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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Warwood Fire Station

other name/site number: _____

2. Location

street & number: 1609 Warwood Avenue

not for publication: _____

city/town: Wheeling

vicinity: _____

state: WV county: Ohio code: 069 zip code: 26003

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

William C. Varma
Signature of Certifying Official

3.5.96
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property

☐ meets

☐ does not meet

the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

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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

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: Government Sub: fire station
Commerce/Trade warehouse

Current: Commerce/Trade Sub: professional

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:
20th Century Neo-Classical

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation Brick roof Rubber
walls Brick other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See
continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property
in relation to other properties: _____.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A & C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) :

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Politics/Government

Period(s) of Significance: 1923-1940

Significant Dates: 1923 _____

Significant Person(s): _____

Cultural Affiliation: _____

Architect/Builder: Millard Fillmore Giesey - architect
John W. Ray - builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, considerations,
and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet. X

Previous documentation on file (NPS): X

- X 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
 X Local government
 — University
 X Other -- Specify Repository: Ohio County Public Library
 Wheeling, WV

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

 A 17 525800 B
 a 4040640 b

Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

The nominated property constitutes the entirety of Lot 348 of Section Four of the Plat of Warwood.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Hydie Friend, AICP

Organization: Date: December 10, 1995

Street & Number: P. O. Box 550 Telephone: (304)242-6733

City or Town: Wheeling State: WV ZIP: 26003

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Section number 7 Page 1 Warwood Fire Station
Ohio County, WV

This Neo-classical solid brick fire station is a substantial two story rectangular structure sitting amid a block containing schools, churches, banks, and other public buildings. Early deed restrictions required that there be a fifteen foot setback from the front property line to which this building complies. The resulting front yard, now concrete brick pavers, was to accommodate the movement of fire engines and other vehicles. "The fire station is built on modern and practical lines, and it is well equipped in every way, as a home for the fire fighters, and the apparatus for extinguishing fires."¹ The walls are solid brick one foot thick from basement to roof. The embellished front facade is orange/tan dress brick with butter joints of red tinted mortar, while the side and rear elevations are of red common brick and rough mortar joints.

Front/east elevation: This three bay facade contains two garage openings with a single center entrance. The bays are divided by pilasters with recessed center panels and corbeled brick capitals providing the base to a corbeled entablature. The entablature is defined by a stringcourse of vertical bricks, an area of flat bricks, and another line of corbeling that marks the second floor window sills. Contained and centered within the entablature is a limestone panel incised with "FIRE DEPARTMENT NO. 11," the official name of the station.

Photographs of the structure in 1923, the year of its completion, show that the garage doors were originally double doors hinged to swing out. These were later replaced at an unknown time with the present wood "overhead" doors containing six hinged panels and 24 lights. The doorway entrance is recessed and the door, a replacement, duplicates the original with 15 lights. There is a six light transom above the door.

The second story contains five bays each defined by projecting brick pilasters topped by corbeled brick. There are five 6 over 1 double hung windows with flat arched lintels of vertical bricks. The decorative cornice of corbeled brick does not extend the full width of the facade and is at the line of the flat roof. The parapet wall has limestone coping and is anchored by unadorned columns at each end.

¹ *The Wheeling Register*, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923, p. 6.

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Section number 7 Page 2 Warwood Fire Station
Ohio County, WV

The front facade of dress brick with its embellishments of corbeling, stringcourses, and columns returns on the side elevation for a distance of three feet, creating a substantial face to this civic structure.

Side/south elevation: This elevation accommodates numerous windows with the first floor containing four 9 over 1 windows that are eight feet high. On the second story, there are eight smaller 6 over 1 windows. All of the windows are set within segmented arches of brick voussoirs and have vertical brick sills. There are outside steps leading down to a basement entrance. In addition there are four recessed wells accommodating basement windows and a coal chute, all of which have been in-filled with brick except the first window. In the southwest corner there is a brick chimney. The parapet wall on the three secondary elevations is capped with tile. The side yard is a brick driveway leading to the rear yard that served and continues to serve for parking.

Side/north elevation: This elevation is similar to the south, however there is no basement entrance or driveway. The fifth window from the east side on the second floor has been adapted to accommodate a doorway providing access to a newly constructed wood fire escape.

