



Whitehall Township Industrial & Commercial Development Authority

The Resource to Start & Grow Your Business

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January 11, 2022

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Dear Hokendauqua Property Owners:

You may have recently received a letter from the PA State Historic Preservation Office regarding the potential listing of Hokendauqua's Thomas Iron Company Town in the **National Register of Historic Places**. The State Historic Preservation Board will review a nomination for this proposed historic district on February 1, 2022. As an apparent property owner within this potential district, this notification provides you with an opportunity to learn more about the district's eligibility and nomination.

The National Register is an honorary designation that does not place any restrictions or obligations on private property owners. The Register can be an effective planning, educational, and promotional tool for communities, businesses, and local governments and a source of pride for residents.

The Whitehall Township Commissioners began the process of pursuing the listing in the National Register in 2018. The Whitehall Township Industrial and Commercial Development Authority (WTICDA) has championed the efforts, along with local and state officials in the Township from the start, holding several public meetings in 2016-2017 to explain what the listing meant for property owners.

As explained at those public meetings, the listing in the National Register will have no effect on what you can do with your property. There are no regulations or restrictions that accompany the listing. National Register recognition will bring awareness to this unique neighborhood of homes and celebrate one of the many historic areas and buildings in Whitehall Township. The majority of the homes in the potential listed district were built by the Thomas Iron Company and are unique in their style and cohesiveness. The boundary of the district also includes civic buildings associated with the company and Thomas Company workers, and a few "non-contributing" homes located within the proposed boundary by circumstance.

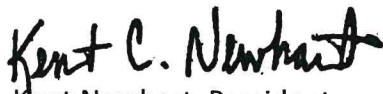
The nomination is being funded through a generous grant under the Local Share Account Program (LSA) through WTICDA.

The proposed map for the historic district is provided below. Please note that the boundary may change slightly during the nomination process in response to upcoming reviews by the State Historic Preservation Board and National Park Service.

If you are interested in learning more about why Hokendauqua's Thomas Iron Company Town is important, or about the National Register Nomination process, and the impacts of listing, please join the upcoming virtual meeting to be held on January 25, 2022, at 7PM. To receive information to log in or call into the meeting, please contact Cassie Rogg at cassie@artefactarchitecture.com or (610) 861-0235.

Thank you for your interest in our local history.

Sincerely,



Kent Newhart, President
WTICDA

Proposed District Map (subject to change)

