

1011-1013 LEXINGTON AVENUE, CARRIAGE HOUSE  
Altoona  
Blair County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5792-A

HABS  
PA  
7-ALTO,  
13A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

1011-1013 LEXINGTON AVENUE, CARRIAGE HOUSE

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Location: Altoona, Blair County, Pennsylvania

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USGS Altoona, Pennsylvania Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
17.720220.4488315

Significance: 1011-1013 Lexington Avenue and the carriage house located to the rear of the property are both contributing structures within the Downtown Altoona Historic District. The house and carriage house were built in 1889 as a residence for John P. Lafferty, funeral director. They are representative of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular architecture of a middle-class residential neighborhood in the Downtown Altoona Historic District.

Description: The carriage house is a 2-story, brick veneered building with segmental-arched openings, bracketed cornice, and a gabled roof. It includes a manually operated lift used to elevate carriages and supplies to an upper loft area. The carriage house is located to the rear of the house and is not visible from the front of the property on Lexington Avenue.

1011-1013 Lexington Avenue is a 2 ½-story Eastlake-style, frame double, wood-siding, with stone foundation. It includes an exceptional wraparound porch with turned and chamfered posts, slat rail, spindlework frieze, and incised brackets. 1011 - double doors with beveled glass and raised ornamental panels and a shingled and bracketed door hood, also above paired first floor window. Second floor balcony addition. Square attic tower with arcaded and dentiled frieze, hipped dormer. 1013 - entry from side porch, front 2-story polygonal bay, carved corner brackets with pendants below crowning gable. Incised brackets along side elevation. Multi-pitched roof with composition roofing.

History: According to the information included in the Downtown Altoona Historic District Survey as approved by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the John P. Lafferty House at 1011-1013 Lexington Avenue was constructed in 1889. This information is supported by the deed records on file in the City of Altoona Engineering Department Office. The property passed through 3 changes of ownership over the years and the house and brick carriage house remained substantially intact. The property was acquired in 1992 by Lexington Park, Inc., and the house was extensively and historically renovated and is now used as rental housing serving low-income households. The project is overseen by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) and is managed by Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc. The use of the carriage house which initially housed carriages and served as stable, changed over the years to housing automobiles and

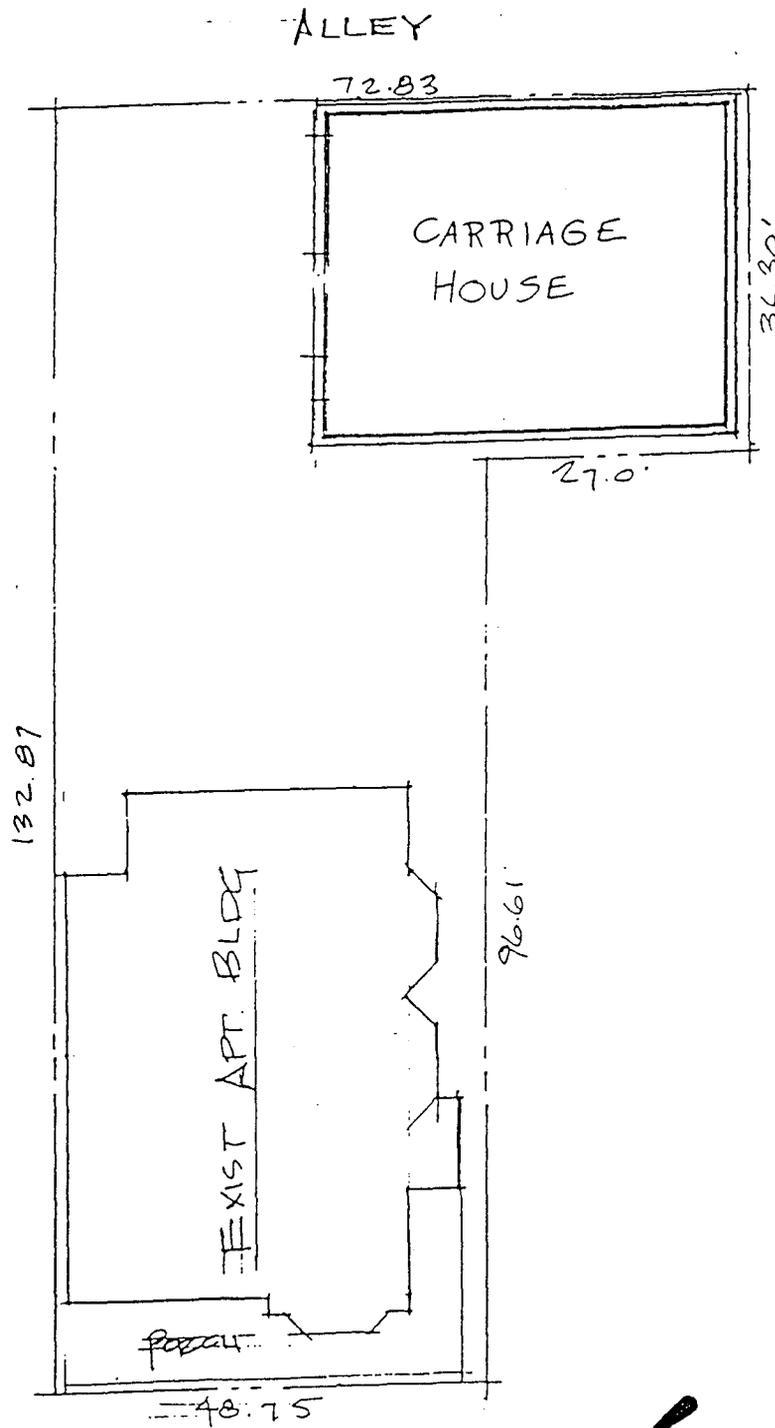
providing general storage. The carriage house was not renovated by Lexington Park, Inc., because PHFA would not allow funds to be used on a building which would not be providing housing. The building has now deteriorated to the point where demolition is the only practical alternative. The plan is to replace the building with a new garage building to serve the rental housing development.