Rear/west elevation - This elevation is a fairly plain wall of brick. Partially below grade, there are two windows and a door to the basement. On the first story there is one 4 over 1 window. On the stair landing between the first and second floors there is a 6 over 1 window. As found on the side elevations, all openings are set within segmented arches of brick voussoirs and windows have vertical brick sills.

Interior - The function of this building as a fire house dictated the arrangement of interior spaces. The first floor was an open space to accommodate the fire equipment. New partition walls reflect the original configuration. Three wood dressed steel columns are evenly spaced in the center length of the building. A staircase leading to the second floor and a doorway leading to basement steps are at the rear.

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Section number 7 Page 3 Warwood Fire Station
Ohio County, WV

"Another feature of the house is the way in which hoses will be stretched and dried. After a fire the hose will be taken into the basement of the building and washed. It will then be pulled to the roof and left hanging from the roof to the basement."² The pulleys, 2 foot by 7 foot trap door openings (now floored over), and round pegged hose holder remain in the building.

Original interior walls and ceilings were plaster adhered to wood lathe. Wood trim for windows is plain. Nine inch baseboards are found along the exterior walls and feature a quarter round concave then half round concave molding detail. The quarter-turn staircase has two landings, wood risers and treads, square balusters, and square newels with recessed side panels.

The second floor contained large dormitory rooms, two bathrooms, locker rooms, kitchen, and the hose drying space. The fire pole and trap doors surrounding it have long since been removed. New partition walls reflect the original configuration.

Construction techniques found in the basement illustrate the purpose of this structure. To hold the heavy equipment, floor joists for the first floor are 2x12s spaced 12 inches on center and run the length of the building. In four places, situated underneath where the wheels of the trucks would roll, there are six joists placed six inches on center for the length of 45 feet. In later years the floor joists have been additionally supported by steel cross beams and columns. Three original steel columns rise from below the cement floor through the first to the second floor. A concrete trough remains as evidence of the hose drying functions.

² *The Wheeling Intelligencer*, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923, p.12.

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Section number 8 Page 1 Warwood Fire Station
Ohio County, WV

The Warwood Fire Station, Fire Department No. 11, is significant under criteria A and C. Twentieth Century corporate growth and political development of the City of Wheeling took place during the "Greater Wheeling" movement. The presence of a fire station in Warwood singularly illustrates the development of this neighborhood and the annexation of the Town of Warwood into Wheeling under that movement. Additionally, the structure is a fine representation of governmental architecture by a noted local architect, Millard Fillmore Giesey.

Warwood developed from farmlands into a town of some 5,000 residents that was annexed into the City of Wheeling on January 1, 1920. At the turn of the Twentieth Century, lands were platted into tracts and sold off into lots for industrial, commercial and residential development. Warwood takes its name from the Warwood Tool Company, founded in 1854 by Henry Warwood in Martins Ferry, Ohio. In 1903 the company's subsequent owners started buying land and in 1905 moved the company to land north of Wheeling. Warwood took its name from the industrial plant and the Warwood Land Company, a company that sold 535 subdivided lots from 1904 to 1927. In 1911 various sections including Warwood, Glenova, and Loveland incorporated as the Town of Warwood

The incorporation of Warwood into the City of Wheeling was the result of a movement known as "Greater Wheeling," which proposed annexation of this and other surrounding towns and areas into the city. A referendum was held on November 26, 1919. Annexation was not favored by the residents of the outlying districts who voted 8 to 6 against the referendum. However, the vote for "Greater Wheeling" was approximately 14 to 1 within the City of Wheeling, thereby creating a majority for the approval of the annexation.

Voters in the annexed areas were skeptical of the movement and doubted that they would receive services and benefits to offset the expected increase in taxes. As of January 1, 1920, the Town of Warwood became part of Wheeling and all employees of the former town became City of Wheeling employees. The newly reconstituted Wheeling City Council included representation from the annexed areas and immediately began infrastructure investments in those areas. Council minutes indicate that in the spring of 1920, street paving contracts amounting to \$101,063.23 were awarded for Warwood. On May 11, 1920, the city approved an ordinance to spend \$30,000 to "extend fire

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Section number 8 Page 2 Warwood Fire Station
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alarms into the territories." Later in the same year after two fires in Warwood, council passed a resolution establishing a committee "to devise ways and means to procure a pumping fire engine for that section of the City of Wheeling." In the spring of 1921, council approved the purchase of "two 750 gallon pumpers with extra equipment for both not to exceed \$25,700." In late August, the pumpers arrived, were tested, and accepted by the city. One was assigned to Warwood.

