life, he was identified with commercial, financial, cultural and philanthropic organizations of the community. The bulk of his estate was bequeathed to Wilkes College. He also left to the College all prints, books, paintings and manuscripts, regarding the history of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Catlin Hall, formerly the Reynolds family property for four generations, was built around 1842 and acquired by Wilkes in 1957. It was renamed after the noted and controversial painter, George Catlin.

Catlin was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar Association in 1819, and following four years of practice, he left the area for Philadelphia, where he established his career as a painter.

Catlin later became world famous for his paintings and books of American Indian tribes.

(more)

1st ad-- Wilkes buildings

In the span of eight years, he visited 50 tribes and brought home a collection of more than 600 oil paintings, landscapes, Indian customs, their weapons, costumes and wigwams.

His paintings have been exhibited in London, the Louvre, Paris, and the Smithsonian Institute.

"In his deaf, lonely age, after thirty years abroad," wrote his biographer, "he still signed himself, George Catlin of Wilkes-Barre."

Built in 1842, Catlin Hall is considered to be one of the oldest buildings in this area.

Built in 1860, Sterling Hall was acquired by the College at the bequest of Colonel Walter C. Sterling in 1949.

The Victorian Italic styled building is currently a women's dormitory. The lacy ironwork on the exterior of the structure is typical of that found in New Orleans.

Weiss Hall, built around 1850 as a Greek Revival house, was donated to the College by Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Weiss in 1957. Formerly, the building was the property of the Dobson family. Currently Weiss Hall is a women's dormitory.

Aaron Weiss founded the Triangle Shoe Company and was a past member of the Wilkes Board of Trustees.

Kirby Hall, constructed in 1873 and designed by the noted American Architect Frederick Clark Withers, was donated to Wilkes by Allan P. Kirby, who gave it to the College in honor of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morgan Kirby, in 1941.

Fred Morgan Kirby, an American merchant and banker, was born in Brownsville, N. Y., in 1861. In 1884, he moved to Wilkes-Barre and opened his first five-and-ten cent store under the name of Woolworth and Kirby.

In 1887, he acquired C. S. Woolworth's share in the store and reorganized it as F. M. and W. Kirby.

In 1912, Kirby was operating 96 stores east of the Mississippi River.

Weckesser Hall, built in 1914 and designed by Charles Gilbert, stands as a monument to the industrial and merchantile strength of Wyoming Valley and the man who built and bequeathed it to Wilkes College in 1956, Frederick J. Weckesser.

(more)

2nd ad-- Wilkes buildings

Until the day of his death, Frederick Weckesser was associated closely with the founding and progress of the F.W. Woolworth Empire.

Currently, Weckesser Hall is the chief administrative office building of the College, housing the President's Office, the Deans' Offices, and the Public Relations Office.

Born in Clayton, New York, Weckesser came to Wilkes-Barre in 1899, to become the general manager and buyer of the Kirby store.

Other historical buildings on the campus include, Chase Hall, 184-190 South River Street. This building was presented to the College in 1937 by Rear Admiral Harold R. Stark as a memorial to Fred Chase and his wife, who was Admiral Stark's sister.

The structure was the first to be donated to Wilkes when the College was known as Bucknell Junior College.

Built in 1917, the three-story building at one time housed the administration offices, the cafeteria, the language department and the education department.

Currently, Chase Hall is utilized by the Admissions Office.

At the time of the hall's construction, Fred Chase was the president and general manager of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. At the time of his death in 1921, he was vice-president of Coxe Brothers and Company, vice-president and general manager of the Lehigh Valley Water Supply, and director of the Miners National Bank.

Bedford Hall, 96 West River Street, former residence of Attorney and Mrs. Paul Bedford, became the property of the College by bequest in August, 1967, upon the death of Attorney Bedford.

Bedford was known widely as a corporation lawyer, banker and benefactor. He attended Harry Hillman Academy and graduated from Princeton University and received a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

He became a member of the Board of Trustees at Princeton University in 1930 and was senior member of the law firm of Bedford, Waller, Griffith, Darling and Mitchell.

