

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY
THE CULTURAL CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

RATING CHD
CONTEXT Commerce

File No:	
Theme(s):	
Neg. No(s):	
USGS Quad:	
UTM Ref:	

HM-0047-0018

DISTRICT...SITE...BUILDING...STRUCTURE...OBJECT

1. NAME(S), historic/common: Law Office of W.B. & J.J. Cornwell
Bill and Bob's Barber Shop
Dental Office of Dr. A.N. McKeever

2. LOCATION, street/road: Senator William Oates's Real Estate Office.
Main Street
city/town: Romney
(incorporated/unincorporated)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: Office

(public/private,
restricted)

original: Office

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Bernard W. Hill Estate
Romney

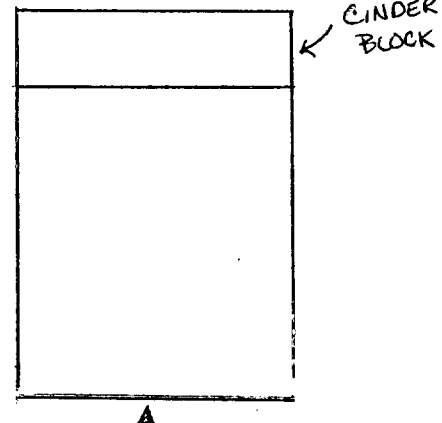
(public/private)

original: See Significance

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF:

ATTACHED.

7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):



6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT(map):

8. ACREAGE (approx):

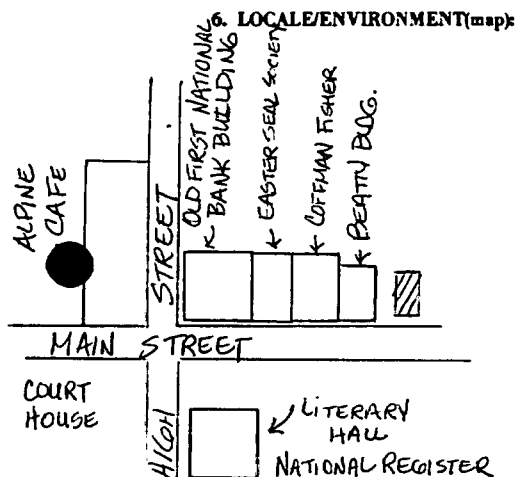
Lot Size:

18' X 48'

GM

Survey Region:	
Planning District:	

COUNTY: Hampshire



HM-0047-0018

HM-77

9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate):

a. Exterior Fabric

stone _____
 brick X _____
 concrete _____
 stucco _____
 weatherboard _____
 clapboard _____
 board & batten _____
 shingle _____
 other _____

b. Structural System

masonry X _____
 frame _____
 log _____
 metal _____
 other _____
 foundation Stone _____

c. Roofing Material

wood _____
 metal _____
 slate _____
 tile _____
 asphalt X _____
 composition _____
 other _____

d. Associated Structures (use/type):

outbuildings _____

 dependencies _____

 other _____

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated _____
 alterations _____

 additions See Plan. _____

f. Condition:

excellent _____
 good X _____
 fair _____
 deteriorated _____
 abandoned _____

g. Threats: None.

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:

b. Style/Period:

Commercial

c. Date(s):

ca. 1870

See attached information

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Historic Hampshire, A Symposium of Hampshire County its People, Past and Present.
 Sponsored by Hampshire County American Revolution, Inc., McClain Printing Co.,
 Parsons, West Virginia, 1976, page 490.

Hampshire County Deed Book 88, page 277; 88, page 73; 77, page 414. Will Book 27, 331.

12. FORM PREPARED BY

Nan Stevens

DATE

September 1984

a. Address

Post Office Box 887, Petersburg, West Virginia 26847

b. Organization

Region VIII Planning and Development Council.

According to Historic Hampshire, (A Symposium of Hampshire County its People, Past and Present), this small brick building was used over the years as the law office of William B. Cornwell and John J. Cornwell, who later became Governor of West Virginia, a barbershop, and in recent years, Senator William Oates's real estate office.

