

P140359246

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 10 1976
DATE ENTERED APR 18 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

**

William Allison Residence House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Pa. Rte. 45, One mile west of Spring Mills

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Spring Mills

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

23rd

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

Centre

CODE

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John A. Green

STREET & NUMBER

R. D. #1

CITY, TOWN

Spring Mills

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Bellefonte

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historical Reflections of Centre County

DATE

1970, 1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Centre County Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN

Bellefonte

STATE

Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William and Luranna Allison Residence is a three-story (the third story enveloped by the steep roof) brick house of Victorian Gothic inspiration built by Mr. William M. Allison prior to his marriage to Luranna B. Higman on June 2, 1880. The house was built by Mr. Allison as a wedding gift to his bride. The house stands today in excellent condition with relatively slight alteration. Four out-buildings remain on the property (a two-story, summer kitchen, a small barn, a carriage house, and a fruit cellar) and contribute to the charm and integrity of the setting.

The house in plan is basically rectangular measuring roughly 42 feet across the facade and 32 feet in depth. The facade, however, is irregular in plan with a recessed central entrance bay and a projected three-sided bay to its right. A foyer and impressive stairway form the focal center of the interior space.

The house was designed with a consistent emphasis on Gothic verticality and whimsy is effectively conveyed on the third story with the varieties of gable ends, bargeboards and windows. The eaves are punctuated with a suggestion of exposed rafters. Three shaped-brick chimneys rise from these steep slopes. Below, on the front of the house, the small entrance porch sits as if in a chasm. Its attenuated proportion and open tracery present an effective foil to the massive aspects of the house.

The interior of the house was divided into eleven rooms and a bath. Its principal effect derives from the extensive use of native walnut in the stairway, in tall sliding double doors, and in trim. The stairway begins perpendicular to the main entrance and turns counterclockwise with a slight spiral substituting for a landing. It is closed string with stair-ends containing long recessed oval panels with moldings. Transition from wall to ceiling on the first floor is afforded by gilt cornices of pole and banner design with stylized foliate bosses. The three original marble mantelpieces remain downstairs. The second floor features the upper foyer with double glass doors leading to the balcony and bedrooms with original built-in closets.

Allison added a two-story frame extension to the back of the house in 1890 providing additional kitchen space and servants' quarters. This addition deteriorated over the years and was torn away about ten years ago.

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William Allison Residence
Centre County, Pennsylvania

7

1

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Circa 1960 the little stoop to the left of the main entrance was removed, and the windmill was finally dismantled. The bank barn had been removed in the late 1940's. Other changes include the removal of the iron fence which surrounded the yard, and the elimination of tracery at gable ends and from the entablature of the side porch. There have been very few interior changes.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

William T. Hallett, Arch.
William Allison, Builder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William and Luranna Allison Residence is a delightful example of rural American Gothic architecture. It was the first house in Centre County to be built with central heating and was furnished with every modern convenience. Nearly all materials used in the construction of the house are believed to have been furnished from the local resources of the Allison Farms. It is also an excellent example of the widespread influence of 19th century builder's guides. Mr. Allison copied almost exactly plans for a Gothic house printed in A. J. Bicknell's Detail, Cottage and Constructive Architecture, New York, 1873. Allison's only deviation from architect's William T. Hallett's drawings was the use of brick instead of clapboard siding.

William M. Allison (1850-1922) was a man with varied business interests and high stature in the Penns Valley region. His first business venture was the management of a woolen mill. Later he managed a grist mill at Spring Mills, supervised the extensive farming interests of his family, and entered the coal business. The Commemorative Biographical Record of Central Pennsylvania (1898) describes Allison as a "substantial businessman, and an honored and influential citizen." Further, it says that he "believes in making the proper use of all the good things of life, and his elegant home near Spring Mills, one of the finest in Penn's Valley, is supplied with every possible convenience."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Commemorative Biographical Record of Central Pennsylvania. Chicago, J. H. Beers and Company, 1898.

