1. Name of Property

ASBURY HOUSE

historic name: 
other name/site number: 

2. Location

street & number: 2922 Putnam Avenue not for publication: N/A
city/town: Hurricane vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. 

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. 

determined not eligible for the National Register 

removed from the National Register 

other (explain): 

Signature of Keeper Date of Action
Asbury House, Hurricane
Putnam Co., WV

Name of Property
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: (Check as many boxes as apply)
- [x] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)
- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing Noncontributing
1 buildings
sites
structures
objects
1 0 TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
- Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
- Domestic: Single Dwelling
- Commerce/Trade: Professional Speciality Store

7. Description

Architectural Classification: (Enter categories from instructions)
- I-House

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
- Foundation: Cinder Block & Concrete
- Walls: Brick
- Roof: Asphalt Shingles
- Other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
Asbury House, Hurricane

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

__ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
__ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
__ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:
__ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
X B removed from its original location.
__ C a birthplace or grave.
__ D a cemetery.
__ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
__ F a commemorative property.
__ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance
1876-1946
Asbury House, Hurricane
Name of Property

Putnam County, WV
County and State

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Conner, McFarland
McCallister, William

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NFS):
_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_ previously listed in the National Register
_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_ designated a National Historic Landmark
_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:
_ State Historic Preservation Office
_ Other State agency
_ Federal agency
_ Local government
_ University
_ Other

Name of Repository: ________________________________
18 February 1997

Ms. Carol D. Shull  
Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 37127, Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are submitting for your review and approval the following National Register Registration Forms:

Asbury House, Putnam County  
Mountaineer Hotel, Mingo County  
Lowther Store, Webster County  
Downtown Charles Town, Jefferson County

The attached nominations have been approved by the State Review Board in accordance with federal regulations for listing to the National Register.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William G. Farar  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

WGF:kmj
Asbury House, Hurricane
Name of Property

Putnam County, WV
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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<th>Northing</th>
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Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Jennifer K. Peters, and Katherine M. Jourdan

Organization: WV SHPO Date: 25 November 1996

Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd East Telephone: 304/558-0220, 156

City or Town: Charleston State: WV Zip: 25305-0300

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)
Asbury House, Hurricane

Name of Property

Putnam County, WV

County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Renee Wiles Johnson

Street & Number: 2922 Putnam Ave Telephone: 304/562-1001

City or Town: Hurricane State: WV Zip: 25526

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Asbury House is sited on two flat grassy lots along Putnam Avenue which parallels Hurricane's Main Street and the C&O Railroad tracks. The house has always been located on the north side of Putnam Avenue, but was moved one block east in 1994 to avoid demolition by a local church's expansion. The house retains the same orientation as its former location, and has the same set back as the other homes along the street. Only a small half-circle drive has been added to accommodate additional off-street parking.

General research dated the construction of the home to 1876 although the I-house style, with late Greek Revival style design elements and brick construction, demonstrates that the home follows designs popular 20-40 years earlier. The house is a two-story residence, with twelve-inch brick interior and exterior walls. The front facade has five bays with a center door and three light transom. The windows are later 8/1 double-hung openings with stone sills and wooden shutters. The eaves and fascia once had low brackets, but these were removed in the 1970s and are now covered by aluminum siding. There are two tie-rods running through the house with decorative star ends located on each side of the front portico.

The house has a small front portico with metal hip roof and columns. This portico was reconstructed after the porch collapsed during the move. The main roof of the house is a low hip with shingles. The house originally had a sandstone foundation. The move necessitated that a foundation be in place prior to the shift of the home, so a new foundation of cinder block and concrete was constructed on the new lot. The original foundation stones now form a garden wall on the rear of the property.

The east facade of the house has a single door and transom, with a window above on the second floor. The interior fireplace is to the left of the doorway. There is evidence in the brickwork of a porch along the length of this facade which was removed by the church in the 1987. The north or rear facade also has a single door with transom, and two original windows to the left of the doorway. A second story bathroom window over the doorway was altered in the 1940s with a casement opening. A center second floor window was altered by the church to be a fire exit door. Plans by the owner call to restore the original window opening. A rear gabled porch which had been enclosed was removed from the rear entrance.

The front entrance opens into a central hallway that measures 10' x 21'. The foyer's original mahogany staircase, with deep tread, newel post and handrail rises in one flight to the second floor. The living area opens to the right of the hall with a single room spanning the depth of the house. The wooden fireplace mantel has been repainted in a faux marble. The floors throughout the home seem to date to the early 1900s with a thin (1 1/2 ') width board.

To the left of the front hall is a square dining area with a door leading into the rear kitchen. What may have been a small sitting room behind the front stairs is now used for mechanicals, laundry and bath.
The second floor has a bath at the top of the stairs, three bedrooms and a small nursery area, now used as a dressing room. The front bedroom over the living area has a fireplace mantel. The original second floor plan remains the same except for some additional closets added over the years.

After the move the house received extensive restoration to replace mechanicals, electrical work, and plumbing fixtures. The owner also replaced the missing wooden trimwork around the windows, refinished floors, patched plaster, etc. which reversed some of the alterations made by the church. Currently the first floor is used as a shop by the owner, and the kitchen and upstairs as private residential space.

