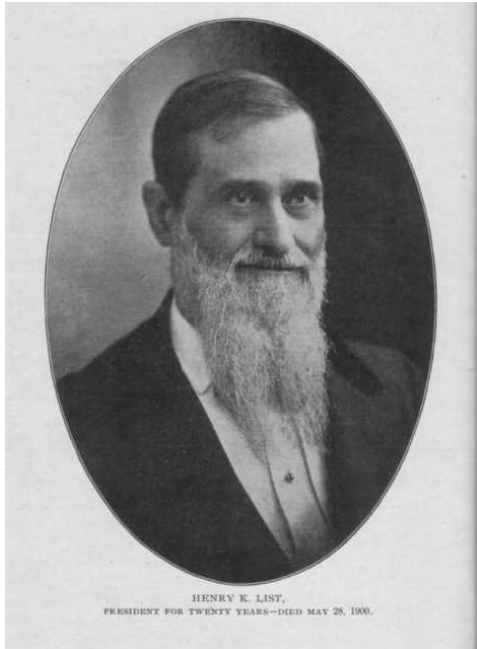


827 Main Street Henry K. List House



This Italianate/Renaissance Revival home was built in 1858 by wealthy businessman Henry Kilbourne List (1821-1900). A Wheeling native, List dealt in wholesale groceries, wool, and pig iron and then banking, serving as president of the City Bank of Wheeling (in what is now known as the Professional Building). The 1870 Census is a good indicator of his wealth, with his real estate holdings estimated at \$75,000 (the equivalent of about \$1.4 million today) and his personal wealth estimated at \$300,000 (the equivalent of nearly \$5.8 million today).

His obituary stated, “For a full half century no public improvement has been projected in and about the city of Wheeling that Henry K. List did not foster with both his energy and his money. Foremost in every good word and work, he has

supported with his large resources every movement that has tended to develop the materials interests of Wheeling and better the condition of her people. Unlike many who amass wealth solely for the pleasure of counting their bonds and contemplating their gold in secret, Mr. List acquired his with the object that it would contribute to the rational comfort and happiness not only of himself, but of others also.” He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery.



List and his wife, the former Sarah Jane Shaw, had ten children, six of whom survived him – Daniel C. List, Jr., Mrs. Robert Dalzell, Mrs. Edward Hazlett, Ambrose, John K., and Hettie. Their daughter Jessie, wife of Edward Hazlett, lived next door at 823 Main, and their son John lived one more house to the north at 821 Main. Their unmarried son Ambrose and their spinster daughter Hettie remained in the home after their parents died. Hettie willed the home to the Women’s Club of Wheeling in 1941.

The Red Cross agency purchased it for \$17,000 in 1946, and it became their local headquarters for many years. Prior to the actual purchase, Red Cross volunteers used the building to roll bandages for the World War II war effort.

Betty Woods (Snookie) Nutting purchased the property from the Red Cross in 1987 and a year later sold it to William Fields, who had plans to restore the building and turn it into a

restaurant. The Olde Wheeling Associates purchased it from Fields in 1993 and sold it to the Friends of Lyceum in 2011. It then housed the Lyceum Academy for several years.

The house was individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. It features four chimneys, tall double-hung windows, and a cupola for watching passing riverboat traffic. Inside the house, an elegant stairway dominates the setting. Wainscoting was made of tooled or pressed fabric or paper, simulating leather, and ornate plaster moldings adorn the ceiling. A single-shelf mantle is present in every room, and glass panels have been attributed to the well-known Sweeney glass operation of Wheeling.

A partial description from the National Register nomination states, “The Henry K. List house is a two-story square building with an offset two-story rear wing built in 1867. The building is brick with classical wood trim embellished with wood brackets and stone sills, also bracketed. The windows were fitted with louvered shutters, many of which remain. The foundation is stone and the roof is low-pitched hit. The existing porch is not original.¹”

Researched by Jeanne Finstein, Friends of Wheeling
March 11, 2017

Sources:

- Ohio County Census
- Ohio County death records
- Ohio County deed records
- *Wheeling Intelligencer*, Henry K. List obituary, May 29, 1900
- *Wheeling News Register*
 - “List Mansion is Historic Site,” April 1, 1979
 - “List House Wins Inclusion in Register of Historic Sites,” April 1, 1979
 - “Through Three Lives of List House,” October 8, 1989

¹ National Register Nomination,
<https://archive.wvculture.org/shpo/nr/pdf/ohio/78002807.pdf>