Among his many gifts to the community, church and college were the athletic field for intramural sports and a music building at Princeton University.

He also assisted his wife, the late Gertrude Vaughn Bedford, in the operation of the Wheel Chair Club, a world-wide organization in charge of the Wilkes-Barre Kiwanis Club.

MARTS & LUNDY, Inc.

SURVEY OF

Form P-1

INSTITUTION

WILKES COLLEGE

DATE May 24, 1965

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Beginning with the establishment of the institution give important events such as anniversaries, changes in corporate set up, inaugurations of presidents, fund raising campaigns or special gifts, erection of buildings and other outstanding events. Give the year in which each event occurred.

Date	Events
1933	Bucknell Junior College established
1936	Full-time director named -- Dr. Eugene S. Farley
1937	Chase and Conyngham Halls, Chase Theater, and Conyngham Annex acquired First amount of money raised -- \$75,000 for refurbishing of buildings
1938	Susquehannock Hall donated by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Weckesser
1941	Kirby Hall donated by Allen P. Kirby
1944	Campaign for \$150,000 held Bucknell University Junior College accredited as four-year college
1945	Geis and Barre Halls acquired
1946	Campaign for \$400,000 to meet requirements of State Department of Education for endowment before receiving charter Ashley and Butler Halls acquired
1947	Wilkes College chartered by State Department of Education Dr. Eugene S. Farley became the first President of Wilkes College Endowment fund of \$500,000 established Lecture Hall built and parking lot acquired
1948	Pickering Hall acquired
1949	Sterling Hall acquired
1950	Building fund for new Gymnasium Gymnasium built and President's home acquired Gymnasium dedicated
1951	McClintock Hall acquired Philharmonic Society established with the cooperation of the Wilkes College Department of Music

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Date	Events
1952	Sturdevant Hall acquired Institute of Municipal Government established by Dr. Hugo V. Mailey
1953	Hollenback Hall acquired
1955	Harding and Warner Halls and Dining Commons acquired
1956	Fine Arts Fiesta Committee organized Gore Hall and parking lot acquired Anonymous contribution to construct what is now Stark Science Hall as well as an endowment fund for operation of Stark Science Hall
1957	Lot and Catlin, Weiss Halls acquired Stark Science Hall built Capital Funds campaign held for faculty salaries and campus expansion Stark Science Hall dedicated
1958	Chapman and Parrish Halls acquired
1959	Denison Hall and Guidance Center acquired
1960	Parking lot, Athletic Field House and tennis courts acquired Ford Foundation Grant of \$150,000 to coordinate studies and action programs designed to improve the economy of Northeastern Pennsylvania and the establishment of an Area Economic Research Center; expand the Labor-Management- Citizens Committee; the improved Labor-Management relations; to expand the Institute of Municipal Government activities directed to improve local government
1961	Slocum and Miner Halls acquired Community testimonial to Dr. Farley on his 25th Anniversary as Director and then President of Wilkes College Graduate program for Master degree in Chemistry and Physics started

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Date	Events
1962	Sturdevant Hall and parking lot acquired Campaign for Matching Funds - \$400,000 to match ARA grant of \$600,000 for the construction of a Science Research and Graduate Center Anonymous gift for the construction of the Center for the Performing Arts Alumni Seminar program of continued education started
1963	Snack Bar installed, Weckesser Hall and two properties acquired Science Research and Graduate Center completed Anonymous gift for the construction of the Center for the Performing Arts
1964	Convocation and dedication of the Science Research and Graduate Center Construction of the first phase of the Center for the Performing Arts started with funds from anonymous donors. Athletic field acquired
1965	Deeding of 2.9 acre parcel of land from Urban Redevelopment Authority on which the first phase of a dormitory complex to house 264 students and a combination dining hall and student union building to accommodate 750 students will be constructed. Construction to begin July, 1965 Acquisition of three properties Grant of \$605,000 from Higher Education Facilities for construction of library Completion and Dedication of the Wilkes College Center for the Performing Arts on Monday, October 25, 1965. Dedication and naming of new athletic field -- Ralston Field, on Saturday, November 6, 1965

WILKES COLLEGE
MEMORANDUM TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 5, 1962

Although only a year has passed since plans for development during the 1960's were presented to you, certain modifications of these proposals for development are now necessary.