The Asbury House was moved approximately one block from its former site, and still sits on the original Conner farm property. The orientation and setback of the house to the street remains the same.
Asbury House is being nominated under Criterion C for Architecture, with the period of significance from 1876 to 1946. The home is one of the earliest remaining residences in the town of Hurricane, built by one of the first families to settle the Hurricane Valley.

The Conner family was the first family to move into the area during the end of the 1700s, known at the time as the Curry District. James Conner and his wife Alice ran the Conner Hotel, a successful business located on Main Street. Their son, Andrew Jackson Conner, had four children: Vaturia, Valeria, McFarland and William. It is believed that McFarland or Mac Conner began construction of the home on the family farm in 1876, but left the house unfinished. After his death in 1885, the house and property was sold by his siblings.

Putnam County was sparsely settled prior to the Civil War. A small community began to be formed in 1815 along Big Hurricane Creek which took its name from a number of downed trees found during the initial survey of 1774. When the railroad came through the area in the 1870s, the community was called Hurricane Station. Upon incorporation in 1888, however, the name was shortened to Hurricane.

One of those who took advantage of the new prosperity of the town was William "Bill Mac" McCallister, who in 1890 purchased the house and finished the interior of the home. McCallister was already a successful farmer after the Civil War. When the railroad came to town he purchased land on the north side of the tracks and began building two general stores with a rear livery stable. McCallister used the home as rental property, including a period from 1907-08 when a double railroad track was being laid in the county and the house served as a boarding house for railroad workers.

The house had periods when it was unoccupied, and was often used by playing children. McCallister was ready to tear the home down when his new daughter-in-law decided she wanted to live in the home. He deeded the house to his son Cline in 1924, who made renovations and lived there until 1929. The house was then sold to Doctor Homer A. Erwin, a prominent dentist and state legislature, who resided there until 1969, when it was purchased as a parsonage by the Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church.

When the church decided to expand the sanctuary, the parsonage was to be removed for construction and additional parking. The house was purchased by Renee Wiles who was able to locate several lots a block away. The house was secured and carefully moved to the new location in 1994. Renovations to the mechanicals of the home, interior woodwork, plaster repair, and refinishing of the floors have returned some of the former historic character to the house.

The I-house style of the house is unusual in Hurricane which has few remaining homes built before the late nineteenth century. Many of the residences located along Main or Putnam Avenue are Queen Anne, or Italianate in construction. The Asbury House is well constructed with 12" brick walls, brick fireplace, and a modest interior attesting to the delayed completion and heavy use the house sustained as a rental property,
Asbury House as it was named by the church, is one of the few brick residences from the late 19th century remaining in Hurricane. Despite its move in 1994, care was taken that the house be placed as close as possible to its original site, and that it remain on the original Conner farm. The house still has the same orientation to Putnam Avenue, and was placed at the same set back as its original location.
Bibliography


Interview with Renee Wiles Johnson, by Katherine Jourdan, November 22, 1996, Hurricane, WV.

Boundary Description

Lots 7 & 8, Block 1 of the Corbly Addition of the Town of Hurricane, Putnam County, West Virginia.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries reflect the legal description of the property as recorded in Deed Book 354, p. 740.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INTINUATION SHEET

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<tr>
<th>Photographer:</th>
<th>Renee Wiles Johnson</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Peters</td>
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DEED

THIS DEED, Made this 16th day of March, 1994, by and between Betty H. Meadows and Boyd L. Meadows, her husband, and Beth Williamson and Anthony Williamson, her husband, parties of the first part, and Renee G. Wiles, widow, party of the second part.

NOW THEREFORE WITNESSETH: That for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars ($10.00), cash in hand paid, and other valuable consideration, the receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledged, the said parties of the first part do hereby GRANT and CONVEY unto said party of the second part, the following described property, to-wit:

All of those certain lots or parcels of real estate, together with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging being situate in the Town of Hurricane, Putnam County, West Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

Being all of Lots 6, 7 and 8, Block 1, of the Corbly Addition of the Town of Hurricane, Putnam County, West Virginia, and shown upon a map of the said Corbly Addition to the Town of Hurricane, Putnam County, West Virginia, and of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Putnam County, West Virginia, in Map Book 3, Page 11.

Being the same real estate that was conveyed unto Betty H. Meadows, and Beth Williamson, her daughter, by deed dated 28th of June, 1991, from Darrell Allen and Wanda Allen, his wife, and Clifford Allen and Marie Allen, his wife, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's office in Deed Book 333, Page 771.

This conveyance is made subject to any and all existing covenants, agreements, reservations, restrictions, easements, leases and rights of way as the same may appear in instruments of record in the aforesaid Clerk's office.
First Floor

- Kitchen
- Pantry
- Entry
- Porch

Second Floor

- Bath
- WIC
- Bedroom
- Bedroom

SCALE: 1 inch = 15 feet

AREA CALCULATIONS SUMMARY

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LIVING AREA CALCULATIONS

Breakdown | Subtotals
-----------|----------
40.00 x 30.00 | 1200.00
40.00 x 30.00 | 1200.00