

Charles S. and Sarah Price House  
Westmont Neighborhood  
510 Edgehill Drive  
Johnstown  
Cambria County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5734-A

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CHARLES S. AND SARAH PRICE HOUSE

HABS No. PA-5734-A

Location: 510 Edgehill Drive, Westmont, Johnstown, Cambria County, Pa.

Description: Massive rustic single-family home on a site overlooking the city of Johnstown. Two-and-a-half stories, side gable, wood frame with wood shingle exterior. Tall wrap-around porch and port-cochere supported by sturdy rough-cut fieldstone pillars. Stone nogging in gables. Ample fenestration with one-over-one-light double-hung sash. Large one-and-a-half story red brick garage built on the alley which could have originally been used as a stable.

History: One of the oldest and most notable suburban Westmont homes. The house was built shortly before 1892, when it appeared on Fulton's 1892 map of Westmont. The property was purchased by Charles S. Price from the Cambria Iron Co. in 1891 for \$3,506. The house remained in the Price family until 1961.

Charles S. Price was born in West Chester, Pa., on August 27, 1852. He graduated from Cornell in 1872 with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. He married Sarah Haws, daughter of Andrew J. Haws, on June 7, 1883. They had three children. His successful career at Cambria Iron Co. was attributed to his ability to renew operations of his department after the devastating Johnstown flood of 1889. He had also married into the influential Haws family of Johnstown.

The 1889 Johnstown city directory lists him as Superintendent of Cambria Iron's Bessemer Steel Works, residing at 112 Main St. In 1890 he was promoted to General Superintendent, and became General Manager in 1892. By 1895, he was General Manager of the Cambria Steel Co. He was a Republican and member of the Episcopal Church. He served as Westmont Councilman and as School Controller.

His house was one of the most impressive in Westmont, denoting his high position with the Cambria Iron Company. The property passed to his daughter, Helen Price. She was independently wealthy and known for her eccentricity and artistic inclinations.

Sources:

Fulton, John. Map Showing Westmont Borough, Cambria County, Pa., May 27, 1892, collection of Egin Corporation, Civil Engineering, Johnstown, Pa.

Johnstown City Directories, 1889, 1900.

Sanborn Map Co., Westmont, Pennsylvania (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1913).

Storey, Henry Wilson. History of Cambria County, Pa. (New York, 1907) 3:25-26.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP). An overview of history of the city (HABS No. PA-5669) and an overview of the neighborhood of Westmont (HABS No. PA-5671) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the downtown and other neighborhoods.

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This report was prepared by Natalie Gillespie in August 1988 under the direction of Alison K. Hoagland, HABS historian, and Kim E. Wallace, the supervisory historian of the project. Gillespie's and other project historians' work was published as The Character of a Steel Mill City: Four Historic Neighborhoods of Johnstown, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1989), edited by Kim E. Wallace. Illustrations in the publication include large format photographs taken by HAER photographer Jet Lowe and 35 mm photographs taken by the project historians.