Within a period of six months, a clearer view of our opportunities and obligations has been gained, and in consequence of new facts, it is desirable that these plans be reconsidered.

The new facts and conditions that must influence all decisions are:

1. The graduate program in chemistry and physics was started in September 1961. Although the enrollment is now small, we must plan for expansion of the enrollment and must provide additional laboratory space for graduate study and research.
2. R. C. A. advised the College administration that they will not require a graduate program in engineering. In consequence, we are relieved of the responsibility for the construction of an engineering building.
3. Campus plans for the next forty years were prepared so that the College might meet the requirements for participation in the plans of the City and Federal Government for urban redevelopment. The first long-range plan of the College was confined to the first block, on South River Street, below Market Street and to the block bounded by South River, Northampton, Franklin, and South Streets. This plan was rejected by the City Planning Commission because of their conviction that the first block on South River Street should be reserved for large apartment houses or for other developments that will provide tax income to the city. They stressed the fact that this one block was potentially the most valuable area in the city.

The Planning Commission suggested that the College plan to expand southward so that the proposed development of the first block on South River Street would become feasible.

In consequence of these recommendations, a new long-range plan was submitted in which the College agreed not to replace any of the buildings in the first block of South River Street when they become obsolescent. The Planning Commission then recommended changes in the zoning laws which (1) prevent construction of College buildings in the first block on South River Street, and (2) reserve the area bounded by South, South Franklin, Ross, and West River Streets, for residential and semi-public (College) development.

4. The possibility of receiving Federal funds for the construction of an area research center in chemistry, electronics, and physics, was suggested as a means of assisting the efforts of the community to attract dynamic and growing industries. This project, if approved by the government, will be for the benefit of the community. As is the case with the graduate center, this project will have no direct benefit to the College. The College will benefit only as the community benefits.
5. A more careful examination of plans for the library suggests that they are inadequate and would resolve our needs for only a very short time. In consequence, it is advisable to develop more adequate plans.

The five points that have been discussed modify the proposals that were made a year earlier, but they do not, in any way, alter the long-range objectives of the College.

PRECEDENCE

There are frequent questions as to why one project takes precedence over others. Unfortunately, there is no single answer to this question. A number of factors determine the relative importance of each project so that the rank given to various projects can be comprehended only when all factors are known.

The factors that determine rank are, therefore, listed below --

1. commitments of the College to R.C.A.
2. the pressures of overcrowding in some quarters
3. the growing pressure of out-of-town students for admissions
4. the continued decrease in the number of college-age students in the area
5. the impact of increased tuition costs upon local students--the tendency to turn to public colleges because of their lower costs
6. the desire of the administration and faculty for a balanced educational program
7. special opportunities -- Research Center

It is perhaps unfortunate that pressures exert a somewhat greater influence than do judgment and desire in determining the precedence of each project, but with the meager resources of the College, it is not practicable to do otherwise. The needs of the College are so great that it is never possible to permit desire to influence the precedence given to any project. In consequence, those things that are practicable take precedence over those that are desirable. If we had full freedom of choice, the administration would place the Fine Arts Building first, because this building will strengthen the arts--and they will exert an influence for good upon the entire student body. This is desirable but it can be delayed. There are other projects that cannot be delayed without possible impediment to the long-range development of the College.