Wilson, Patricia. Untitled report on the Allison residence prepared for John A. Green and concluded 1976. Bibliography

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	218, 23, 60	4, 512, 57, 5, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE William K. Watson, Historian

ORGANIZATION Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission DATE 1976

STREET & NUMBER Third and North Streets TELEPHONE (717) 787-4363

CITY OR TOWN Harrisburg STATE Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *William K. Watson*

TITLE Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

DATE Nov. 1, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

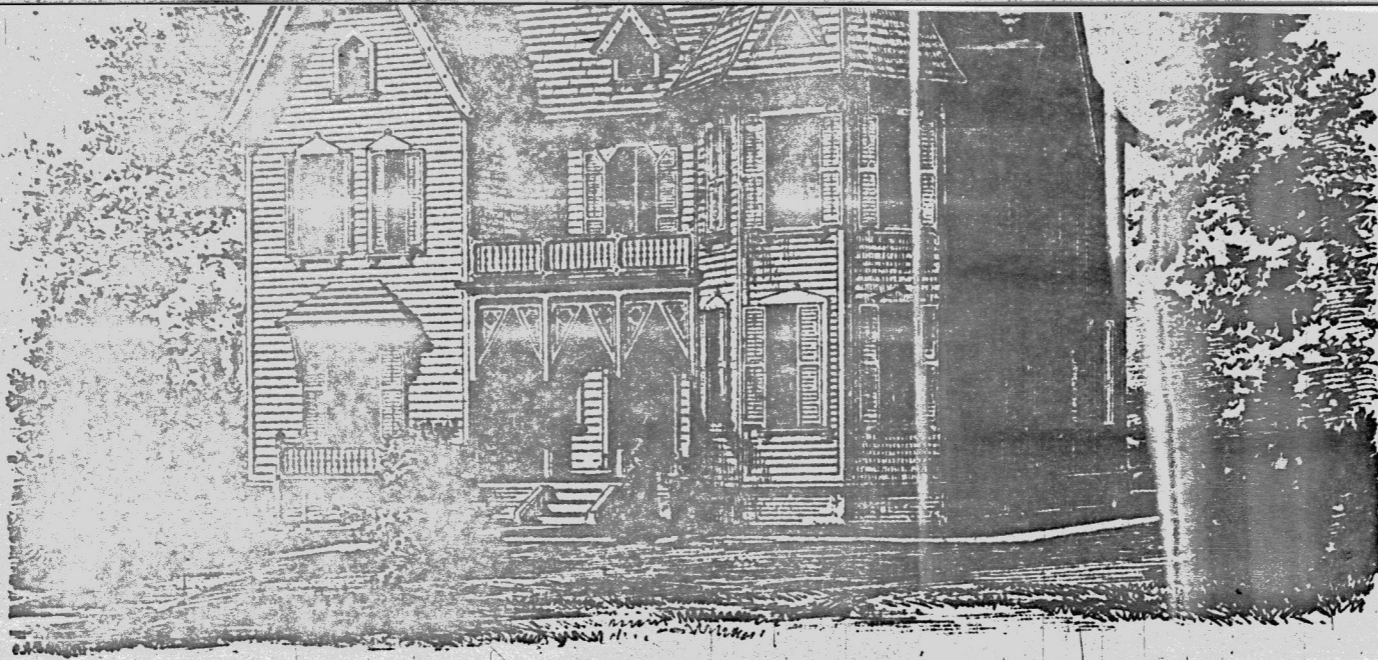
DATE 4/18/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Charles Adams*

