

Moses and Mary Owen House
Westmont Neighborhood
233 Greene Street
Johnstown
Cambria County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5690

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MOSES AND MARY OWEN HOUSE

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Location: 233 Greene Street, Westmont, Johnstown, Cambria County, Pa.

Description: Large and spacious single-family house. Two-and-a-half stories, hip roof with upturned edges. Wood frame, horizontal wooden siding. Large front porch, pediment over entry, surmounted by second-floor bay window; round wooden columns. Bevelled-glass transom, sidelights and oval in entry. Neo-Classical detailing on trim. Generous fenestration. Sides have large flat expanses with few windows.

History: The house was built sometime between 1907 and 1913. Moses Owen, a machinist, purchased the property from the Cambria Iron Co. on June 6, 1907, for the sum of \$2,000. The building appears on the 1913 Sanborn map. Moses and Mary A. Owen are listed as residing here in 1915. The house stayed in the family, passing to Moses Owen's daughter, Esther H. Northwood. According to the present owner, the house was once occupied by a vaudeville performer, whose greasepaint, props and paraphernalia had been stored beneath the rafters of the house.

Sources:

Deed Records (339:193, Cambria Iron Co. to Moses Owen; 494:304, 539:153, 655:404, 925:742, 978:76, 1192:123), Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pa.

Interview with present owner, Mr. Butera, August 1, 1988.

Johnstown City Directory, 1911-12; 1915-16, p. 628.

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

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.

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.