

Shelton House
King's Run Road, Mearns County,
Pennsylvania

HABS No. Pa.-8104

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42-CER-V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 5-Pennsylvania

Historic American Buildings Survey
J. Howard Hicks, District Officer
134 East 10th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania

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CHEVALIER HOUSE
King's Run Road, Ceres Township, McKean County, Pennsylvania

Owner
Parley Lindsay.

Date of Erection
1836-37.

Architect
Unknown, possibly Henry Chevalier.

Builder
Unknown, possibly Henry Chevalier.

Present Condition
Fair.

Number of Stories
One and a half.

Materials of Construction
Rubble Stone, white pine.

Other Existing Records
Information and personal recollections furnished by
Mr. Parley Lindsay. Drawings, photographs, personal
inspection.

Additional Data
Bibliography-History of the Counties of McKean, Elk,
Cameron, and Potter, published by J. H. Beers and
Co., Chicago, Illinois, 1890.

An Illustrated History of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
William H. Egle, M.D., Harrisburg, DeWitt C. Goodrich
and Co., 1876, Counties of McKean and Potter.

Historical collection of the State of Penn'a. by Sherman
Day, Philadelphia, Pa., 1843 (Title page of history
destroyed, impossible to give publisher.)

CHEVALIER HOUSE

King's Run Road, Ceres Township, McKean County, Pennsylvania

The Chevalier House is almost "sitting on top of the world", if not the entire world, at least it is located upon one of the highest elevations in McKean County. The elevation runs close to 2500 feet. The soil of the Chevalier farm is of the gray variety as well as the sandstone of the vicinity.

King's Run Road is a dirt road, rather stony and rutty, but the scenery along the route is delightful. The road runs through woods, sometimes dense, sometimes with slashings for several yards, always with a hill at one side and a valley at the other with a drop of several hundred feet.

Henry Chevalier was a Frenchman, as his name would indicate, who settled on this hillside in 1836-7, and was a resident tax payer of Ceres township at that date. He lived until after 1890, exact date of his demise not known. January 28, 1870 he and his wife by deed conveyed this place to their daughter Marien (this name also written Marian in some records). Recorded in deed book P at page 483, signed in the presence of E. L. Langworthy, Potter County.

Marien Chevalier, unmarried, of the borough of Shinglehouse, sold it to Ed. Grover. Transfer, Marien Chevalier to E. Grover and Hannah Grover (his wife). Recorded December 18, 1924, deed book 193, A.R. Anderson, Recorder, McKean County.

Parley Lindsay, Ceres, N.Y. R.D. #1, the present owner, bought the Chevalier House from Ed. Grover, March 1934. His son lives in it with his wife and family. The Parley Lindsay home which is across the road and a little to the left was originally the Glen Post Office.

The Chevalier House was built about 1836, and was one of the first in that section of the country. Parley Lindsay says-"Built about one hundred years ago." The house sets on the side of a hill, with the side parallel with the road and the ends being at right angles away from the road. It is a story and a half house, partially hidden by fruit trees. Its length is 33'-4", the width is 23'-9", and the height grade to peak 23'-7". The foundation is of rubble stone, higher in front than at the rear of the house. The steps at the front entrance are missing, a stone is imbedded in the ground at the back entrance. There are three windows in the front elevation, nine windows in all on the first floor, each of two irregular sash, the upper sash having nine lights of glass, and the lower six lights of glass.

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The front entrance is enclosed by Grecian style pilasters which are duplicated at the corners of the house, and are 10'-0". All of these pilasters have no base but are set on the base board of the house. The caps are built up of mouldings. The door frame has an unusual feature, the head instead of being horizontal is peaked and at the center measures about 1' above the lower edge of the head. This part has a straight four glass transom fitted just below the lower edge of the head. A back band surrounds the door trim.

The door is paneled with two long panels at the top and two short panels at the bottom. The sill is of wood, as are also the window sills. The rear door and all of the inside doors have two long panels. The frieze is ornamented with mouldings. The roof is covered with modern, standing seam tin. The chimneys are simple brick chimneys with a one brick cap. The cornice has a moulding trim with a return. The second floor windows are of two sash with six lights each.

The first floor has a living room, dining room, kitchen and storage space. There is no flooring in the storage room, just the house joists. The space beneath being used for storing fuel, etc. The stairway to the second floor is from the dining room, and the stairway to the cellar opens into the kitchen. Both are enclosed stairways. Random width floor boards are used. Stairs have 9" treads, 8" risers, and there are 15 risers.

The living room has a paneled ceiling that is worthy of notice. It is paneled in square panels 5 3/4" by 5 3/4" square and recessed about 1/2". This room also has a wainscoting 2'-7 1/2" high, with horizontal panels. The second floor has a large bedroom sealed in 1" pine boards, a storage room and an enclosed stair and hall. The storage room is unfinished. The chimneys rest on brackets five feet above the second floor. White pine wood is used.

It is the intention of Mr. Lindsay to make a few needed repairs to the Chevalier House and to continue to have it occupied.

Amie Scott Baxter

Approved

Howard Hicks
District Officer
Dec. 30, 1936.
Rec. Jan 11, 37 HCU