Sources: Downtown Altoona Historic District, Historical and Architectural Resource Survey, information provided by Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Brenda Barrett, Director, June 1996.

Deed records on file at the City of Altoona Department of Engineering Office, David L. Diedrich, P.E., City Engineer, February, 1998.

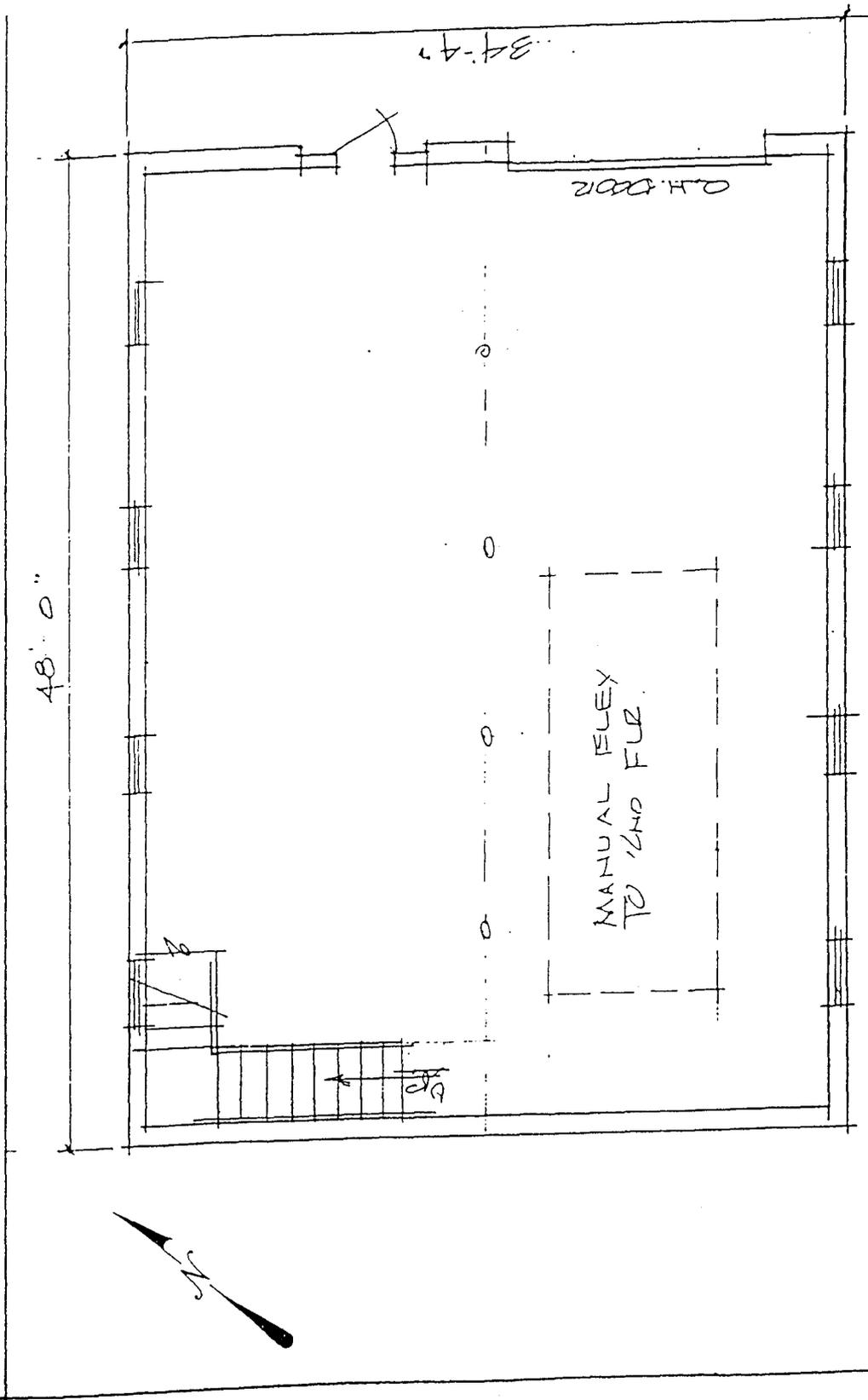
Architect Richard Truesdale, Richard Truesdale & Associates, interviews during period of June, 1996, through March, 1998.