PRECEDENCE

	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Financing</u>
1. Addition to Stark Hall	\$ 500,000	Gifts
2. Research Center	400,000	Federal grant
3. Acquisition of land and houses	250,000	Gifts
4. Dormitories for 250 men	1,000,000	Federal loan and gifts
5. Dining hall for 250	250,000	Federal loan and gifts
6. Library	1,000,000	Gifts and/or federal grants
7. Fine Arts Building	400,000 to 500,000	Gifts
TOTAL	\$3,800,000 to \$3,900,000	

Pormitories

Sore Hall

⑧

ate of Stella C. Hadhams Aug 30, 1956

Kirby Hall — Kirby - Allan P. & wife
July 18, 1941 — Given to college

Formerly owned by Fred M. Kirby in 1905

Chase Hall —

Conyngham — Given by Mrs. Bertha R.
Conyngham to BJC Feb. 18, 1937
Shadow of John Conyngham

Olivia — Mother of John gave it to him.

Cullen — ^{Dorance} Reynolds purchased Feb. 8, 1957

Sterling Hall — Walton - Carlston Sterling —
his residence ^{bequeathed} May 1, 1950.

Part of Hollenback estate
Matthias Hollenback in 1805

Matthias died giving part to 4 children (2)

George M. Hollenback	
Ellen J. —	Charles Wells
Mary Ann	Gas Loring
Sarah H.	Jacob L. St
	Chester Butler

Ellen J. Wells got part in question
in Jan. 1852

She sold it to George M. Hollenback
in 1852

1860 — Geo. M. Hollenback sold it
Jan 21 to Walton G. Sterling

Part of Wife's lot

1805 — William Rolfe - Commonwealth
Part of It-B called "Bullfrog"

1805 June 28 Deed ~~from~~ ^{to} Wm. Wright
to Josiah Wright 60 ft
on River St. next to Hollenback line

1805 June 27 Josiah Wright to Lord
Butter for same land

1817 Deed Lord Butter to Phila Bank

1831 Aug. Bank of Phila to Thomas Williamson

1834 Thomas Williamson to David
Townend

1837 ^{March 17} Thos. Williamson D. Townend et
all to W. H. Alexander.

1837 March 28 Deed of W. H. Alexander
to Wm. Borman

1838 Apr. 6 W. H. Alexander Deed of
W. S. Borman to H. B. Wright

1856 July 20 Deed H. B. Wright to
John J. Ulf

1867 John Ulf declared Abraham
Martin his trustee

1867^{apr.} Abe Martin to H. M. Reynolds

1867 Apr. 23 H. M. Reynolds to W. G.
Sterling

Sunday Ind. Apr. 1953

©

Hollenback Hall

Requested to check under the will of
Miss Anna Hollenback

A friend of the college who contributed
scholarship funds to the College.

Any relation to Matthias Hollenback
of Sterling Hall.

Kirby Hall -

Kirby Hall was built by Mr. & Mrs.
S. L. Thurlow.

Mr. & Mrs. brought with them Mlle.

Gambro, a French governess,
who came from a wealthy French
^{Parisian} family. Mr. & Mrs. Thurlow
were in Paris at the time of
World War I and to escape
siege of Paris they went to
England taking Mlle. Gambro
with them. She returned to
St-B as their governess.

After Thurlow's left N-B Melle. became ^⑦
companion to Mrs. Sarah Atherton.
and after Mrs. Atherton's death returned
to France. She was in N-B 15
years and was in the vogue
to give instruction in the arts
here in the Valley. She was an artist,
gifted in music & writing, and an
accomplished linguist. She was
considered a connoisseur and critic
and her opinion ultimate. Long after
return to France her opinions were
still quoted and her name considered
a symbol for good taste.

Thurlow's lived during WWI

Bruce Price - architect famous - Hotel Chateau
Frontenac in ^{Quebec} Montreal +
many other imp buildings

Succession of owners -

Originally Nathan Dennison + Edith
Sells built log cabin on the
site.

Log cabin torn down + present

home built by Thurlow family from France.⁽⁸⁾
A nephew of Washington Lee of Nanticoke
moved into the home and a Miss Lee
married the architect Bruce Price.

Emily Post, present authority on etiquette
was a daughter of Price's.

