

Whipple Company Store

Whipple, WV

Around 1900, the privately-owned Whipple Company Store was a focal point in the area's once thriving coal community. Today, it is an important heritage destination in the New River Coal Fields, representing a critical element in telling the story of the 1921 mine wars, the struggle for unionization, and the lives of the miners and their families.



Whipple Company Store



Community: Whipple
(Fayette County)

Site: Whipple Company Store

Date: circa 1900

Significance: The company store was the centerpiece of the coal community, and is still a central feature of the town. This unusual and eye-catching hexagonal building reflects the cultural dynamics of the period. The original material and spaces remain intact, with few alterations to the building's appearance.

Endangerment: Roof deterioration, vermin/pest infestation, and deteriorating building materials. Roof damage is an imminent threat.

Resources: The owners are seeking funding to make critical repairs and keep the museum open and accessible to the visiting public.

Next Steps: Stabilize the building to continue interpretive tours.

Future: Develop the building into a coal company store and museum.

Nominated by: *Members of the Historic Preservation Graduate Course-HIST 793D*

The Preservation Alliance of West Virginia is the statewide grassroots organization devoted to preserving West Virginia's history and culture.

In partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, PAWV provides assistance to help save endangered sites. For more information on the 2011 Endangered List, or if you would like to suggest a site for next year, see www.pawv.org.

NATIONAL
TRUST
FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION



Preservation Alliance of West Virginia
PO Box 3371 ~ Charleston, WV 25333
info@pawv.org