Historian: Information compiled by Roger F. Bunnell, March, 1998



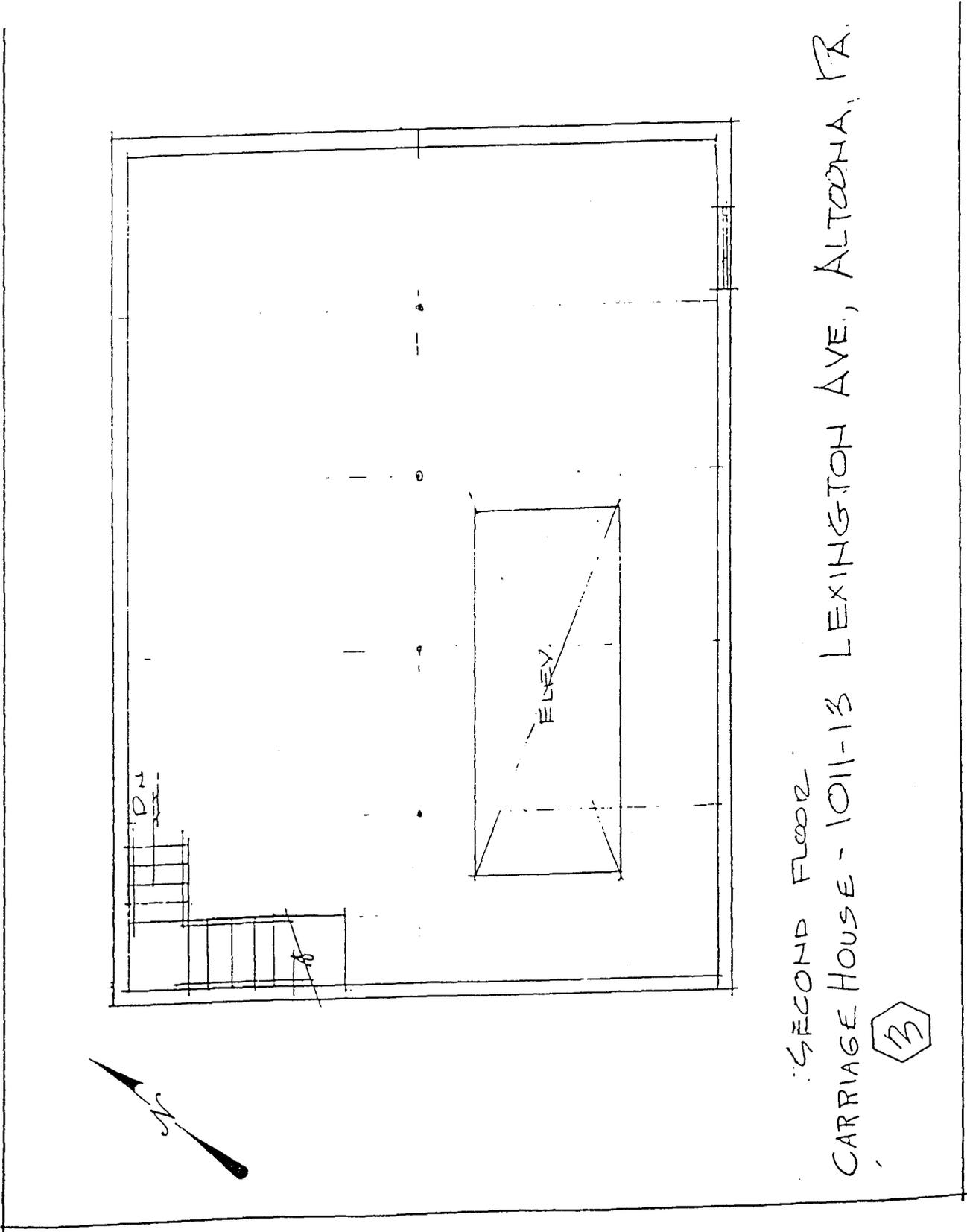
---SITE PLAN  
CARRIAGE HOUSE, 1011-13 LEXINGTON AVE., ALTOONA, PA

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FIRST FLOOR  
CARRIAGE HOUSE, 1011-13 LEXINGTON AVE., ALTOONA, PA.





SECOND FLOOR  
CARRIAGE HOUSE - 1011-13 LEXINGTON AVE., ALTOONA, PA.

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