This first photo shows the front facades of the two buildings whose addresses are 722-724 Main Street – the two red buildings. Number 720 Main, which is privately owned, is the lighter-colored building to the left.

This picture was taken in January 2020, around the time that the prior owner purchased the pair of buildings. Repairs had already been done on damaged sections of brick between the two buildings – the lighter colored bricks next to the downspout and partially hidden by the tree, and a smaller section on the lower right. The rest of the façade had been painted a brick-red color long ago.

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in getting two grants to work on the facade. The first is a matching grant from the City of Wheeling’s Façade Improvement Program. This grant, which is actually two grants – one for each half – will total more than $20K from the City. These funds will be used to scrape old paint, replace any missing bricks, repoint the brick, repair/replace the corbel and soffit/fascia, rebuild the windows on 724 (windows on 722 have already been rebuilt), and paint the façade. Your donation has helped meet the matching requirement. Thanks again!

The second grant is from the Main Street Program for “Design Assistance.” No actual money is involved, but an architect selected by the Main Street program will come to Wheeling and make suggestions on paint colors on all five of the buildings in this row, as shown in the second picture. We’ve spoken to the owners of the other three privately owned buildings to let them know of our application. None of us is required to accept the recommendation and/or actually paint our facades, but we thing an expert recommendation for a fresh look on all five would go a long way toward efforts to enhance this section of the North Main Street Historic District.

Stay tuned for updates on both grants.