

F.J. Varner House  
Westmont Neighborhood  
120 Blair Street  
Johnstown  
Cambria County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5698

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PA,  
11-Joto,  
124 -

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

F. J. VARNER HOUSE

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Location: 120 Blair Street, Westmont, Johnstown, Cambria County, Pa.

Description: Single-family house of tall, slender proportions. Two-and-a-half stories, side gable roof, wood frame with horizontal wood siding. L-shaped original extension in rear that forms a porch overlooking the hillside. Applied decoration at lintels. Stone basement. Cement porch with iron railing is a later alteration.

History: This house was built in about 1890, as it appears on the 1892 map. The property was purchased by F. J. Varner in 1889 from the Cambria Iron Co. for the sum of \$495. A second deed of March 7, 1892, reversed the mineral rights, subsequently given to Varner, back to the Cambria Iron Co. One of the oldest buildings in the Westmont area.

Sources:

Deed Records (80:475, Cambria Iron Co. to F.J. Varner), Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pa.

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

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