DATE 3.18.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

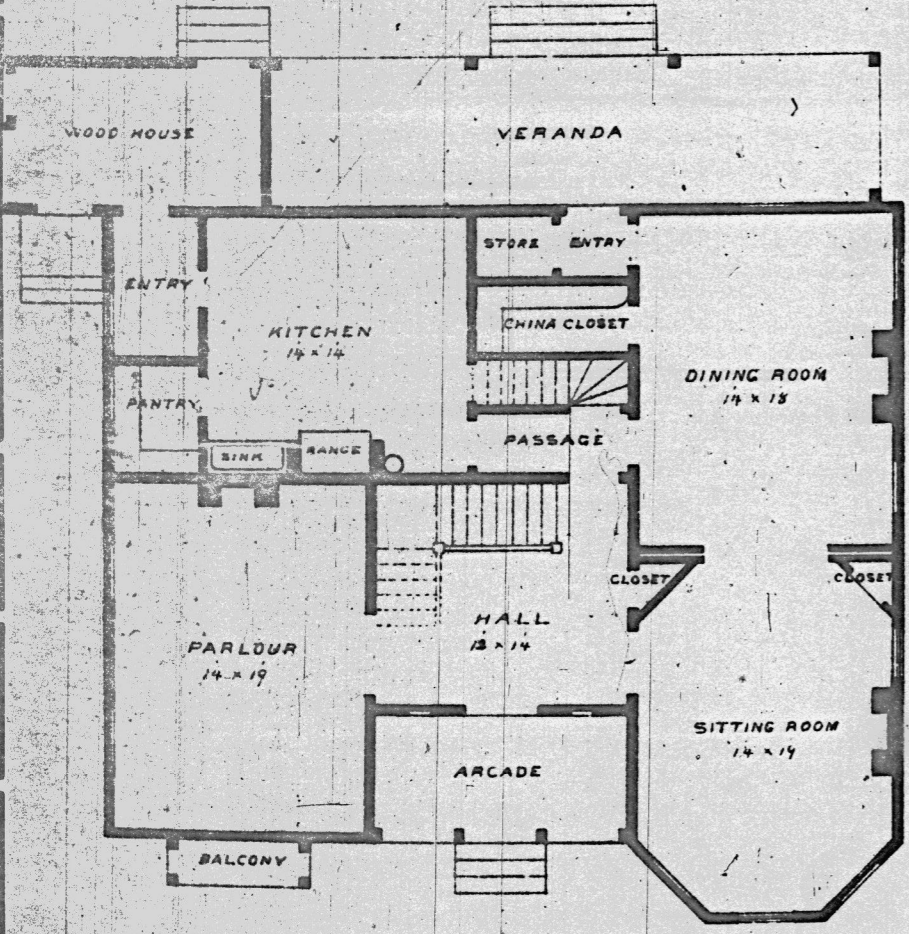


FROM:

