

E.C. Howarth House
1308 3rd Avenue
Fourth Ward Neighborhood
Altoona
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5836

HABS
PA
7-ALTO,
55-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

E. C. HOWARTH HOUSE

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Location: 1308 3rd Avenue

Date of Erection: between 1883-85

Description: This two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, frame dwelling has a side-gable roof with a central chimney. It retains original decorative window surrounds and bracketed cornice. Novelty wood siding covers the structure. The only alteration to this house appears to be the addition of a picture window while the adjacent houses have all received more dramatic alterations over time. These changes range from built-in brick porches to a variety of dormer styles.

History: E. C. Howarth purchased half of a lot from Francis McCullough in 1883 and constructed this house on it by 1885. Howarth moved to the Second Ward in 1888 but retained this property until 1891 when he sold it to Albert Stump.

A laborer, Stump was assessed \$1,200 for his new house. By 1901, he had become a machinist and by 1919, he was apparently operating a hardware shop out of his home. Samuel and Grace Caraher bought the house from Stump in June of that year. Samuel, a clerk, purchased the house for \$3,750.

Paul Parker and his wife moved into the house in 1947 after buying the property from Grace Caraher's heirs for \$2,850. Parker was a boiler maker for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Sources: Maps: 1882, 1888. City directories. Tax assessment records. Deed books: 85/140, 265/492, 435/419, 512/303.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, 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), Randy Cooley, director. Overviews of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and the fourth ward neighborhood (HABS No. PA-5786) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by Nancy Spiegel in the summer of 1989 under the supervision of HABS senior historian Alison K. Hoagland and Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian. Spiegel's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.