

## 1068 Market Street

Early deed records show that William Paxton purchased part of Lot 121 on Market Street in the spring of 1851 from William Wickham, who had bought it about a year earlier from Parker Campbell (1815-1882) and his wife Isabel (1823-1876, nee Sprigg). Campbell's gravesite information states that he was a "Confederate officer. Born in Washington, PA. Glass maker in Wheeling & sugar planter in Louisiana. Banker, broker, insurance salesman in Richmond. Died in Jacksonville, FL."

William Paxton<sup>1</sup> (1794-1881) had immigrated from County Down, Ireland, in 1801 and purchased a good bit of property in Wheeling after his arrival. The 1850 census lists his occupation as "merchant." A Wheeling map dated 1853 shows one or more buildings on Lot 121, and it is most likely that Paxton or his heirs built the current structures there. (The National Register nomination for this district identifies the adjacent 1066 Market Street as being built by William Paxton around 1860.)



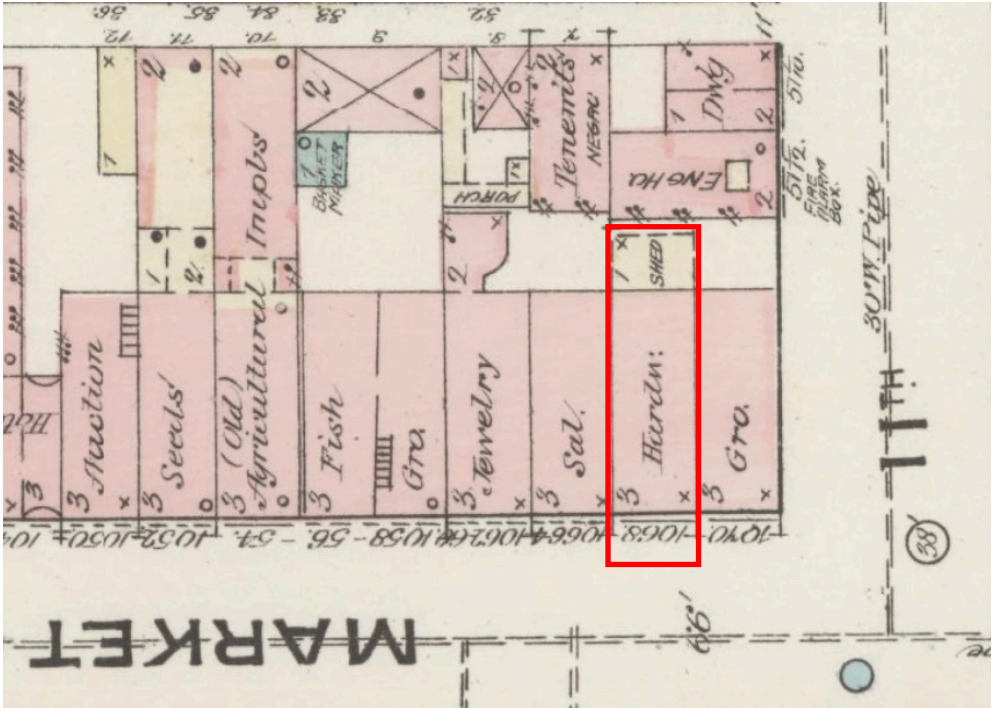
<sup>1</sup> William Paxton's son was the more well-known James W. Paxton (1821-1896), an ardent Union supporter who served on Governor Pierpont's Council and was heavily involved in efforts to legitimize the new state of West Virginia. He later lived in a home named "Uplands," which ultimately became Altenheim, a home for aged women.

An 1871 map shows three distinct buildings on the lot.



The first reference found for an occupant at this address was in the 1877 City Directory, when it was home to Hoge and Company Hardware, operated by Theudas/Thomas Alvin Hoge (1846-1917) and his brother Kenworthy Johnson Hoge (1847-1927). This company was advertised as selling hardware & cutlery; carpenters' butchers', cabinet makers', & builders' supplies; agricultural implements & farm machinery of all kinds; wire goods; guns; and ammunition. Their inventory later included bicycles and seeds. Brother T.A. Hoge apparently continued in the business without his brother but later added his son P. Raymond Hoge. T.A. Hoge's obituary stated that "he was known to every farmer throughout this section."

The 1884 Sanborn Insurance Map clearly shows a three-story, brick hardware store at 1068 Market Street, sandwiched between a saloon to the north and a grocery to the south. The same building configuration appears on subsequent Sanborn maps.



The property changed ownership in early 1906, when it was purchased from the Paxton heirs by Isaac A. Garee (died in 1936). T.A. Hoge & Company continued as tenants.

Following the death of T.A. Hoge in 1917, the property was rented to Brunhaus Brothers Restaurant, with William C. Gordon selling artificial limbs on the second floor and residential tenants Howard Martin and Mrs. Lena Shepherd. From the time of the 1934 City Directory until the 1975 Directory, the restaurant was known as the Dinner Bell, with managers' names such as George Demas and George Spanomanolis. Neighbors included The Men's Shop to the north and Corner Electric and later American Appliance Center to the south. The Blue House Restaurant is listed at this address in the 1977 Directory, followed by the Wheeling Restaurant from about 1980 to 1991. New Neighborhoods, Inc. was listed to the south in 1985. The 1991 listing showed Gloria's Bargain Store to the north and the Wheeling Veterans Center to the south.

Porky's Café (Allen Bledsoe, Manager) was briefly listed in the 1994 Directory, and the name returned to Dinner Bell Restaurant by 2002.

Meanwhile, deeds show that Menos Orphanides purchased the property in 1985. John Zavolakis inherited it from Menos Zavolakis in 1997 and sold it to Mound City, Inc. in 2000. Mound City, Inc. sold the property to Thomas J. West, Jr., and his wife Kathy in 2005. U.B. Investments acquired it in 2011, and D.C. Ventures became the owners in 2013.

The current owner is the Wheeling Investment Group, with Tito's Sloppy Dogs occupying the first floor as early as the 2018 City Directory.

Prepared by Jeanne Finstein, Friends of Wheeling  
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Sources:

- Ancestry.com
- FindaGrave.com
- Ohio County Deed Records
- Wheeling City Directories
- *Wheeling Intelligencer*
- WV Vital Records