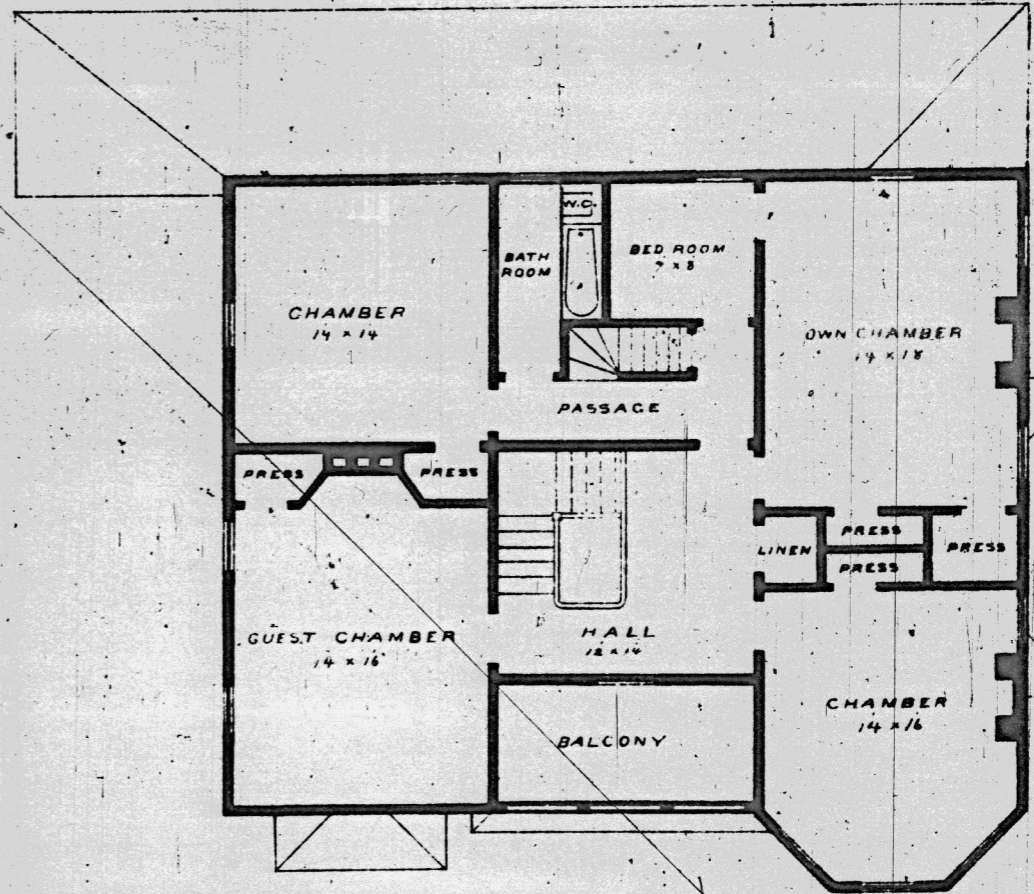
NOV 10 1976

A. J. Bicknell. Detail Cottage and Constructive Architecture. New York, 1873.

APR 18 1977



FIRST FLOOR



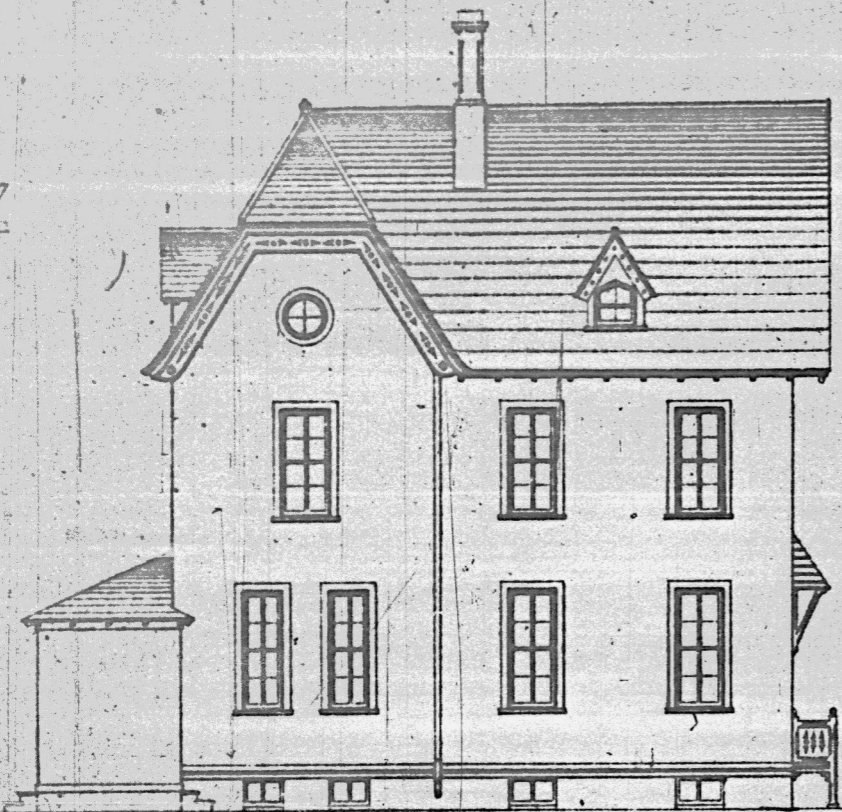
SECOND FLOOR

DESIGN IN THE DOMESTIC GOTHIC STYLE,

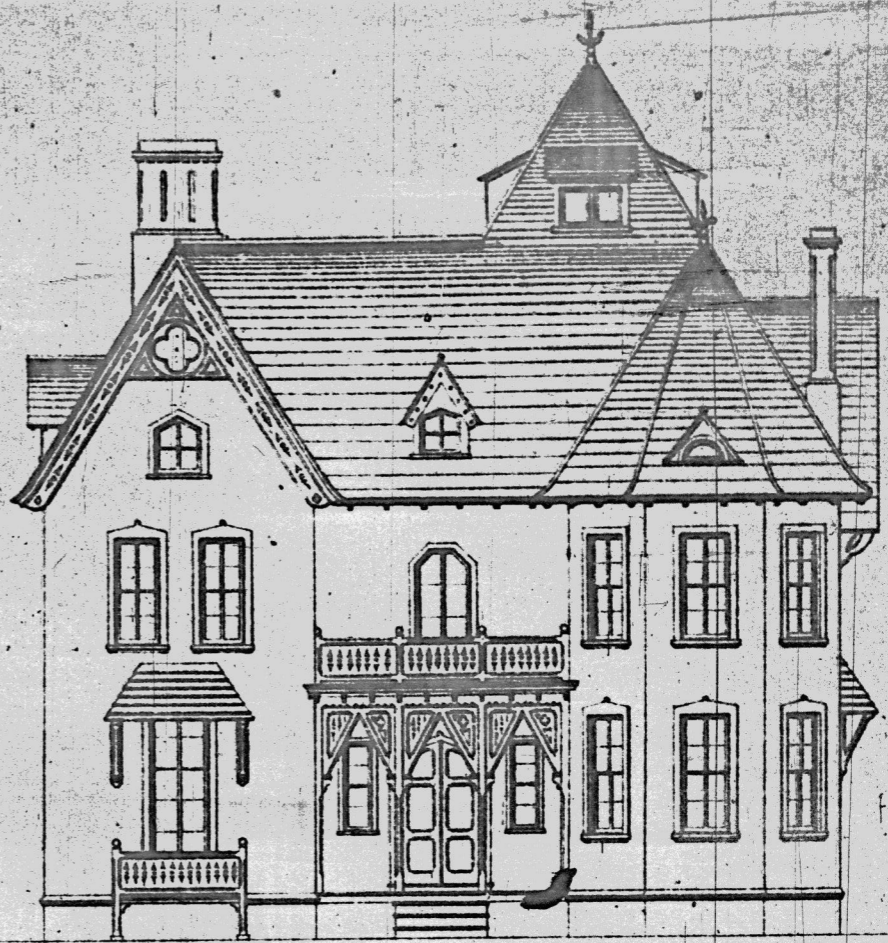
WILLIAM T. HALLETT, ARCHITECT,
 NO 111 BROADWAY, N.Y.