Reuben J. Flick - Born 1816 + died 1890
born in Flickerville, Northampton County
and settled at W-B at age of 22.
Organized + was president of People's
Bank, elder of Presbyterian Church,
trustee of Harry Hellman Academy,
the Female Institute, the City Hospital
Home for Friendless Children,
Lincoln University

Attended W-B public schools +
attend Harry Hellman Academy,
R. Jay Flick Jr. private school. Graduated from
Phillips Exeter Academy in 1890
Graduated from Princeton U. in
1894. Also graduated from Wyoming
in 1896.

In 1896 appointed business
manager of the Weekes-Barre "Times"
an evening ^{daily} newspaper published

by N.B. Times Company. About 2 years
later he was made treasurer of that
company + was president

(9)

Kirby - F. M.

(14)

vice-president and director of the F.W. Woolworth Co, consolidation of the three hundred + 18 stores of S.H. Knox + Co, 96 stores of F.M. Kirby, 15 stores of C.S. Woolworth, 10 stores of E.P. Charlton and 2 stores of W.H. Moore, 553 stores. Had headquarters in Miners National Bank, scene of 1st business success.

Is story of the inception + development of the F.W. Woolworth Company of which Mr. Kirby is 1 of founders, is story of romance of American business, and shows what determination, aided by genius + ability can accomplish.

Kirby born in Brownville, N.Y. in 1861. Father Wm. Kirby Captain who sailed around Cape Horn in "49"

Kirby - Early education in Brownville, N.Y.
High school Watertown
Clerk in dry goods store at Watertown. Fellow-employees

were F.W. + C.S. Woolworth

(15)

P. 382
V. 6
#1st.
Recad

Kerley Home -

Site of a log cabin where
Col. Demson next in
Command to Col. Zebulon
Butler was married to
Edith Hill, the first
marriage in Wyoming Valley.

Later a large frame dwelling
was erected by Rosewell
Welles, one of four lawyers
admitted to bar on foundation
of the County + organization of
courts. Present mansion
erected in 1873-74 by S. L.
Thurlow + occupied in 1875.
A nephew of Washington Lee
of Nanticoke

Washington Lee Nanticoke lawyer

Devonshire
 Wadhams - Family originally English
 Settled in Connecticut in 1650

1st
 Preacher
 in Ply.

Rev. Noah Wadhams left Litchfield
 Conn. & embarked with
 congregation to the Susquehanna
 until year after Wyoming
 massacre when moved to
 Plymouth.

↓
 Calvin Wadhams - 2nd son

↓
 youngest son Samuel Wadhams
 born Plymouth

- Married Clarinda Starr Catlin

↓
 son Elijah Catlin Wadhams born 1825
 brother was Calvin who founded
 1st Presbyterian Church now
 Osterhout Library

Born
 Plymouth

Wadhams of Gore Hall -

Belonged to Elijah C. Wadhams
 His wife, former Esther Taylor
 French

Mrs. E. C. Wadhams was former State

also 2 sons-in-law,

3 sons + 2 sons-in law killed

Obadiah Hove - One of most famous figures of Valley preceding the Rev. war. Justice of peace 1777-78-79, under laws of Conn, his commission signed by Jon. Trumbull, gov. of Conn. Blacksmith by trade and he + brother Daniel were among 1st. persons to use anthracite in this country, using it in forges as early as 1772. Among prisoners taken by Pennamites in 1768.

