

McCreary House
Minersville Neighborhood
169 Iron Street
Johnstown
Cambria County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5776

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11-1010,
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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

McCreary House

HABS No. PA-5776

Location: 169 Iron Street, Minersville, Johnstown, Cambria County, Pa.

Description: No. 169 Iron Street is single-family building facing north, set between a vacant lot and a multi-family building. It is an irregularly shaped building, roughly 24' x 32', wood-framed, covered with asphalt shingles. The side-gable roof is also covered with asphalt shingles. The building is two-and-a-half stories tall. Four double-hung-sash windows are on the second-floor facade, and two double-hung-sash windows flank the entryway. A second entrance has been covered over. The front porch features jig-sawn ornament. The foundation is constructed of cut and rough stone.

History: No. 169 Iron Street was built in 1891, according to tax assessment records. Catherine Michael Harrington purchased the building from Amos McCreary, a laborer, and Alma McCreary for \$2,500 on June 25, 1892. Harrington was born in Ireland and worked as a laborer in the steel mills, and his wife Catherine was a native of Pennsylvania. The Harringtons were a large family. The 1900 census recorded six children; the 1910 census noted five more, for a total of eleven children at this residence between the ages of 21 and 2. The property remained in the Harrington family until 1923, when it was conveyed to Frank and Catherine Skala. The Skala family retained the property until 1976, when it was conveyed to the present owner.

Sources:

Deed and Tax Assessment Records, Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pa.

"Cambria County Historic Site Survey, Johnstown Inventory," Redevelopment Authority of Cambria County, 1981.

United States Census, Cambria County Pennsylvania, City of Johnstown, Fourteenth Ward (1900 and 1910).

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 neighborhoods of Cambria City and Minersville (HABS No. PA-5672) 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 Jeffrey Hickey in August 1988 under the direction of Alison K. Hoagland, HABS historian, and Kim E. Wallace, the supervisory historian of the project. Hickey'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.