On October 3, 1922 Council considered and approved unanimously:

Gentlemen:

We are submitting for your consideration, plans and estimates for the Warwood Fire House as prepared and submitted by Architect M. F. Giesey. A request for preliminary drawings and estimates was made to all the leading architects of the city and produced plans herewith submitted and set of plans by Architect Anderson. A careful examination of both set of plans submitted and a consultation on the matter with the Chief of the Fire Department indicates that the plans herewith submitted will provide the City with a building best suited for its needs. The estimate of the cost, as will be noted, is \$14,995, which comes within the appropriation made for this purpose amounting to \$15,000, and we have the assurance of Mr. Giesey that the building as shown can be built and completed within the estimated cost which he submits. The building season is getting late and as the conditions at Warwood are very bad for the housing of our fire apparatus and the necessary members of this hose company, we would respectfully request that authority be granted to advertise for bids and submit same to Council for their consideration at the earliest possible moment.

Respectfully submitted,
C. H. Dowler, City Manager³

³ "Minutes of the Council of the City of Wheeling," October 3, 1922, p. 215

⁵ *The Wheeling Register*, Wheeling, WV, May 30, 1923, p. 7.

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Section number 8 Page 4 Warwood Fire Station
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thousand people turned out to hear speeches, participate in patriotic singing, and tour the station. Five hundred children received American flags, swelled the chorus, and were rewarded with ice cream cones. "Firemen stationed at the house showed the visitors through the building and explained its advantages over other fire houses in the city. The fire house, without a doubt, is one of the finest and most up-to-date in the upper Ohio Valley."⁶ The City of Wheeling had demonstrated its commitment to providing facilities and services to the areas annexed in the Greater Wheeling Movement.

Warwood continued grow and develop with the construction of new schools, churches, businesses and residences. Warwoods population increased steadily until 1940; then it, like the rest of Wheeling, has experienced continued population loss.

Though the structure of the Warwood Fire Station is illustrative of its utilitarian use, the selection of its architect, Millard Fillmore Giesey, and his embellished front facade shows that Wheeling took civic pride in its public buildings. No Wheeling fire station contains the architectural detail given to the one in Warwood. Mr. Giesey is best known by his association with two of Wheelings premier architects, Frederick F. Faris and Edward Bates Franzheim. Together the firm of Franzheim, Giesey and Faris were responsible for numerous buildings. Notable among them are contributing structures in the Wheeling Historic District (downtown Wheeling) including the Schmulbach Building, the English Lutheran Church, the Egeter Building, the City Bank Building, and the Bank of Wheeling. At the time of this commission in 1922, Mr. Giesey was practicing on his own with his offices located in 512-13 Riley Law Building. Born in 1855, Mr. Giesey, a self-taught architect, was a founding member of the State Board of Architects. He died in 1931.

⁶ *The Wheeling Intelligencer*, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923, p.

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The Wheeling Register, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923.

The Wheeling Intelligencer, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923.

The Wheeling Register, Wheeling, WV, December 23, 1923.

"Minutes of the Council of the City of Wheeling," October 3, 1922.

"Minutes of the Council of the City of Wheeling," October 17, 1922.

The Wheeling Register, Wheeling, WV, May 30, 1923.

The Wheeling Intelligencer, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923.

The Wheeling Register, Wheeling, WV, May 31, 1923.