SCALE 1/4 IN. TO 1 FOOT

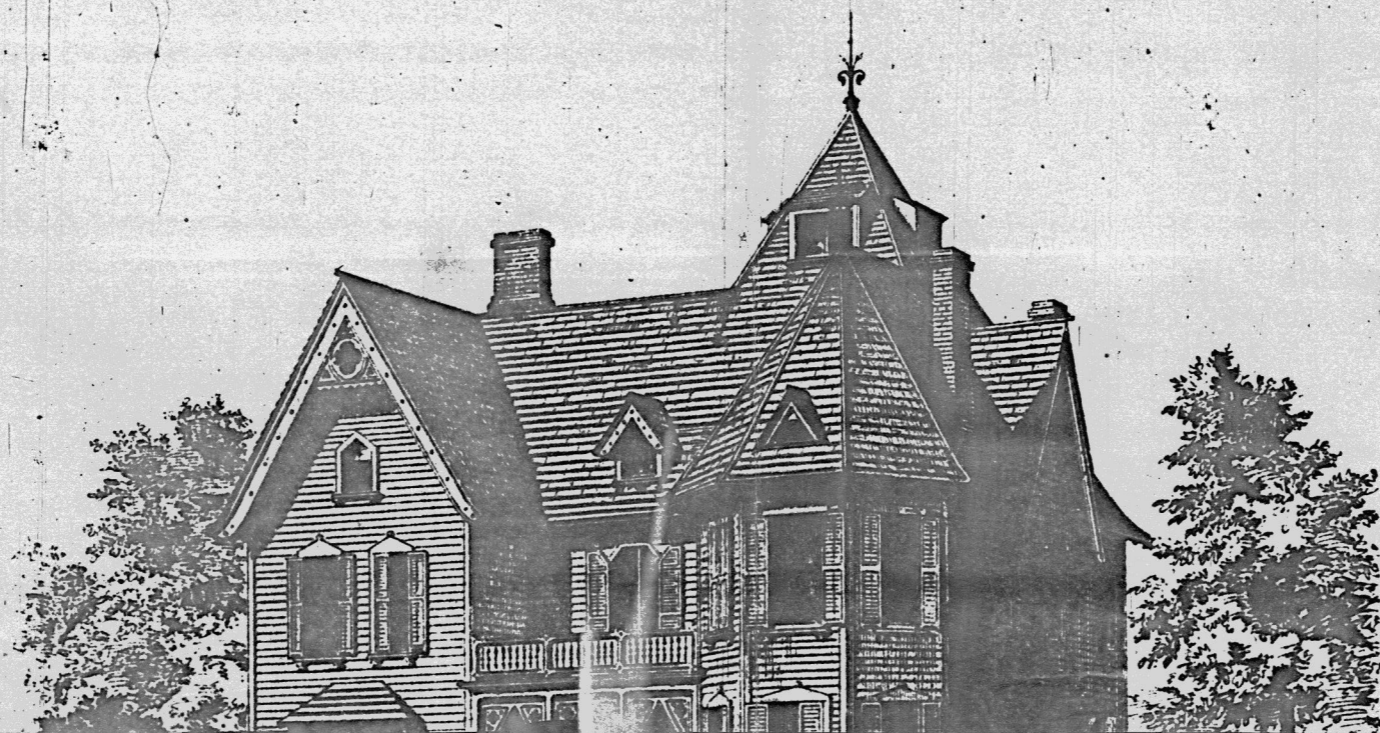
AM. PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)



SIDE ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION



NOV 10 1976

FROM:

A. J. Bicknell. Detail Cottage and
Constructive Architecture. New
York, 1873.

APR 18 1977

Property

Allison, William, Residence

House

Centre Co.