Jon Obadiah - Judge

Born 1744 - one of most prominent of day in N.V. Served 6 years as member of Cont. army, Commissioned 1st. Lt. by John Hancock, and later by John Jay, First Lt. Conn. militia 1776, and Jan. 1, 1777, was on duty in Westmoreland, Penn. He served Sullivan expedition

(17)

~~Westmoreland~~ June - Aug + 1779, and was
reentered by consolidation Jan 1, 1781.
He was one of judges commissioned
at organization of ~~Wyoming~~ Luzerne
County, participated in 1st + 2nd
Pennamite Wars, and appointed
justice of peace of Westmoreland
County in April 1782. One of members
from Westmoreland to Conn. Assembly
1781-82, and member of Penna. J
Leg. 1788-90. Portrait presently
hangs in Wyoming V Hist. + Geo.
Society

Judge John Nesbitt Conyngnam

(10)

President Judge of Luzerne County
and one-time representative of
county in state legislature

Anecdote -

A measure

Conyngnam Family

Honorable John N. Cory. (57)

Member of an ancient & honorable family
whose line traces to distinguished
representatives of the Scottish Peerage

Prominently associated & operating
Companies in the anthracite coal
fields of Pa. & of provincial & r
corporate interests in Norway
or r - also

r maintenance of large
& valuable Agric. holdings
in r cultivation of which he
takes a deep & pleasurable interest

Supports charitable & philanthro-
pic enterprises in W.B.

Died in 1871 - accident. R.A. St. Clements
In his honor name Cory School to E. institution on St. W.B.
Mary C. aunt of John N. Cory.
married Charles Jarvis of W.B.

Will. Lord Cony., 3rd son of Hon. John
Cony in WB ^{Nov. 1} 1829

Active in firms of Parritt & Cony., coal
operators & Cony & Paice, Commission
merchants. Connected to many bus.
enterprises of Wyo. Valley. A life member
& former vice-pres. of Wyo. Historical &
Geological Society.

Married 1864 Olivia Hillard of Charleston,
S. Carolina daughter of Oliver Burr
& Harriet A. (Robert) Hillard of
Charleston S. Carolina & W.B.

Mrs. Cony was descended from
Captain David Hilliard of Tull
Mrs. Cony's ^{great} grandfather, served in
Rev. War. Her father famous merchant
in W.B.

John Nesbitt, eldest son born
in W.B. 1865. School in
W.B. - Johns Hopkins University,
in New Haven Conn. Yale
University

Club, Union League Club,
Metropolitan Club, N. Y. Yacht Club
or Oging Rock Club all
of N. Y. City.

Married, April 1st, 1895,
Bertha Robinson, Daugh.
of John Morris & Mary (Morrison)
Robinson of Wilmington Delaware

Mrs. & Mrs. Cong. liberal
supporters of civic & welfare
organizations in WB community
life in whose circles their
presence & influence are
highly appreciated

Trucksville Methodist Church

(19)

Fall 1918 the congregation of Trucksville Methodist Episcopal made an attempt purchase a parsonage. While making a friendly call on that queenly woman Mrs. H. L. Conyngham, the preacher broached the subject of a parsonage for the Methodist people of Trucksville. Her interest was aroused and she entered enthusiastically into a discussion of the matter. She enthusiastically commented that if a ~~for~~ building suitable for a parsonage could be purchased, she would help pay for it. That night the preacher went to G. B. & got terms on a home in Trucksville. The next evening the Trustees looked at the houses & were favorably impressed. At a meeting they voted to purchase a suitable building for a parsonage if \$1,000 was subscribed.

Mrs. Conyngham informed as to amt. subscribed & sent \$200 check to the meeting. Her sons John H. &

William H. Conyngham offered to (20)
give \$300 if the subscription
raised to \$1200.

Jan. 19, 1919 \$600 paid + \$1000 still
due on mortgage.

Mr. John N. + Wm. H. Conyngham
gave money to furnish parsonage.
because it was their mother's
wish before she died

Bertha — ^{letter} to Church

agreed to pay \$500 of remaining
mortgage, providing Church
raised remaining \$500 before
Jan 1 of next year. Then
the Conynghams made a visit to
the Church parsonage + agreed to
help pay remainder of mortgage on
parsonage. A check for \$350
was received from W. H. Conyngham.

When the stipulated \$500

was raised Mrs. John N. Conyngham
sent check for \$500

Fire - 1910

(2)

Corngrahams rebuilt the church
as long as architectural details
same as former Church & funds
already received in trust fund.