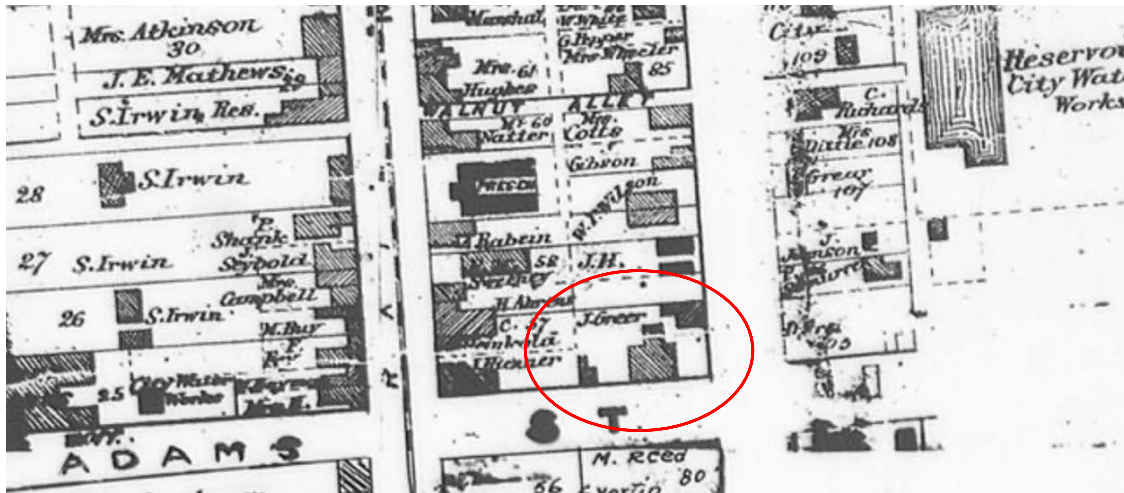


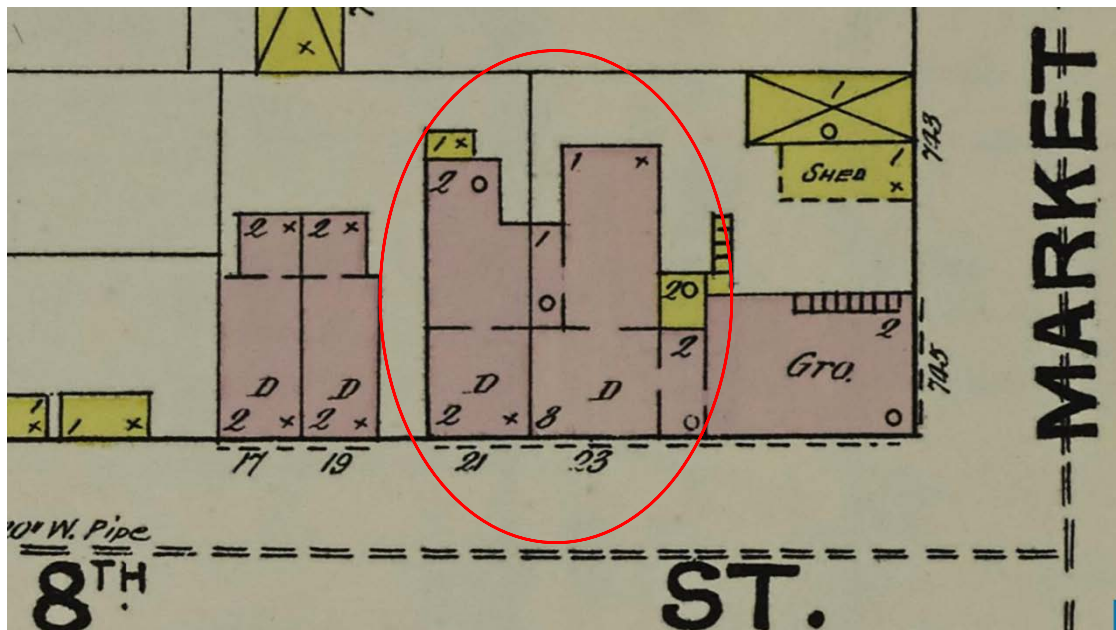
## 21-23 8<sup>th</sup> Street

An 1871 map of Wheeling shows a structure on Adams Street (now named 8<sup>th</sup>), between Main and Market Streets, labeled “J. Greer” where 23 8<sup>th</sup> Street now stands.



Ohio County Deed Records indicate that the property was purchased in 1828 by Joseph and Moses Greer, but it's unclear exactly when the current buildings were constructed. Joseph Greer (c.1791-1881) was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the son of Irish immigrants Joshua and Rosa Bradey Greer. The elder Greers reportedly had two daughters and six sons, so it's very possible that Moses Greer (1808-1869) was Joseph's younger brother. City Directories as far back as 1864 list both Greers – Joseph, a carpenter, and Moses, telegraph repairer, as living on the “north side of Adams Street, between Main and Market.”

The 1880 Sanborn Insurance Map clearly shows both 21 and 23 8<sup>th</sup> Street in their current size and condition – two- and three-story brick dwellings.



Following the death of Moses Greer in 1869, his daughter Jane O. Greer Arkle and her husband Ralph inherited 21 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Subsequent owners (Gantzer, Becker, Maier, and Kurner) eventually led to 1965, when the property was purchased by Elmer Cerra.

Following Joseph Greer's death in 1881, his widow Catherine and son John M. Greer sold 23 8<sup>th</sup> Street in 1887 to Charles Klein. Subsequent owners (heirs of Charles Klein and then Alice Finlayson) eventually led to 1945, when Elmer Cerra and his wife Irene purchased the property. Both Joseph and Moses Greer and their wives, Catherine and Sarah, are buried in Mt. Wood Cemetery.

Elmer Cerra (1920-2012) served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He was a member of St. Joseph's Cathedral and was buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery. The property at 23 8<sup>th</sup> Street was deeded to his daughter, Deborah Cresap, in 2005. Scott Owen purchased both properties – 21 and 23 8<sup>th</sup> Street – in the summer of 2015. The current owner, Kenny Sexton, purchased both in 2024.



Prepared by Jeanne Finstein, Friends of Wheeling  
October 15, 2024

Sources:

- Ancestry.com
- FinaGrave.com
- Ohio county Deed Records
- Ohio County Public Library
- Sanborn Insurance Map – 1880
- West Virginia Vital Records
- *Wheeling News Register*