State

Penn.

Working Number

11.10.76.4529

77001146

TECHNICAL

Photos *3*

Maps *1, 2 Drawings*

CONTROL

OK pl 11.11.76

HISTORIAN

*accept
J. Groves
11/16/76*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*Accept
M. H. ...
12-9-76*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*Accept
Coke
3.18.77*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

*Herrington
for Minter
3.18.77*

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered *APR 18 1977*

Federal Register Entry *6-7-77*

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

WILLIAM ALLISON RESIDENCE

Centre County, PA NOV 10 1976

Photo Credit: Gregory Ramsey
Centre Co. Library
423 N. Allegheny St.
Bellefonte, Pa.

Photo Date: 1976

View: View of Main Facade.

Photo 1 of 3

DOE APR 18 1977



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

WILLIAM ALLISON RESIDENCE
Centre County PA NOV 10 1976

Photo Credit: Gregory Ramsey
Centre Co. Library
423 N. Allegheny St.
Bellefonte, Pa.

Photo Date: c. 1895

View: View of Main Facade, c. 1895.

Photo 2 of 3

JOE APR 18 1977



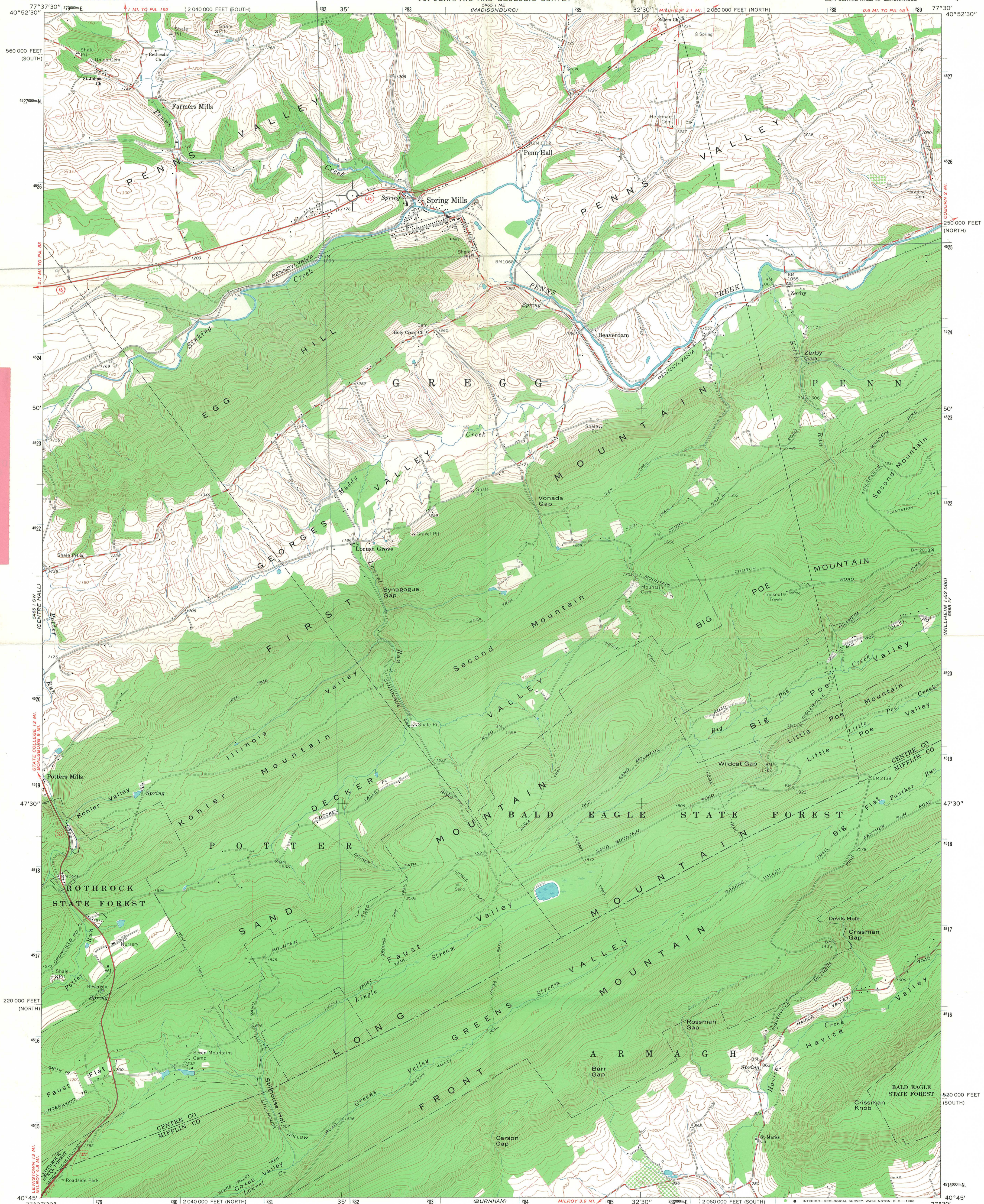
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