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Section number 10 Page 1 Warwood Fire Station
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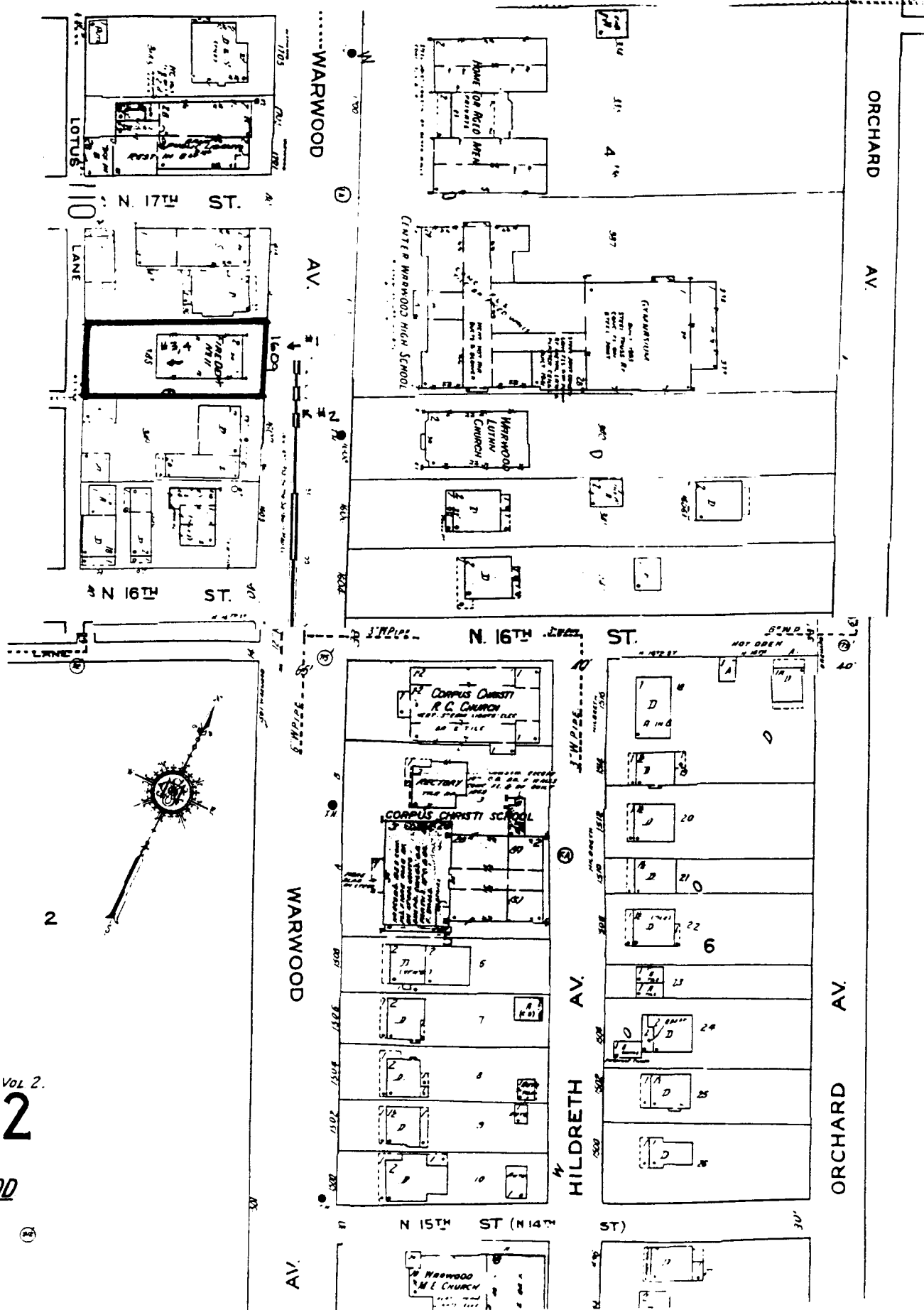
Verbal Boundary Description:

All of the south Sixty (60) feet of Lot Number Three Hundred Forty-eight (348) as shown and defined on the map of the "Plat of Warwood" Section No. Four, as recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court of Ohio County, West Virginia in Plat Book No. 1, page 185. The property hereby conveyed fronts Sixty (60) feet on the west side of Warwood Avenue and extends in a westwardly direction 128 feet to east line of Lotus Lane.

UTM References:

17/4434600 524120

Warwood Fire Station
 1609 Warwood Avenue
 Wheeling, WV



WHEELING W.VA. VOL. 2.

