

Joseph Stouffer House I  
803 Lexington Avenue  
First Ward Neighborhood  
Altoona  
Blair County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5795

*HABS  
PA,  
7-ALTO,  
33-*

PHOTOGRAPHS  
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

JOSEPH STOUFFER HOUSE I

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Location: 803 Lexington Avenue

Date of Erection: 1860s

Description: This two-and-a-half-story house, measuring approximately 26'-6" x 30', has a wood frame and horizontal wood siding on the exterior. The front gable roof has cornice returns on the gable. The three-bay front has a one-story porch with turned wood columns.

History: This front-gable house, virtually unaltered, dates from the 1860s. In 1870 Joseph Stouffer, a carpenter, was listed as living at the corner of 8th and Lexington, although he did not acquire the 125' x 133' property until 1871. Stouffer and his wife, Hannah, had four daughters and two sons. Stouffer lived here until his death in 1913. This house may have been located farther back on the lot and moved here, as it is not shown in this location on the 1882 map, although it is in 1894. The style of the house indicates a pre-1870 construction date. By 1900, Stouffer worked as a janitor at the First Presbyterian Church. In 1937 his heirs sold the house.

Sources: Maps: 1859, 1882, 1894. City directories. Tax assessment records. Deed books: 26/385, 437/383. U.S. Census, 1870, 1880, 1900.

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. An overview of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and an overview of the first ward neighborhood (HABS No. PA-5788) 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 HABS Senior Historian Alison K. Hoagland, project leader and editor, in the summer of 1989. Hoagland'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.