WILLIAM ALLISON RESIDENCE NOV 10 1976
Centre County, PA

Photo Credit: Gregory Ramsey
Centre Co. Library
423 N. Allegheny St.
Bellefonte, Pa.

Photo Date: 1976

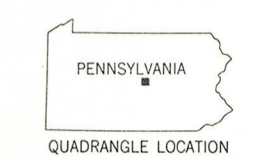
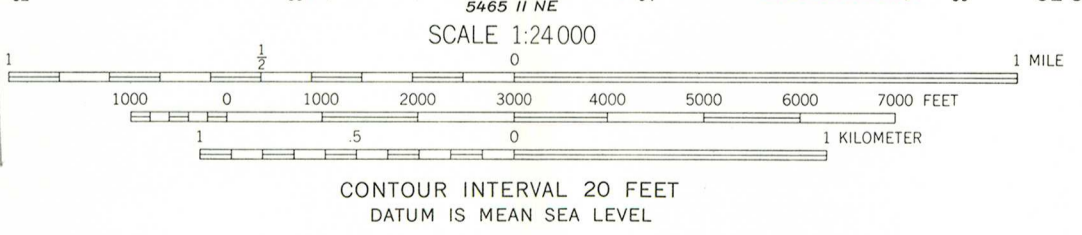
View: View of Small Frame Barn.
Photo 3 of 3 DOE APR 18 1977



WILLIAM ALLISON RESIDENCE
Centre County
ZONE 18 282 360 4525 750

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
north and south zones
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ○ State Route

SPRING MILLS, PA.
SE/4 CENTRE HALL 15' QUADRANGLE
N4045—W7730/7.5

1966
AMS 5465 1 SE—SERIES V831



APR 18 1977

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE PENNSYLVANIA

Date Entered APR 18 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Pickle, Simon, Stone House	Madisonburg Centre County
Allison, William, House	Spring Mills Centre County
Warren County Court House	Warren Warren County

Also Notified

Hon. H. John Heinz, III
Hon. Richard S. Schweiker
Hon. Joseph S. Ammerman
Regional Director, Mid Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. William J. Wewer
Executive Director, Pennsylvania
Historical and Museum Commission
Box 1026
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 11/16/76
Reviewer INITIALS: BS

NR DOE

APR 18 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Allison, William, House

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 1 mi. W of Spring Mills

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 23rd

STATE Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF Spring Mills

COUNTY code

Centre 027

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u>	<u>EXTERIOR</u>	<u>ENVIRONS</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3
<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6
<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable - 9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
	<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated	

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- house

now- house

SIGNIFICANCE:

<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> health
<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement
<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	<input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY		<input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> planning

Claims

"first" YES NO

"oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder: William T. Hallett

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor: William Allison

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal William M. Allison (1850-1922) - prominent local businessman and citizen

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1880

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

1.5

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Brick, 2 1/2 stories, modified rectangle, gabled roof sections, interior end chimneys, decorative gabled dormers, decorative bargeboards, front center entrance with transom and 1-story porch with triangular arches and leafshaded 2nd-story deck, front projecting gabled section and polygonal section with entrance between, side 1-story porch, interior wainscot woodwork; 2-story frame rear addition. Picturesque Gothic Revival elements. Design based on those published in builder's book by A. J. Bicknell; 1st house in county to have

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences) central heating;

Home of William M. Allison, a prominent local businessman.