112

WARWOOD

770 000 FEET
(OHIO)

4440

4439

4438

4437

5'

P E A S E

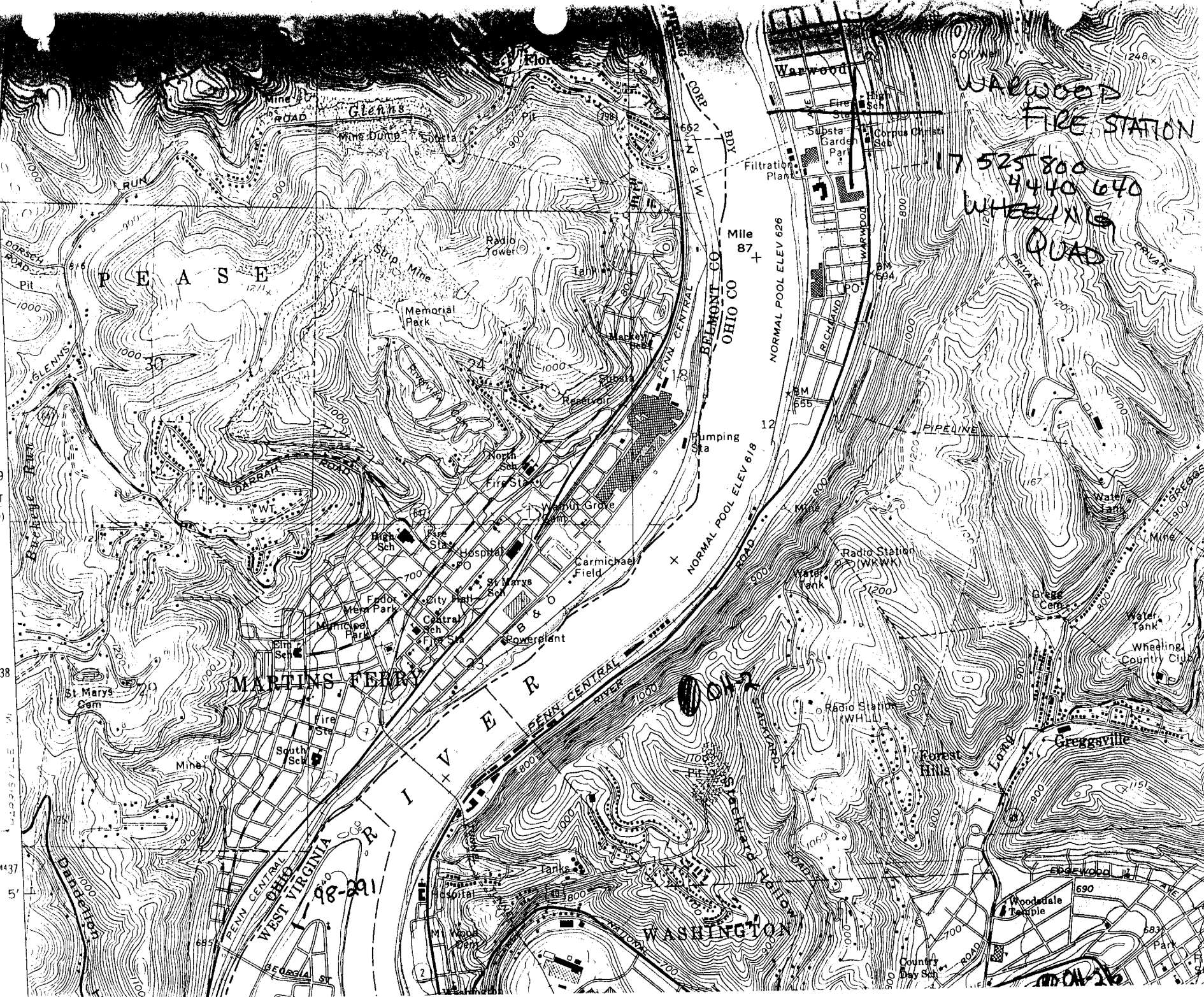
MARTINS FERRY

I V E R

WASHINGTON

WARWOOD
FIRE STATION

17 525 800
4440 640
WHEELING
QUAD





FIRE DEPARTMENT NO. 11