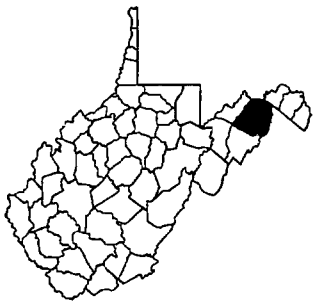
In 1899, William B. and John J. Cornell purchased the building. It was later, 1903, deeded to A.N. McKeever. McKeever used it as an office for his dental practice. In the January 10, 1977, edition of the Hampshire Review, Dr. A. N. McKeever ran an advertisement for his practice as dentist, with consultations free and a telephone in the office. In April, 1923, the building changed hands twice, with the latter being the purchase of the brick office building by W.R. and B.W. Hill. Today the property remains in the Bernard W. Hill estate.

Little, beyond the aforementioned history, is known about the building. It is constructed of red brick in an American bond pattern with a stepped parapet at the Main Street facade.

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Cornwell's Law Office





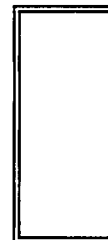
Internal Rating: _____

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

HM-0047-0018

Street Address Separated by narrow alley from 24 Main Street	Common/Historic Name/Both ☐ ☐ ☐ Hill Real Estate (Common) / Cornwell Law Office (Historical)	Field Survey # 12	Site # (SHPO Only) HM-0141
Town or Community Romney	County Hampshire County	Negative No. 18	NR Listed Date
Architect/Builder	Date of Construction c.1890	Style	
Exterior Siding/Materials Brick	Roofing Material Shingles	Foundation	
Property Use or Function Residence ☐ Commercial + Other ☐	UTM #	Photograph (2" x 3" Contact)	
Survey Organization & Date Aarcher, Inc. Field Survey October 2006 and February 2007	Quadrangle Name Romney		
	Part of What Survey/FR# FR-5-233-HM-1		

Sketch Map of Property
or Attach Copy of USGS Map



Site No.

N



Present Owners Phone # _____	Owners Mailing Address _____ _____ _____
Describe Setting _____ Acres A narrow alley on the east side separated this building from 24 Main Street. A parking lot is located adjacent the building's west side. _____ Archaeological Artifacts Present	
Description of Buildings or Site (Original and Present) _____ 1 _____ Stories _____ 3 _____ Front Bays The small building features 6:1 common bond brick walls that rest on a rubble fieldstone foundation. The presence of two original windows in each of the side walls indicate this has always been a free standing structure. The roof features a 3/4 length parapet. Original 2/1 windows accompanying segmental arches are removed and replaced with over-sized 12/12 windows. This action has resulted in serious structural damage to the brick facade. The building is currently undergoing repair. Both the historical and structural integrity of this once charming building have been adversely impacted by the inappropriate changes. (Use Continuation Sheets)	
Alterations ☒ ☐ If yes, describe: Original 2/1 windows accompanying segmental arches are removed and replaced with over-sized 12/12 windows. Yes No	
Additions ☐ ☒ If yes, describe: Yes No	
Describe All Outbuildings (Use Continuation Sheets)	
Statement of Significance Contributing (Use Continuation Sheets)	
Bibliographical References (Use Continuation Sheets)	
Form Prepared By: Sherri Marsh Johns Date: April 2007 Name/Organization: Aarcher Inc. Address: 910 Commerce Road, Annapolis, MD 21401 Phone #: (410) 897-9100	

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME Romney Commercial Historic District

SITE# HM-0144

12. Cornwell Law Office (c. 1890)

Hill Real Estate (common)

Survey # HM47-0018 Deed Reference 299/32 Part of Lot 57

Negative # 18

Contributing: Field Survey #12



This small, 1-story, 3-bay building features 6:1 common bond brick walls that rest on a rubble fieldstone foundation. A narrow alley on the east side separates this building from 24 Main Street. A parking lot is located adjacent the building's west side. The presence of two original windows in each of the side walls indicates this has always been a free standing structure. The roof features a $\frac{3}{4}$ length parapet. Original 2/1 windows and accompanying segmental arches are removed and replaced with over-sized 12/12 windows. This action has resulted in serious structural damage to the brick facade. The building is currently undergoing repair. Both the historical and structural integrity of this once charming building have been adversely impacted by inappropriate changes. Despite this unfortunate undertaking, the historic Cornwell Law Office, currently known as the Hill Real Estate Office, remains a contributing resource.